



# CENTERLINE



CONNECTICUT DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

MAY 2003

## Connecticut Dressage Association

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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*

**Email -**  
Centerline@ctdressageassoc.org  
Subject: Centerline

**- CDA Website -**  
http://ctdressageassoc.org

## President's Message

Well, Mother Nature is certainly beginning to co-operate in that we have had quite a few nice riding weather days this week and I am sure many of you are beginning to get the riding bug. That is great because than you will be ready to compete at our next competition which will be held May 4<sup>th</sup> at Once Again Farm in Meriden. For those of you who have not yet had the pleasure of competing at this facility, you are in for a great experience. Vicki Hammers-O'Neill does a great job in making sure the rings are in top shape and there is plenty of warm-up space in the indoor arena.

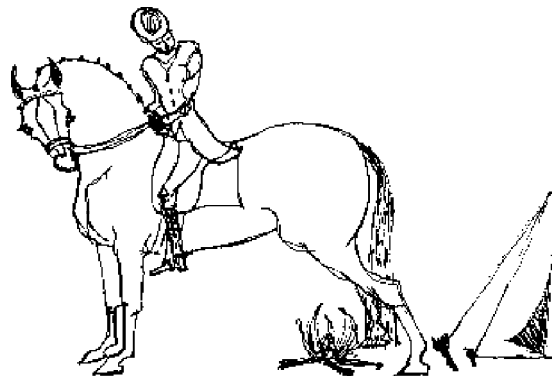
We did not have a large turnout for the March 30<sup>th</sup> competition at Hanover Farm but it was reported that those who did attend had a great time and individual attention was given to each rider by our judge, Dee Loveless. Thanks to Donna Leonessa who organized this competition, we were able to provide an event in a new section of the state and we hope to have additional events in this area in the future as well.

In order to move into 2004 with a solid plan of activities, the CDA board has decided that we need to have most of our plans for competitions and clinics set by the end of July. Towards this focus, we will be conducting a "Planning Meeting" devoted solely to this one topic on Tuesday June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6pm, at Fern Feldman's home. If you would like to make a proposal to run a clinic or competition, or just make suggestions on activities you would like to see more of, consider attending this meeting so your voice can be heard. If you are unable to attend this meeting but want your suggestions brought to the table, feel free to email me @ [BlanchardN\\_E@msn.com](mailto:BlanchardN_E@msn.com) and I will be happy to present your suggestion for you.

Many of you attended our scribe clinic and may be anxious to try out your newly sharpened scribing skills at one of our schooling competitions. If so, please contact the secretary noted on the prize list of the competition of which you are available to volunteer and let them know of your willingness to help out. Also, even at our smaller shows, we can use ring stewards, runners, and scorers and the procedure to contact the show secretary applies to these positions as well. You can choose to help out for a full day or a half-day and lunch and refreshments are provided for all our volunteers. For those of you who are looking to volunteer at our recognized competition, contact Kari Bradshaw and she will be very happy to sign you up.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at the May 4<sup>th</sup> competition

Nancy



Camped Out Behind

## 2003 Calendar of Events

### May 4

CDA Schooling Show  
Once Again Farm  
Nancy Blanchard  
860-283-8748

### May 7

CDA Board Meeting  
6:00 PM  
Fern Feldman  
203-272-0711  
Email - [Secretary@ctdressageassoc.org](mailto:Secretary@ctdressageassoc.org)  
for directions

### May 11

Dressage in the Litchfield Hills  
Litchfield Hills Equestrian Centre  
Penny Hawes  
860-567-1441

### May 24-25

CDA Clinic with  
Roel Theunissen  
At Hannover Dressage  
Donna Leonessa  
860-742-8110

### May 31-June 1

CDA Recognized Show  
Debra Reinhardt  
(203)264-2148  
[debra@centerlineevents.com](mailto:debra@centerlineevents.com)

### June 3

CDA 2004 Planning Meeting  
6:00 PM  
Fern Feldman  
203-272-0711  
Email - [Secretary@ctdressageassoc.org](mailto:Secretary@ctdressageassoc.org)  
for directions

### June 8

Hannover Dressage Series  
East Windsor  
Kelly Cordes  
860-386-0747

### June 13-14

Clinics with Dr. Cesar Parra  
Columbia, CT  
Visit his website:  
<http://www.piaffe-performance.com>  
Contact Dee Loveless  
860-228-4879

## Classifieds

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### Horse Board Available

Northfield, CT.  
24 hour Turnout  
Box Stalls - \$300/month  
Convenient to Route 8  
For further details  
Contact:  
1-860-283-1166

## “GETTING TO KNOW YOU.....”

Featuring CDA member Kari Allen

By: Marcie Gordon

Multi-faceted and multi-talented are adjectives that accurately describe CDA member Kari Allen. Kari resides in Voluntown, CT with her husband Marty on their farm “RStablePfarm” which is bordered by Pachaug State Forest Preserve. This lovely rural setting is also home to Kari’s four horses, four dogs and three cats. RStablePfarm and the surrounding property provide ample opportunity for Kari to work with her horses, enjoy perennial naturalized gardening and go on hikes with Marty and their dogs. Kari and Marty enjoy vacationing in Maine and New Hampshire where they take advantage of the many hiking opportunities available there.

Kari is an Associate Scientist at Pfizer where her focus is on the research and development of animal health pharmaceuticals along with their disposition and metabolism. Some products developed by Pfizer are Rimadyl, Clavamox and Strongid! Could it be her scientific nature that enables Kari to successfully raise flowering orchids at home? Kari modestly states “I seem to have a knack for indoor orchids. I’ve had some for numerous years now that continue to bloom well.”

Kari Allen’s relationship with horses began at age eleven in western New York State when she started riding a neighbor’s Morgan. She was involved in Pony Club in New York and rode whenever the opportunity presented itself. Kari’s very first “own” horse was a quarter horse mare that she purchased as soon as she graduated from college. When Kari moved to Connecticut in late 1994, she became a member of both CDA and CDCTA (Connecticut Dressage and Combined Training Assoc.). Kari was on the board of CDCTA for two years and served as that organization’s president from 2000-2002.

Kari’s diverse riding experiences include much TB experience (prep for the track and off-track retraining), Eventing in New England through training level, competition in 25 mile Competitive Trail Riding and currently competing in Dressage to 3<sup>rd</sup> level. It is this diversity that reveals Kari Allen’s personal philosophy. Kari shared these thoughts: “I believe strongly in cross training with cavelletti, jumps, hunter-pacing, trail riding, etc. I believe that adults can improve their skills with independent riding and experimentation.” Kari believes that if one only rides dressage under supervision the rider will not be able to develop the skills that may be needed when things “go wrong” at a show or when your trainer is not available. Kari feels that developing “independence skills” are valuable tools for any rider in any discipline.

Kari has gained a lot of “on the ground” experience by volunteering at dressage shows in various capacities. At this time Kari is currently taking the USDF “L” program for judging. She explains, “I have one more session and the final exam to go! Wish me luck!” Kari also wishes to pursue her “r” judge rating.

Kari’s dressage partner since 2000 is her 15-year-old registered Cleveland Bay/TB mare Forbes Abracadabra (“Abbey”). Kari and “Abbey” have received numerous awards in Connecticut and in USDF Region 8 competitions. They were awarded the 2002 CDA reserve champion year-end award for 2<sup>nd</sup> level/Adult Amateur. Taking occasional lessons from Ann Guptill (since 2000) and Jennifer Baumert (since 2002), Kari’s goal for 2003 is to show Abby at 3<sup>rd</sup> level this season and perhaps target the 2<sup>nd</sup> level regionals as well.

Lorenzo (“Lory”) is Kari’s new 5 year old Hanoverian gelding. Kari hopes to begin her partnership with Lorenzo this year with the goal to compete in Training level and qualify for regional championship. Kari’s long term goal with Lorenzo is to progress with him in a long-term time frame towards FEI dressage.

When asked the question “How can CDA better serve its members?” Kari responded with the following suggestion: “I would like to see CDA offer a three-part clinic series for adult amateur and youth riders over the competition season with one clinician. In that format the participants can develop a working relationship with the clinician during the series. It would be beneficial if the clinics could be affordable and possibly subsidized by CDA as an educational opportunity.” (Ed. Note: this suggestion will be presented at the CDA planning meeting for 2004 to be held on June 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Life at “RStablePfarm” is busy indeed as Kari Allen successfully balances family, profession and goals for herself and her horses. We thank you, Kari, for sharing your memories of the past and your goals for the future and we wish you, “Abbey” and “Lory” good luck on the centerline this season!

## ATTENTION ALL CDA MEMBERS!!!

The Second Company Governor's Horse Guard is very short of funds, due to cuts in State funding. At the same time, they are a required service for the Governor. The members have often funded their programs out of their own salaries, but now cannot. They provided all the security for our CDI recognized show last June and we would like to help them out.

They would like to hold a giant tag sale. So....please clean out your "horsey" closet for all those things you have saved for the famous rainy day. Anything you choose to donate is tax deductible, so please keep a list for your taxes. We also need people around the state to volunteer (just this once) to gather stuff in your area, so we can get it to our Horse Guard contacts.

Please watch for details, including dates in upcoming Centerline notices, but it is not too soon to start rooting in your basements.

Many thanks, and read on.....

Leslie Weiss  
CDA Vice-President



### **Second Company Governor's Horse Guard**

P.O. Box 671  
Newtown, CT 06470

The Second Company Governor's Horse Guard has been in continuous existence since 1808. We are one of two Horse Guards in CT and are what is left of the cavalry in this state. We are an all volunteer, State governed militia unit that currently consists of approximately 45 active members. We are military based and ride in McClellan saddles in a dressage based style of riding.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Company Governor's Horse Guard (2GHG) is very active in community service and charity events. We are active with the boy and girl scouts, we have an annual fund raiser that earns money for the St. Jude Children's Hospital, we have a Turkey Trot trail ride to gather Thanksgiving dinner foods for the needy and we have raised money for the Swim Across The Sound in past years.

Our most important program, though, is our 'Saddle Up For Life' handicap riding program, which is run during the summer months. We currently offer this program to adults only. We would very much like to expand the program to include children and secure an indoor riding facility in order to offer the program year round.

Funds are always tight and we are finding it more and more difficult to make ends meet. We are always looking for creative ways to earn money for the troop and the various programs that we support. Our big fundraiser for the year is our horse show, held at our facility in Newtown, which is in its second year as a sanctioned hunter/jumper show. We are very eager to find other avenues of raising funds and are thrilled about the possibility of obtaining used tack and horse equipment that we could resell.

2GHG is a non-profit organization so anything that is donated to the troop can be taken as a tax deduction. We appreciate the opportunity of working with your organization and are grateful for your generosity and willingness to assist us.

May 24th and 25th  
CDA presents a riding clinic and lecture on  
dressage with  
*ROEL THEUNISSEN Of Wadsworth Farm*  
At  
Hannover Dressage  
In East Windsor,  
Connecticut

Roel graduated from Deurne, the prestigious Dutch National Equestrian Institut. After graduation, he moved to Germany to study with internationally recognized trainer Georg Theodorescu, also the father of German Olympic Rider, Monica Theodorescu.

**After 18 months training with Mr.Theodorescu, Roel returned to The Netherlands and spent the next 10 years working with Henk van Bergen, who remains his mentor to this day. Henk was the coach of the Dutch Olympic team who captured the Bronze Medal in 1988. In 1993, he was “Trainer of the Year”, an honor bestowed upon him by the International Dressage Trainers Club, whose members include the finest dressage trainers in the world. Other recipients of this prestigious award include Sjef Janssen, coach of Anky van Grunsven, and the late Herbert Rhebein of Germany.**

While working as an Assistant Trainer at Henk’s, Roel also had his own Dressage Training stable at Berkenhoeve, a well-known Trakehener breeding farm. He has competed at the FEI level and trained horses and riders through Grand Prix. A recommendation from Henk and Wilma van Bergen brought Roel to the Boston area. As Head Trainer and General Manager of Wadsworth Farm, Roel operates a very successful training business. He remains open to working with all horses, and all the horses he works with are truly transformed through his training. Roel is also a down-to-earth, articulate instructor, open to working with all motivated clients that have a serious interest in improving. As a seasoned professional, Roel demonstrates an incredible talent, determination, and commitment that bring out the best in a horse or rider. If they can work hard and possess enough natural ability, Roel will inspire them to new levels.

The Clinic will offer ten 45-Minute sessions along with a lecture during the lunch hour. Auditors are welcome and rates will include lunch for those that signup in advance.

Interested clinic riders should contact: Donna Leonessa, Adult Education Coordinator, [dleonessa@hotmail.com](mailto:dleonessa@hotmail.com) or 860-742-8110 for more information. Slots will fill up quickly and will cost \$90.00 for a private 45-minute session.

**May 24th and 25th  
CDA Clinic with  
ROEL THEUNISSEN of Wadsworth Farm  
At  
Hannover Dressage  
In East Windsor, Connecticut**

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**AUDITOR SIGN UP**

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Name(s)\_\_\_\_\_

Street\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_ State\_\_\_\_\_ Zip\_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\*\*Auditors who sign up prior to May 23<sup>rd</sup> will be provided with breakfast and lunch during the clinic.  
Auditors who do not sign up by May 23<sup>rd</sup> will pay an additional \$5.00 on the day of the clinic for breakfast  
and lunch.\*\*\*\***

**SATURDAY, MAY 24, 2003**

\_\_\_\_\_CDA Member: \$25.00

\_\_\_\_\_Non-Member: \$35.00

\_\_\_\_\_JuniorYR (21 under): \$20.00

**SUNDAY, MAY 25, 2003**

\_\_\_\_\_CDA Member: \$25.00

\_\_\_\_\_Non-Member: \$35.00

\_\_\_\_\_JuniorYR (21 under): \$20.00

**BOTH DAYS:**

\_\_\_\_\_CDA Member: \$35.00

\_\_\_\_\_Non-Member: \$55.00

\_\_\_\_\_JuniorYR (21 under): \$30.00

GRAND TOTAL (Please make checks payable to CDA) \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please send Auditor Sign Up with check payable to CDA to:  
Donna Leonessa, Adult Education Coordinator  
3080 South Street  
Coventry, CT 06238  
[Dleonessa@hotmail.com](mailto:Dleonessa@hotmail.com) (860) 742-8110

All articles are to be submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> 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  
**Centerline@ctdressageassoc.org**



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 2003 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

Remember to visit us on the web at <http://www.ctdressageassoc.org>

### 2003 Advertising Rates

<i>Page Size</i>	<b>CDA Members</b>		<b>Non-CDA Member</b>	
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<i>Business Card</i>	\$10	\$100	\$20	\$200
<i>¼ Page</i>	\$15	\$150	\$30	\$300
<i>½ Page</i>	\$20	\$200	\$35	\$350
<i>Full Page</i>	\$25	\$250	\$40	\$400

Prices based on receiving camera ready artwork. Layout and design work not included. Contact the editor if you need assistance in the layout of your ad. Entry forms for shows will not be included in the newsletter. Classified ads for non-members are \$2.00 for 30 characters. Count as a character every letter, space, and punctuation mark.



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