



Old Dominion Equestrian Endurance Organization News

November 2018

YOU'RE INVITED
To the Annual Old Dominion
Equestrian Endurance Rides
Christmas Party
And It's Free!

When: Saturday evening, December 1st –
6:00 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Where: Skyline Ranch Clubhouse, 751
Mountain Road, Front Royal, VA 22630

What to bring: Your favorite potluck dish to
share and your own bottle.

Bid: On the Silent Auction items! And don't
forget to donate something for the auction.

Camp/Ride: The ranch has RV sites, trailers,
cabins and chalets for rent, many riding trails
and options for stalling or penning your
horse.

RSVP by Nov. 23 to Lenora Keener at
lwsowers@aol.com or (540) 622-5092 or to
Diane Connolly on Facebook.

Call for reservations at (540) 635-4169.
Check out their website at
skylineranchresort.com.



Clubhouse at Skyline Ranch Resort

CANDIDATES NEEDED

The annual OD Christmas party is always the
site of a general membership meeting, at
which members get a chance to vote for
their board of directors. We have 15
directors who serve three year terms, so
every year we need to elect five directors.

This year three of our current directors, Pete
Fields, Karen Wade and April Dobson, are
retiring. Luckily Karen will continue her rider
education programs – her Endurance clinics
and the intro rides held at each of our
endurance rides: No Frills, the Old Dominion
and Fort Valley.

The two other current directors whose terms
are up and will be running for reelection are:
Duane Martin and Susan Trader (Treasurer).

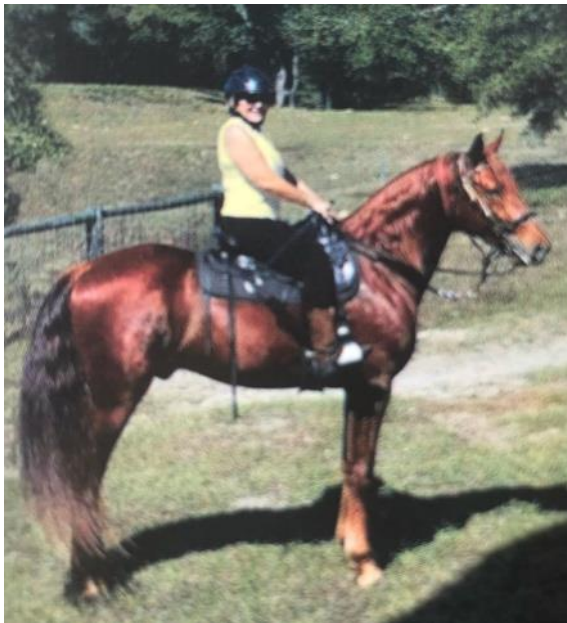
That means we need at least three more
hardy souls to run for the board, which

generally meets for a couple hours on the second Saturday of most months at the Middleburg Agriculture Research and Extension (MARE) center.

If you are interested in taking an active part in improving and managing the Old Dominion Equestrian Endurance Organization, please contact Lani Newcomb at give2bute@aol.com. Thank you.

SILENT AUCTION

We have a number of very nice donations for the silent auction, which we hold at the annual holiday party. Probably two of the most interesting are offers from Pam Weidel and Lisa Delp of semen from their stallions. Pam's horse is a chestnut Foxtrotter,, who she describes as "16 hands, beautifully



Pam Weidel on her Foxtrotter stallion Tucker

balanced, with smooth gaits, solid mind, excellent bone. Would make for an

interesting cross to an Arab mare for smooth distance riding." Lisa's stallion is a 15 year old grey Arab who has raced and has several relatives who are successful endurance horses, including Catch Me Ridin Dirty (Louie), who Lisa rode to first place in Friday's Fort Valley 50.

However, of course we need more items for the auction. Email Nancy Smart at longevityfarm@verizon.net to let her know what you plan to donate. or drop it with Lenora Keener in Front Royal. Her email is lwsowers@aol.com.



Need for Speed

Remember, your donations make the silent auction a success, and make money for the Old Dominion. Thanks in advance, and particular thanks to Pam Weidel and Lisa Delp.

2018 OD TRIPLE CROWN AWARDS

The following horse/rider teams finished all three OD rides – No Frills, the OD and Fort Valley – and will be recognized and given awards at the OD party on December 1.

<u>Rider</u>	<u>Horse</u> <u>Mileage</u>
Kaitlyn Behr	Cerrillos Bey Starr 235
Lisa Delp	Catch Me Ridin Dirty 205
Felisa Read	Lenny 205
Jeffrey Baig	GJR Obsidion 205
Mary Howell	Gryphon 155
Amie Ealy	Zandai Abu Fahd 155
Sarah Mountain	IA Kaliber 155
Cassidy Miller	Choctaw Nation 155
Henry Smith	Rhapsody in Blue 155
Andrea Sirko	Destiny for Ava 155
Jennifer Anderson	CA Prada 155
Lauren Saunby	Maggie Mae 155
Lauren Dodds	RVR Silver Lining 135
Nick Irianni	WBF Soldiers Tribute 130
April Dodson	Coal Miner's Braveheart 130
Kelsie Lewis	Thurman Apple Crescent 105
Janet Brown	Ni Again 85
Elizabeth Farina	Sheez-A-Dayzee 85
Duane Martin	Chick 85
Sara Mansfield	Symphony in Red 85
Sonja Knecht-Hoshi	Awesome Blossom 85

FORT VALLEY RIDE

The Fort Valley Rides were held over the weekend of Oct. 19-21. We had great weather and even greater food – thanks for the wonderful cooking of Pete Godwin. It was worth being there for the food alone, not to mention the company, the rides and our vendors.

The weekend had a 30 and 50 mile ride on both Friday and Saturday, as well as 18, 30 and 50 mile ride-and-ties both days.

Lisa Delp, riding the 50 mile Friday, finished first on Catch Me Ridin' Dirty (Louie) in 7:26:33, and also took high vet score. Dana Reeder's horse, LB Beryl, was best condition. Twenty five started the 50 and 22 finished.



*Dana Reeder and Beryl, BC in Friday's 50
Photo by Tom Sayvetz*

Twenty horse and rider teams started the 30 on Friday, and all 20 finished! Elizabeth Farina, riding Sheez-A-Dayzee (Sheda) was first, finishing in five hours, thirty-one seconds. Best condition and high vet score went to Laura Snyder on Where's Waldo.

On Saturday, Danielle Kanavy Crouse was first in the 50 on Sapphire N Gold (Sapphire) in 6:15:26. Libby Llop on Godivas Romance was fourth and won both bc and high vet score. Twenty-seven horses and riders started and 22 finished.



*Horses line up to vet in
Photo by Tom Sayvetz*

Lynn Gilbert, riding Mercuric, was first to finish, bc and high vet score in the 30 on Saturday, completing in 4:34:44. As with the 50, 27 started the ride, and 22 finished.

As usual, Mary Coleman was at the ride to sell a variety of items, including rump rugs which many horses needed in the chilly mornings. We also had two new vendors/teachers. Jackie Fenaroli, President of Stonewall Saddle Company, presented a clinic and demonstrations on the ABC's of Saddle Fitting, and Diane Sept, a "connected riding" instructor, offered free "riding posture balance" instruction in the rider's own saddle. Both clinics were very popular, and we hope both women will be back next year.

2018 FORT VALLEY INTRO RIDE

By Karen Wade

The Introductory Ride at Fort Valley on Saturday, Oct. 20 got off to an exciting start as several horses (including mine) were apparently under the impression that it was a rodeo event. One settled down after his crupper was removed, and two riders decided to err on the side of caution and stay in camp rather than try to force their young horses to do something they obviously weren't in the mood for.

So a group of seven went out -- three leaders/drag riders, a lady on an off-the-track Standardbred with a need for speed, a gentleman with 700+ miles of endurance experience who was bringing his horse back from an injury, a lady on a 6 year old gelding with a lot of trail experience, and a 13 year old girl who rode my son's horse Tribby at the September Endurance 201 clinic and borrowed her again for the Intro Ride.

The Standardbred left the rest of us in the dust, and unfortunately was turned back toward camp by the spotters a bit too soon, so his rider didn't get to enjoy the whole trail. The rest of us did about 14 miles. All of the horses and riders completed in fine form, and I believe they all plan to attempt the LD at No Frills next April.

Several other clinic alumni were also at the Fort Valley ride: one in the 30 mile ride, several as volunteers, and even one of the veterinarians (who hopes to become an endurance rider). And, responding to popular demand, we are planning another clinic in the spring.

The endurance clinics and the intro rides are part of the OD's education program aimed at encouraging young or new riders to get involved in this sport called endurance riding. Riding, not racing, because the motto of the sport is "to finish is to win", so people set their own goals for each event, whether it's to finish, to top ten, or to win. Some even vie for the last to finish, or turtle, award.

RAFFLE HORSE

Janice and Bob Heltibridle were the lucky winners of this year's raffle horse, a three year old filly named Tamburitza. She is the 20th horse Tom and Halldis Sayvetz of Asgard Arabians have donated to the ODEEO to help us raise the money needed to put on our rides.

Janice and Bob hope to have her at a trainer by the end of November, then in the spring she will start doing LD rides until she is five. At that point she'll be old enough to start her ride and tie career.



Tamburitza

MERC THE WONDER HORSE

PL Mercury, better known as Merc, is probably one of the most famous endurance horses of all time. The 14 hand Merc started his endurance career at age 15. Now 27, he has more than 6,000 miles to his credit – and is still going strong.

Owned by Claire Godwin DMV, Merc was originally purchased for her kids, and daughter Kate rode him for several years before going away to school.

This year he completed all three OD rides - the 50/100/50 – and endurance's 100 mile Triple Crown – OD 100, Tevis and National Championship Ride at Biltmore. Claire is his usual rider, but he's also ridden by Lisa Bykowski, a longtime friend of Claire.

Merc, the oldest horse ever to complete the Tevis, has finished five out of six starts there (four with Lisa), five of five OD100 starts, and a total of 18 100s out of 20 starts. And he has never been pulled for lameness.

As one admirer says of Merc, he should be the poster horse for how to treat and manage endurance horses.



Kate Godwin riding Merc, and Lisa Bykowski on her horse, cross the Shenandoah River at the 2006 OD 50. Photo by Genie Stewart-Spears.

YARD SALE

When Old Dominion board member Lenora Keener suggested that beginning in October 2009 it might be a good money raiser for the OD to hold a yard sale at our three rides, she also said would do it. Well, do it she has.

No one could have imagined in their wildest dreams how successful the Yard Saale would be. Since then, it has made more than \$28,000!!, selling donated used endurance related goods – saddles, bridles, girths, clothes, halters, lead ropes, reins – you name it, Lenora’s sold it. In 2018 the Yard Sale made \$2,024 thanks to your generous donations. Your continued support in donations and purchases will help us reach our new goal of \$30,000.

And every year the Yard Sale seems to get bigger and better – to the point that Lenora spent her own money to buy display racks, tents and other related items to promote the Yard Sale and the OD store (which she also runs and which sells new OD hats, shirts, fleeces, etc.) at rides.



And, in an effort to stay busy in the winter, Lenora also organizes the annual holiday party and helps Nancy Smart with the silent auction (another great money maker).

Thank you, Lenora, for your entrepreneurial spirit and your hard work.

OLD DOMINION ENDURANCE RIDES

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www.olddominionrides.org

For questions or comments on the newsletter contact Nancy Smart at longevityfarm@verizon.net

