



CENTERLINE



CONNECTICUT DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY 2001

Connecticut Dressage Association

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CENTERLINE

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Centerline is the official newsletter of the Connecticut Dressage Association and is published about 10 times annually. It is distributed to all members. CDA welcomes story ideas, informative articles and commentary. Please submit all contributions to: John Gordon, 24 Darren Court Waterbury, CT 06708

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President's Message

This issue of Centerline is being mailed to an extended mailing list. John, our editor, did some work in our database and discovered that some of you are MIA (missing in action) for one reason or another. So, we are mailing this out to additional past members in hopes of contacting some of you and bringing you back into the CDA family. The CDA does a wonderful Spring Recognized Show at Ox Ridge Hunt Club in Darien, CT that draws people from across New England to attend, we have our own CDA Schooling Show series, monthly Centerline newsletter, CDA Omnibus, website, and much more! The CDA is proud of its membership and what we offer, and encourage our past members, and current ones, to join the family again. Join CDA today or renew for 2001 on the enclosed form.

With regard to membership overall, read Fern's letter inside this issue regarding important information on the USDF and GMO's (page 6).

Heck, if that is not enough to spark your interest in CDA...we are having a party! Yes, it is that time of the year. The CDA annual awards party is Saturday, February 17th at Fern's home. FUN, FOOD, AWARDS and SOCIALIZING. You do not have to be getting an award to attend. Everyone is welcome...friends, loved ones, horsey people, non-horsey people, etc. This year we are having the event catered. Food, soda and juice will be provided. We are asking for you to BYOB and bring a desert if you are not baking challenged, or even if you are baking challenge, bring one anyway. Please RSVP to Fern by February 12th at 203-272-0711 or fern@home.com. Directions to the party are enclosed in this newsletter.

With springtime just around the corner comes the start of show season. Mark your calendars for 2001, here are some show dates for you.

CDA 2001 Schooling Show Series

May 6, 2001 - Schooling Show

August 5, 2001 - Schooling Show

September 23, 2001 - Schooling Show

All Schooling Shows will be held at Once Again Farm in Meriden, CT.

Connecticut Dressage Association Spring Competition AHSA/USDF Recognized

June 2-3, 2001 - Ox Ridge Hunt Club, Darien, CT

Ox Ridge Summer Dressage Show - ABIG/USDF Region 8 Championship August 24-26, 2001 - Ox Ridge Hunt Club, Darien, CT

A special welcome and congratulations to Nancy Blanchard for being voted onto the CDA board. Her enthusiasm is a great addition to the CDA Board. Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 7 at 7:30 pm at Fern's house. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Corrie

2001 CALENDAR

February 10

CDA Board Meeting
Fern Feldman
203-272-0711

February 17

Year End Awards Party
Fern Feldman
203-272-0711

Help wanted

Once Again Farm is looking for a hard working, dependable individual to work Tues - Sat afternoons from 1 - 5. Duties will include turnouts, mucking, feeding and other barn related chores. Contact Vicki or Brandi at 203-238-3553, Tues - Sat.

Horse for Sale

16.1 H, chestnut, Han. X, geld. By Wolkenflug, born 6/96. Well started by dressage professional. Powerful gaits with a wonderful mind/work ethic. \$17,500.

Contact: Maryanne Nicpon (NY) 518-884-0307 or mnglwood@concentric.net.

Looking for Trainer

I am a member of Central Vermont Dressage Assoc. and a student of Judi Whipple from Breckenridge Farm, Barre, Vermont who recommended I search Connecticut for a trainer of ponies for children. I have a most promising 3 yr old filly of old fashion arabian bloodlines who has great extension and suspension but only weighs 750 pounds. She has been taught to drive and is quite kind and trusting. She is the second offspring of my mare and has always been handled with training in mind. She is NOT at hot arabian.

Contact:

Donna Primmer
PO Box 159 Morningside Farm Peacham
Vermont 05862
802-592-3427 or
primmer@together.net.

Barn Mom Notes:

~ Teaching Responsibility ~

In the movie "Matilda", Danny DeVito plays a failure of a father who pointedly tells his brilliant daughter "I'm big, you're little; I'm smart, you're dumb; I'm right, you're wrong." Adult viewers laugh at such extreme behavior, but most of us also recognize a small part of ourselves.

In real life, a case of Lyme disease staged a mental wrestling match between knowledgeable adults and a girl who loves her horse.

In one corner, there were eight adults, including devoted grandparents/owners, parents, a trainer, barn manager, vet and vet tech. Being the Barn Mom, I also played the referee. Each of us offered some combination of experience, expertise and concern.

In the other corner was a 13-yr. old, who her principal described as bright, articulate and personable in a VOAG application. Armed with these admirable traits, she sought to take responsibility for her horse's health.

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Taking responsibility requires 'active thinking.' Instead of waiting to be told what to do, the person expresses herself clearly, makes independent decisions, considers different points of view, and chooses what she thinks is right.

Except, when you are thirteen, you lack the money, wheels and wisdom to act independently. So you practice by asking relevant questions and listening carefully; you consider different points of view, such as:

~ "Mud fever is not a reason to test for Lyme" vs.  
~ "Mud fever can be a symptom of an immune system weakened by Lyme"

~ "There is nothing wrong with your horse" vs.  
~ "Your horse is not acting himself"

~ "The medication may be making him cranky" vs.  
~ "He is being his usual bratty self"

You watch for symptoms of complications (laminitis) or unrelated dangers ("Some horses aren't drinking enough water in this cold spell"). Staying open minded, you strive to increase your understanding vs. win an argument ("OK, we don't need to call the Vet out on Thanksgiving Day"). You take his temperature, record symptoms, monitor intake/output and administer lots of TLC.

And, only on one occasion do you remind your mother that "You don't know anything about horses!"

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Like the other adults in this situation, I tried to encourage her sense of responsibility, within reasonable boundaries. And only once did I remind her that "You are smart but your brain is only thirteen!"

I mostly helped out by inspecting a frozen turnout area for fresh manure and donating a coffee grinder for crushing doxycycline. I listened when her trainer told me (twice) that she was not over-reacting, and I tried to minimize any 'Matilda' messages coming from the adult side of the arena. All of which, I hope, teaches responsibility.

Georgian Lussier 12/00

USDF Announces New Executive Board Members

December 20, 2000

Following elections at the United States Dressage Federation (USDF) Annual Convention Nov. 28-Dec. 2nd in Cincinnati, new members of the Executive Board were announced. Regional Directors from the "even-numbered" Regions were up for election. The Regional Directors will not only direct and coordinate dressage activity in their region, but also serve as a member of the USDF Executive Board and make policy decisions on a national level.

The new Executive Board Members serving for the years 2001-2003 include:

Sue Hughes of Plymouth, Michigan, Region Two Director

Linda Landers of Independence, Missouri, Region Four Director

Gaye McCabe of Salem, Oregon, Region Six Director

Fern Feldman of Cheshire, CT, Region Eight Director

Sue Hughes of Plymouth, Michigan was elected Region Two Director, for the states of Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. She is an AHSA licensed "r" Dressage Judge and officiates at recognized competitions and schooling shows. She is a dressage instructor, and teaches clinics in a five-state area. She is a certified Centered Riding Level III Instructor and sits on the Board of Trustees for Centered Riding Inc. She has been the USDF Nominating Committee Chair since 1991, and was responsible for overseeing all USDF elections. She was a member of the planning committee for the USDF National Seminar for Dressage Instructors, from which came the current USDF Instructor Certification program and Instructor Workshop programs.

Linda Landers of Independence, Missouri was elected as Region Four Director, representing the states of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota. She was one of the founders of the Kansas City Dressage Society, which later became a charter member of USDF. She has organized numerous events for dressage including recognized competitions and educational programs. As a USDF "L" judge training program graduate, she has officiated at many schooling shows throughout the region. She is the owner of a dressage training facility where she teaches others about dressage.

Gaye McCabe of Salem, Oregon was elected as Region Six Director to represent the members from Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and western Montana. She has been a member of the Oregon Dressage Society since 1986, serving in various capacities from chapter representative, to treasurer, secretary and president for three years. She has been the secretary for the Region Six Championships for the past eight years. She has served USDF as regional coordinator for the Competition Management Council, the Junior/Young Rider Council, and in 2000 she served as the chair of the USDF Adult Education Committee, which started the Adult Team Competitions. She has served in these capacities as a volunteer in her spare time. Full time, she serves as a Oregon state police trooper.

Fern Feldman of Cheshire, CT, was appointed in 1995, elected in 1997, and again in 2000 to serve as Region Eight Director, representing the members in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont. She has served as president and now secretary of her local dressage club. Fern is an adult amateur competitor and is learning dressage through the levels. Fern has organized many educational programs, including the USDF Certification Testings. Fern will also serve on the USDF Management Committee, helping to oversee administrative policies. In addition to her USDF responsibilities, Fern also serves as president of the board of trustees of an independent school.

These four members make up a 13-member Executive Board, which consists of nine Regional Directors, and four officers. They meet during the USDF Annual Convention, and again in May at the USDF headquarters in Lincoln, Nebraska.

The United States Dressage Federation (USDF) is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation made up of more than 31,000 members throughout all 50 states and serves as the national voice of the dressage community. Through volunteer directors, committee members and an office staff in Lincoln, Nebraska, USDF promotes dressage, provides education, and rewards excellence in dressage competition performance. Membership in USDF is achieved by joining one of the 129 affiliated dressage groups, or by joining USDF directly to receive additional benefits of membership. For more information, contact USDF at PO Box 6669; Lincoln, NE 68506, or call 402/434-8550, e-mail usdressage@usdf.org, or visit www.usdf.org.

Think, when we talk of horses, that you see them Printing their proud hoofs in the receiving earth.

*William Shakespeare
Henry V*



Don't look like this when you realize that you have forgotten your CDA Membership renewal and won't be receiving your April *Centerline!!*

Fill out your Application Today!!

2000 CDA Year End Awards (Revised)

Recognized Competitions Year End Awards

Training Junior

Casey DelConte	Kriztun el Hamal	59.92
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Training Adult

Silene White	Prince of the Moon	66.76
Cynthia Paolillo	Ivy Leaguer	65.65
Corrie Harreys	Poncho	62.92
Nancy Blanchard	Arcadia	58.50

Training Open

Timothy Malin	Tiramisu	67.62
Vicki Hammers-O'Neil	Kaiserwalzer	65.00
Maureen Hawes	Siglavay Flora 8	61.07

First Junior

Jacqueline Cloud	Stark's Tegwch	63.13
Amanda Braverman	Casanova	63.03
Elizabeth Braverman	Merci Beaucoup	62.59
Catherine Pereira	Ariel	61.29

First Adult

Kari Allen	Forbes Abracadabra	57.73
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First Open

Jennifer Baumert	Felicia	69.24
Maureen Hawes	Siglavay Flora 8	61.07

Second Junior

Elizabeth Braverman	Merci Beaucoup	59.07
Amanda Braverman	Casanova	59.05

Second Adult

Barbara Wilson	Adalrich	60.12
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Second Open

Jennifer Baumert	Evangelista	69.61
Ann Guptill	Zilvervos	67.59
Dee Loveless	Donnaldo	63.27

Third Adult

Jodie Rossetti	Oliver	61.52
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Third Open

Dee Loveless	Donnaldo	61.90
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Fourth Junior

Dennis Proll	Winrich	63.11
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Fourth Adult

Fern Feldman	Le Noir	62.56
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Prix St. Georges and Intermediare I (combined levels)

Vicki Hammers-O'Neil	Theo de Caudard	64.10
Dee Loveless	Roy	59.92

Intermediare II and Grand Prix (combined levels)

Ann Guptill	Favoriet	63.33
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Schooling Competition Year End Awards

Introductory Adult

Stephanie Sittnick	Il Cavallo	67.36
Diane Morrison	Pompie	65.43

Training Junior

Nora Harris	Oliver Twist	67.97
Casey DelConte	Kriztun el Hamal	62.86

Training Adult

Cheryl Matthewson	Pompee	68.52
Nancy Blanchard	Arcadia	61.65
Susan Brewster	Oak Lawn's Eve	60.86
Corrie Harreys	Poncho	60.68

Robin Cassella	Holiday	58.82
Jean Turner	Arcadia	55.41

First Junior

Jacqueline Cloud	Starks Tegwich	65.24
Jackie Ducci	Sir Galahad	61.30

The nature of the horse remains unchanged, whether it carries the saddle of the prince, or whether it draws the cart of the wagoner. The noble ones accept the yoke, they serve, but will never be slaves, for to themselves they can never be traitors.

*H. H. Isenbart
The Kingdom of the Horse*

CDA JR/YR

On Jan. 13, Elizabeth Brown, Jordan Witik and me, Desiree Bilodeau, along with a few parents; Pam Bilodeau Cheryl Ericson, Diane Witik, and our kind hostess, Kathi Cipriano attended a Jr/YR meeting in Plymouth, CT.

For our first subject, fundraisers, we decided use Coyote and the Fox (www.coyoteandfox.com). They hold house parties, almost like Tupperware parties, but sell riding apparel and accessories. We were also looking into baking horse cookies and selling them at horse shows and local stables. Another great idea that Elizabeth had thought up, was selling travel mugs with our soon-to-be logo on it.

Our next subject was the Jr/YR team , which we hope to get together for the Northeast Jr/YR Dressage Championships on Aug. 18 and 19 at Ox Ridge Hunt Club in Darien, CT. If you are a Jr/YR interested in joining our team, and can ride between training and fourth level, please call me at (860)-585-8693, or e-mail me at dressagegurl1887@aol.com. We need four people to make a complete team, so the positions may fill up fast. If you have any ideas for names that you think the team would like please call or e-mail me.

Our next meeting will be Feb. 10 at Ruby Tuesday in Cromwell, CT. If you or anyone you know would like to come, please call or e-mail me ahead of time so we can reserve your seats.

Well, that's all for now. If you have any questions or comments, call or e-mail me. And don't forget, if you have any artwork, questions, poems or articles you would like to submit to our page, please send them in. Thank you for your time.

Desiree Bilodeau

USDF Plans 9th Annual National Dressage Symposium in Scottsdale

December 21, 2000

Dressage enthusiasts will have the perfect opportunity to study from one of the world's top dressage stars at the ninth annual United States Dressage Federation (USDF) National Dressage Symposium. Located at the WestWorld Equidome in Scottsdale, AZ, from March 30-April 1, 2001 the Symposium features three-time Olympian Isabell Werth of Germany. Ms. Werth's was the 2000 Olympic Individual Silver Medallist, 1996 Olympic Individual Gold Medalist, and in 1992, 1996 and 2000 an Olympic Team Gold Medallist.

The main event of the Symposium will be Isabell presenting her insights into the progressive training techniques of classical dressage on Saturday and Sunday. Participants will see horses from Training Level up to Grand Prix demonstrate the correct movements, training and the skills needed to build successfully from one level to the next.

The event also includes a day of USDF University sessions, featuring two noted veterinarians. On Friday, Dr. Tom Juergens will speak on current Equine Reproduction, and Dr. Tracy Turner will speak on Lameness of the Dressage Horse.

The Symposium will feature a trade fair of various tack, apparel, jewelry and art vendors. Spaces are available for additional vendors. Contact USDF for trade fair information.

The USDF National Dressage Symposium will be THE place to be to expand your knowledge of dressage, and also a great place to do some shopping. For more information, contact USDF at 402/434-8550, or check the website at www.usdf.org.

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Region 8 GMO Report

We all have to be selective with the projects with which we get involved, as there are more opportunities out there than there is time. And, there are so many who work hard to make particular activities successful. One of these people is Ann Pereira, who is the Region 8 coordinator for the Junior/Young Rider Council, chaired by Lendon Gray. Ann has created a JUNIOR/YOUNG RIDER HANDBOOK. This contains invaluable information for young riders, and is a work in progress, as Ann would like it to always remain updated. One of her goals is to obtain a current list of all juniors and young riders in Region 8. Please, if you are one, get in touch with her: 203-323-9888; ginper@aol.com. I have sent a copy of her handbook to each GMO in Region 8 (by e-mail), and she or I would be happy to do that for any interested group or individual. Please, feel free to contact either Ann or myself for more information. Remember that we will again be having the Northeast Junior/Young Rider Dressage Championships and USDF Team Competition on August 18-19, 2001 at Ox Ridge, Darien, CT. For those who have attended, you know how fabulous it is. For those interested, get in touch—don't miss THE EVENT for junior/young riders! New this year: an optional prix caprilli.

I am beginning to receive information from individuals or groups about various activities that are being planned for this year. I

encourage this exchange of information, again through e-mail, and have offered organizers the list of all the GMO presidents and newsletter editors in our region. The more coordinated we are with our publicity and calendars, the better, as we all should know of the opportunities that exist for education throughout the region. I send e-mails to the GMO's approximately 9 or 10 times a year, with the intention that they will be published in their newsletters. That seems to be one of the best ways for me to keep in touch with group members throughout our region. I would be happy to also send this information to individuals, especially if certain GMO's do not have newsletters, or if individuals are only participating members of USDF. So, should you wish to be added to this list, let me know by e-mail. (Of course, I encourage all dressage riders to be both group members—join a GMO—and participating members—join USDF directly.)

Fern

(Editor's note - A copy of the Junior Rider Handbook for Region 8 (PDF format) can be viewed and downloaded from the CDA website in either the CDA Extras Box or the Region 8 Section at http://www.geocities.com/~ct_dress_assn/)

Winners of Cosequin/USDF Musical Freestyle Series Announced

December 29, 2000

After 12 months of musical selection, choreography and performance, the top winners of the Cosequin/ United States Dressage Federation (USDF) Musical Freestyle Series were announced at USDF's Annual Awards Banquet. Along with the prestige of winning this award, the winners also took home cash prizes totaling \$3,150.

"At Nutramax, improving athletic function is our goal," said Ian Parker, Marketing Manager of Nutramax Laboratories, maker of Cosequin. "Dressage musical freestyle allows the spectator to appreciate that athletic ability, that's why we continue to be supportive of USDF's musical freestyle programs."

The following are the 2000 Cosequin/USDF Musical Freestyle Champions:

First Level, receiving a check for \$250, was Nimbus, a Dutch Warmblood, owned and ridden by Heather Mason, of New Jersey with a median score of 76.66%.

Second Level, receiving a check for \$300, was First Impression, an Oldenberg, owned by Andrea Doelling and ridden by Karen Perkins of Colorado with a median score of 72.92%.

Third Level Champion, receiving a check for \$350, was Lexus, a Dutch Warmblood, owned and ridden by Tracey Lert of California with a median score of 70.20%.

Fourth Level Champion, receiving a check for \$500, was Le Teur, a Dutch Warmblood, owned and ridden by Nadine Pestana.

Intermediate I Champion, receiving a check for \$750, was Haagen Dazs, a Dutch Warmblood, owned and ridden by Lynn Jendrowski of Hawaii.

The Grand Prix Champion, receiving a check for \$1,000, was Foltaire, a Dutch Warmblood, owned by Richard and Jane Brown and ridden by Guenter Seidel of California. Foltaire and Seidel were members of the 2000 Sydney Olympic Team for the USA.

Cosequin helps maintain optimum joint function in equine athletes by providing the nutrients necessary for the synthesis of synovial fluid and the major components of the joint cartilage. Cosequin is available from veterinarians worldwide for use with horses, dogs, cats and other animals. Nutramax also produces Cosamin, which is design for humans. Cosequin is the Official Nutraceutical of the United States Dressage Federation.

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YEAR END AWARDS PRESENTATION

February 17, 2001 at 7pm
Where - Fern Feldman's Home



Catered dinner, and some fun...dancing????
BYOB and bring your favorite dessert to share.
Bring spouses, significant others, friends, potential CDA
members, but come!!!

This is a party for you

RSVP to Fern by Feb 12th. 203-272-0711

Directions: From I-84, take exit 26 'Cheshire'. Turn right(or bear right if you are coming from the Waterbury) at the light at the end of the ramp. Stay on route 68/70 until Mountain Rd. Land Mark is that Mountain Rd is the NEXT light after the Notch Store on the right and at the light where Rt 68 splits from Rt 70. Turn Right onto Mountain Rd. At four-way stop go straight, Fern's home is about .6 mile on the left from the four-way stop, 890 Mountain Rd, white ranch with circular drive.

All articles are to be submitted by the 15th of the month. They can be mailed to me at:

John Gordon
Attn. CENTERLINE
24 Darren Court
Waterbury, CT 06708-3903

or
They can be Emailed to me at ct_dress_assn@geocities.com

In the Subject line: Centerline

Please send them as an Attachment in either Word for Windows, WordPerfect, RTF or in a plain text file Format if possible.

Attention Show and Clinic Organizers, Trainers, Stables and Organizations:

Don't forget to send us information about your activities for the 2001 CDA Calendar of Events!!! Send a one-line description, dates, locations, and contact person's name and phone number. We'll be delighted to include it in Centerline's regular calendar at no cost.

Thanks,
John

