

BarnManager is traveling this summer for in-person demos! Email the BarnManager team here to find out more or to schedule your free demo!



At BarnManager, we place a strong emphasis on the importance of ongoing education in order to become better riders and horsemen and women, and when it comes to furthering your dressage education, what's better than learning from Laura Graves!?

The U.S. Olympic dressage team bronze medalist and 2018 FEI World Cup™ Dressage Final runner-up represents so much of what we at BarnManager believe in and stand for – she's truly connected with her horses and is so passionate about their care and their well-being. So, it was an absolute privilege to sponsor a "Dressage for Jumping" clinic with Graves on Tuesday, August 14, at the Ohana Equestrian Preserve in Virginia!

Here are just four of the takeaways that we came home with!:

1) Dressage riders and jumpers – we're not that different. – The "Dressage for Jumping" clinic was the first time that Graves had taught exclusively jumpers, but she herself said, "Whether you're jumpers, or eventers, or dressage people – everyone struggles with all of the same things."

What are some of the struggles that we all face? Most notably, according to Graves, getting horses in front of the leg and straight – two of the fundamental flatwork concepts that were emphasized throughout the clinic.

2) You should only work as hard as you want to. – Okay, this doesn't mean that

you should quit your day job and just go watch Netflix because you don't like working. Instead, what Graves reiterated throughout the clinic was creating a level of responsiveness from your horse that allows you to not exert more effort in the saddle than what you want to be exerting. As she explained, "If you're using all of your energy to get a mediocre performance,

your odds of getting a better performance are slim to none. You have to get more by doing less." Graves started each rider's one-on-one session by asking, once they had moved into a trot, how hard they were working on a scale of one to 10. Graves joked that she is

"lazy" and likes to only work at a one or a two when the horse is trotting.

"The first thing I ask when I get on a horse is, 'Can I ride 10 of these in a day?'" said Graves. "If I can't ride 10 in a day with breaking very little of a sweat, then for me it's too much work."

So, how do you make it so that you're doing less?...

Continue Reading!

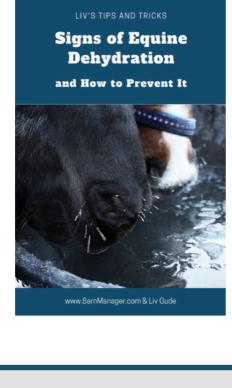
## 501(c)3 Feature: Great Oak Aiken Therapeutic Riding Center

Aiken, South Carolina is one of the foremost equestrian communities in the Southeast. However, in Aiken County and the surrounding areas, the number of individuals living with significant life challenges and disabilities is also higher than the national average.

Given these two factors, it seems only fitting that Aiken

would be home to one of the leading therapeutic riding centers in the region, the Great Oak Aiken Therapeutic Riding Center, designed to promote certified therapeutic riding for children and adults with physical, emotional, and psychological challenges. Read more about this month's featured 501(c)(3) here!





## Signs of Dehydration - and How to Prevent It Dehydration is more than just your horse being extra

thirsty – it can become a veterinary emergency. Pulling a bit of his skin on the neck to see how fast it

snaps back is not a reliable way to measure hydration. Older horses have less elastic skin! You need to look at your horse's gums. Pale, white, red,

or blue gums are a sign of severe danger. The gums must also be slippery and slick, not dry or sticky. Read more here!

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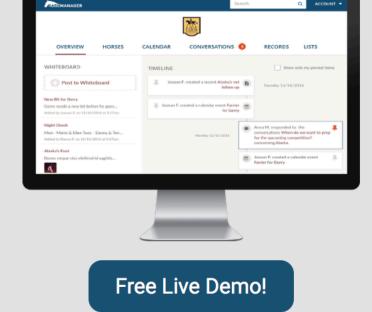
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