

Madalene Meckl

December13,2020

I am so thankful to have had the opportunity to use the D4-Kids Scholarship provided to me to ride with Ken McGrath out of Tempel Lipizzans in Wadsworth Illinois. Working with Ken was an amazing experience he was so patient with Phoenix and I. I learned so many things while working with him. This is something I will always remember, I was so lucky to have been riding Brenda Yoast's horse Phoenix who is now sadly retired due to Heart Murmur and is relaxing in the field full-time. When i was working with Ken I was preparing for a show at Silverwood Farm in Salem, WI. It was so very helpful to have worked with Ken at the time to prepare. We really focused on Phoenix being in more of a connection so he would carry himself better. Ken also really helped me with my position when I was riding and would give me little reminders to either "sit back" or "roll your shoulders back more" which I found very useful so I would be more tall in the saddle. Phoenix liked to kind of bounce his head up out of the contact so we really needed him to be more balanced for him to stay in the frame. Ken had us on a 20 meter circle in the middle of the arena in a frame spriling in and out to help keep Phoenix more balanced and when he was balanced Ken would ask us to canter and we would do the same thing at the canter, spriling in and back out at different speeds.

Since Phoenix is now retired I am hoping to have Ken come out and work with me on my mom's horse Casey. He is a 12yr. OTTB. Casey is still a bit green and we're still learning his buttons with him. My mom has had him for almost 3 year coming this February.

My goal for Casey is for him to be super adjustable and to be able to compete with him at first level and maybe to second level as well.



Sincerely,  
Madalene T. Meckl

