

The McElroy Group

Highlights of the McElroy Group and their beloved steeds. Check back often for news updates on the happenings of this talented and ambitious group.

October 2014

Our sympathies go out to all of the friends and family of one of our dearest local dressage trainers. Darren Taplin lost his battle to cancer on October 3.

On October 11, Amy went to Columbus, GA to give a 2-day clinic at our friend Sasa's farm. This was Amy's first in the area, and the rider's are eagerly waiting for her return.

On October 15, Justine and her 2 horses, Jocelyn and her 2 horses, and Sarah and her horse went to Wellington, Florida for the Region III Championships. Stay tuned for results!! **UPDATE!! The McElroy Group had a wonderful time in sunny Florida--the weather was perfect. Six arena were running with rides and award presentations from early in the morning to well into the evening. The classes were very large for our group.**

-Sarah and Loxley really rocked; they competed in some open 1st and 2nd level classes with good scores and ribbons. Sarah had a nice showing in the 2nd level championships but really shined in the 1st level championships, earning a 70.83%!!, 7th place out of 30 rides and a wild card to the Nationals.

-Justine and Special D were also on fire. The team really stood out amongst impressive competition, including *the* Anne Gribbons, who won the class. Justine earned 8th place out of 30 competitors and a spot to represent Intermediare I open at the Nationals.

-Jocelyn worked hard all week and had several nice rides, but the competition was fierce. She did, however, earn another 4th level score towards her Silver medal--on to PSG!!

-Sue Bender, our Region III Representative, did an outstanding job for our region. Aren't we lucky to have her here in Aiken?!

On October 26, Amy went to Susan Todd's beautiful Hidden Acres Farm in Blythewood, SC to give a clinic. Susan has some very impressive students, and she really showed everyone how it's done on her Geysers. Plans are in the works for winter clinic.

On October 30-31, Fair Lane Farm hosted another successful Gunnar Ostergaard clinic. So many horses and riders advancing, with lots of piaffe and passage going on. Watch for dates, as he will be returning in January.

On October 30-31, Fair Lane Farm will host another Gunnar Ostergaard clinic.

Happy Halloween!

September 2014

On September 13 & 14, several riders in the McElroy Group competed at the Camden Dressage show.

--The big news is that Janet Doggett earned her last score needed for her USDF Silver Medal!! Janet trained Eclipse (with a little help!) from training to FEI level. The duo is confirmed PSG, earning scores in the 60s. We are so excited for you, Janet!

--PSG also brought excitement to Lisi and Tali as they won their class with their highest FEI score yet--66%--Way to go!!

--Jocelyn also earned her last Third level score need to qualify for the Regionals.

--Justine rode her fancy new young horse, Eve, and she is quite something to see.

--Dru and her new boy, French Kiss had a successful weekend as well.

--Becky and her new horse Dani earned a big 70% once again.

This was also Amy's birthday weekend, and Becky was nice enough to host a birthday dinner at her house--It was a super fun time!

September 13 was the memorial for our beloved friend, Diana Wood. It was a lovely and heart warming service. She will be dearly missed. Brad, her husband, moved to Idaho to live with their only child, Dale. Please keep them in your prayers.

On September 25 & 26, Fair Lane Farm hosted a Gunnar Ostergaard clinic and all participants had great rides.

Happy birthday to Holly on September 26. You can check out Holly's present at the farm, where a lot of the group pitched in and did a lot of clearing and beautifying around FLF's dressage arena.

On September 27, Amy judged Stable View Farm's very first event. Stable View is a fabulous facility.

Please take a moment to think about our beloved Kat Berning. It has been nine years since she left us.