

Direct Rein

The first step in solving the problem is recognizing the problem....

My name is Beth and I am addicted to saddle pads.

I collect them like some people collect Kewpie dolls or Disney figurines, but I tell myself I'm better than those people because although no one *needs* a collectible troll doll, I really do need saddle pads. But I don't need as many as I have.

There is no other good explanation for why I have in my possession, as of last count, no less than forty-two of them. Now if I owned a stable full of horses, or taught lessons, or had riding camps or even lots of riding friends who came over then this number might not seem as outlandish. But currently I have three horses, only two of which are rideable, and only one of which has even a slim chance of being ridden more than once a week. So I need at the outside like, four saddle pads, if I get fancy and use different ones for flatwork and jumping. Even allowing for daily riding (which is unlikely to happen in the foreseeable future) and laundering that only makes eight.

I have then five times the amount of saddle pads I could ever use. And yet every time I get a new catalog, or shop at a horse show or festival I seem to come home with another one. The colors and trim and styles available are apparently endless so I don't have to worry about repeating myself.

Getting new gear is one of the fun parts of any sport; I have seen my dad get as excited over some new go-fast for his sailboat as I ever have over a new bit or pair of riding socks. There is always something better or more advanced to try, but as sports go equestrian pursuits have more gear options than almost anything else because after all we are outfitting not just ourselves but our equine partner. God help you if you decide to get into four-in-hand combined driving teams!

I remember as a horse crazy kid poring over the Miller's Harness Company catalog (black and white, bare bones photography, no longer in business) looking at shedding blades and martingales and other mysterious exciting items, the utility and purpose of which I could only guess. I hoarded my birthday and Christmas money and sent off for things that I could afford even if I didn't know what they actually did, which is how I ended up with a cactus cloth and several curb chains in different sizes.

Horses meet a lot of different needs for a lot of different types of people. I guess one of the needs they meet for me is by providing an acceptable outlet for my need to dress things up after outgrowing Barbies.

Is this how the whole idea of a "clothes horse" came about?

Until next time-

Beth Hussey



Happy Halloween!!

Successful FEI dressage rider/trainer available for lessons/training in Dressage, western Dressage, western pleasure and hunt seat pleasure. Exciting news!! OPENING SOON-new professional boarding, training and lesson facility. Contact Ann C. McGruder 573-489-1317 (text or call) now to reserve your space!



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Limitless Pilates

This newsletter is published monthly by the Columbia Dressage and Combined Training Association.

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Questions regarding submissions and content should be directed to Beth Hussey at (573) 808-6897 or eshussey@gmail.com.

Submissions may be sent via email or mail to 655 North Route O, Rocheport, MO 65279.

Submissions are due by the last day of the month before publication.

Our website is www.cdcta.org for late-breaking news. Photographs should be submitted in JPEG format.

For membership information, please contact Kim Kriekhaus at (573) 442-3039 or email kriekhausk@gmail.com

FOR SALE:

Dressage saddle, no big knee or thigh rolls or blocks, 17.5 med/wide tree, made in England. \$750

Leather girth 30 inches \$30

Pack of 4 track bandages, new in package \$5

Fleece lined girth with elastic 50 inches, brand new still in package \$35

Contact Judy Owens
573-445-5222 or
violet3@centurytel.net

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Classified ads: \$5/month Business card ads: \$6/month

Full page ad: \$20/month

1/2 page ad: \$15/month

1/4 page ad: \$10/month

Make checks payable to CDCTA.



Beautiful flowers, aren't they?

Don't be fooled.

This is one of the more toxic plants found in this area. It thrives on the edges of woods, and under shady clumps of trees. It blooms in the fall and is nonchalant about rain or the lack thereof. It has glossy dark green leaves that can attract grazing animals that might be looking for green things in the fall.

Fortunately, most horses won't eat it...but some will, especially very food-oriented types. If they eat it they will almost certainly die, even with aggressive treatment. Symptoms resemble the tying-up syndrome, with horses sweating profusely and having difficulty passing urine and walking.

The plant is readily eaten by cattle and doesn't cause them much problem, but if a person were to drink milk produced by a cow who had been feeding on the plant, they would likely die. Historical fact: Abraham Lincoln's mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, died of this "milk sickness".

The plant also claimed the lives of two of the horses in my life: Steel and Diva, a matched pair of compact mahogany bay Quarter Horse siblings. Charles trained and rode Steel up to Novice Level in eventing and First Level Dressage.

Watch out for the white snakeroot!

Just when you thought it would never happen...

Saturday, October 17 at 12 noon

Lora Blair's house

The October 2020 CDCTA Business Meeting
And Social Gathering!

Masks and social distancing will be required.

Lora has graciously offered to host our meeting and will be providing pizza, apple cider and beer; bring your own beverages if those don't suit.

We will be discussing options of a 2021 membership stimulus, extending some officers through 2021, upcoming dates or the lack there of, and any other topics members have...

Please let Lora know if you plan to attend so she can have a count for the pizza order.

Look forward to catching up with everyone!

Lora

lorablair@gmail.com or 573-355-0678 for directions or more information.

COLUMBIADCTA

DRESSAGE & COMBINED TRAINING ASSOCIATION

Beth Hussey
655 North Route O
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NEXT MEETING: WOO HOO! We DO have a meeting this month, scheduled for noon on Saturday, October 17th at Lora Blair's house. Masks and social distancing will be required. More information inside!

Columbia Dressage & Combined Training Association 2021 Membership Form

CDCTA is a United States Dressage Federation (USDF) Group Member Organization (GMO). By joining CDCTA you are becoming a Group member of the USDF. \$27 of your CDCTA dues are forwarded to the USDF as GMO membership dues. (\$18 for additional members in family)

Membership year runs December 1-November 30. Dues are payable in October.

Individual Membership: \$45.00/year

Family Membership: \$45.00/year plus \$30.00 for additional member residing at same address. Please list all members included (use additional sheets if needed).

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number (s) _____

E-mail _____

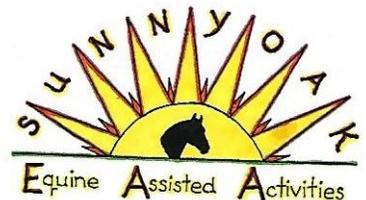
NOTE: We send our monthly newsletters out by email. Please check here if you would prefer to receive a mailed copy. _____ Did someone refer you for membership? _____

I am We are occasionally asked to share our membership list with persons or corporations with items of possible interest to our members.

Please circle one: DO DO NOT include my name on this list.

Make check payable to CDCTA and mail to:

Kim Kriekhaus, Membership Chair
2202 West Williams Road
Sturgeon, MO 65284



573-356-3877
12551 Rocheport Grvl Rd
Rocheport, MO 65279



- Therapeutic Riding Lessons
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