

Over Memorial Day weekend, Dressage4Kids held an FEI Pony clinic with Peter Storr, a 4* judge and internationally known trainer, including eight years as the British Pony Team Trainer where he coached the team to achieve the gold in 2013 and 2015. It was hosted by the beautiful Hilltop Farm in Colora, MD. Although, my pony, Destiny and I are not showing FEI Pony yet, we were invited to participate in the clinic and ride with Lendon Gray.

For our first ride on Friday, we worked on getting my pony more soft in the connection, more on the aids, and crossing more in the leg yield and staying connected and forward while still crossing. One thing we did to get Destiny forward and round at the same was keeping Destiny bending. Keeping the same miles per hour tempo was a problem the first day.

On the second day, we worked on keeping her more connected in walk to trot to canter and again keeping her connected, forward, and crossing in the leg yield. We also worked on making sure that I keep looking up. I learned the importance of a good walk at all times, Lendon often says "I hope you won't make me have to say, *"Is that your best walk?"*"

On Sunday, at the end Lendon had us working on our own through W/T/C in both directions keeping my pony on the bit and more connected through those transitions to

make sure that I could do everything that I had learned over the weekend without Lendon having to tell me.

I am so thankful that Dressage4Kids awarded me a scholarship so I was able to ride with Lendon in the FEI Pony clinic all weekend at Hilltop Farm in Maryland! I learned so much from this clinic!



Photo Credit: Jennifer Koch