



CENTERLINE



CONNECTICUT DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

November 2007

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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
Email -
Centerline@ctdressageassoc.org
Subject: Centerline

- CDA Website -

www.ctdressageassoc.org

CDA is a USDF member, and the GMO's members are automatically USDF Group Members.

President's Message

It is finally starting to get nice and chilly out (for those of us who enjoy the cold). Time to clip and blanket, and prepare our horses for the cold weather ahead. I forgot how much I appreciate blankets, having a grey horse. It is very nice to take that blanket off and have a clean and mud free horse underneath.

Here in the northeast it is the time of year show managers start planning for the next show season and put their prize lists together. Due to the great success of our recognized show last year, it will again be held at Kasson Ridge Farm in Bethlehem (June 7th & 8th). If you would like to be involved with this, please let us know. It is never too early to start gathering volunteers. You can contact Kari (860-542-5375) or myself (203-268-1633). If you are interested in possibly running or hosting a CDA schooling show at you facilities, let us know that as well. We are always looking to expand the number of schooling shows available to our members to qualify for year end awards.

Speaking of, the number of applicants for year-end awards has been very low. We want to reward you for your good riding...Get those applications in!

As always, I look forward to seeing everyone at our Awards Party/Annual Meeting on January 26, 2008. Once again we will be holding our ever popular silent auction. We are currently looking for items for this. If you have something special that you might like to donate please contact Heidi (860-779-7816). Maybe an autographed copy of a dressage book, photo of a dressage star, or anything else horsey would be greatly appreciated. Any profits go right back into programs to help you learn and grow in your riding. Our featured item in the auction will be a gorgeous Eco-Gold cooler. The air cooler is made of a special high tech material that is extremely effective in cooling down your hot, wet horse after a good workout. Basil loves his...one can never have enough coolers and blankets. They make the best saddle pads too!

Our elections for the Board of Directors will be held at our Annual Meeting. If you are interested in being on the Board, please contact Fern Feldman (fern@cox.net) by December 1, 2007. We would love to have some fresh new faces join us.

I am so excited about our educational programs for next year. As always, our educational committee is doing an awesome job in planning our upcoming clinics. Our 2008 clinics will feature Ann Guptil, Lou Denizard, and Bill Warren. Donna will give you more details on these soon. We will also be bringing you more information on a unique and very special program to honor the vintage horse. It has been created by one of our members to show appreciation for our hard working, dedicated older horses that are too often not given the special recognition that they deserve.

Please note that if you have not renewed your CDA membership this year, this will be your last issue of the Centerline. We have a great year ahead so get those renewals in! Thank you to those who have returned the surveys. They are really helping us in our planning. We are tabulating the results and will publish them in an upcoming issue.

See you soon,
Chris

2007 Calendar of Events

November 15, 2007

CDA Board Meeting

Fern Feldman

203-272-0711

Secretary@ctdressageassoc.org

USDF Announces 2007 Youth Volunteer of the Year

Lexington, KY (October 16, 2007) - The United States Dressage Federation (USDF) is pleased to announce that Kristen Posner of Lexington, KY, has been selected as the first recipient of the USDF Youth Volunteer of the Year Award.

This prestigious award, sponsored by the USDF Youth Executive Board, honors one outstanding youth volunteer who has contributed on a national and local basis to the USDF and dressage.

In 2007, Kristen volunteered at numerous events including the Mid-South Eventing and Dressage Association (MSEDA) Musical Freestyle Clinic with Cynthia Collins, the MSEDA Dressage at the Horse Park, the Paxton Farm CDI, The Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event, and the Kentucky Dressage Association (KDA) Dressage Show. Kristen serves on the MSEDA Awards Committee as their Junior Representative and is a member of the Georgetown College Equine Scholars. Kristen's volunteer efforts began at a very young age, initially by handing out tests and ribbons at local dressage shows.

Kristen's name will be engraved on a new perpetual trophy donated by the Akin family of Warwick, NY, in honor of Lendon Gray. Kristen will also receive a \$500 Youth Convention Scholarship that is provided from funds raised at the Youth Executive Board Silent Auction held annually at the Adequan®/USDF Annual Convention.

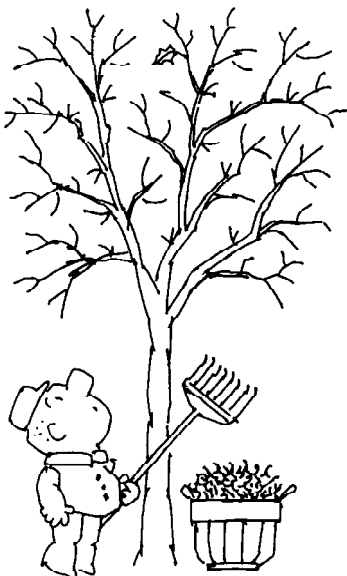
For more information on the Youth Volunteer of the Year Award or to make a donation to the Silent Auction, contact the USDF Youth Liaison at (859) 971-2277 or via e-mail at youth@usdf.org. Details are also available on our Web site www.usdf.org.

SUPPORT DRESSAGE EDUCATION

@ CDA YEAR-END AWARDS PARTY SILENT AUCTION

The Connecticut Dressage Association is looking for items for our "Silent Auction" at the CDA Year-End Awards Party. Horsy items, non-horsy items, and "services" are some ideas to consider. We had some wonderful donations last year...THANK YOU for your donations of riding lessons, wormer, supplements, horse treats, books, pads, equine and people massages, sports psychology session, clothing, kitchen ware, variety baskets, artwork, jewelry and more! Remember all proceeds from the Silent Auction will help fund future CDA education clinics.

Please contact Heidi Nottelman before Decembet 20th if you have an item to donate – please have a description of the item and a 'retail' value (for purposes of the auction forms and taxes). The donated item would need to be received by January 15th. If you have any questions – email from the Contacts Link on the CDA web page <http://ctdressageassoc.org/>, or call Heidi at (860) 779-7816.



Thank you for helping support dressage education!
Heidi

Rule Change Affecting Regional Championships

Lexington, KY (October 8, 2007) - A USEF extraordinary rule change effective October 15, 2007, recently approved by the USEF Executive Committee will now allow more classes to be listed as qualifying for the upcoming year. The rule change, which was recommended by the USDF Regional Championships Committee and supported by the USDF Executive Board, was developed in part to address the growing number of restricted classes required by USEF's Developing programs' criteria. Classes such as the USEF Developing Horse, USEF National Young Adult "Brentina Cup", and FEI Young Rider Grand Prix (for 20-25 year olds), are all examples of tests being created for developing dressage programs both by the USEF and the FEI. The Regional Championships Committee, by recommending this rule change, is being responsive to these recent developments at USEF, as well as an overall emphasis in young horse and young rider development, and the "pipeline" for our future dressage stars. This rule change will also allow other types of restricted classes to be listed as qualifying, including classes restricted to maiden horses, novice riders, children, or junior riders. In the past, the format allowed for qualifying classes was limited to Adult Amateur, Open, or Jr/YR designations and other restricted classes were not eligible. The only listed exception to this rule includes classes restricted to a type of breed, or "breed-restricted" classes. These cannot be offered as qualifying. As always, only competitions classified by USEF as Dressage Competitions, which are open to horses of all breeds, may offer qualifying classes and each USEF/USDF Qualifying and/or Championship class must be identified in the prize list and in the competition results. Management with prize lists that have already been distributed must adhere to USEF GR1404 "Changes in Prize List" to add the qualifying designation, and the USDF office must be notified of these changes in writing prior to the competition. Classes that can be used for qualifying must be from the highest or single test of the level or included in a USDF-approved list of classes. The complete list is as follows:

Training Level Test 4	FEI Intermediate I Freestyle
First Level Test 4	FEI Grand Prix Freestyle
Second Level Test 4	FEI Pony Team Test
Third Level Test 3	FEI Pony Individual Test
Fourth Level Test 3	FEI Junior Team Test
FEI Prix St. Georges	FEI Junior Individual Test
FE I Intermediate I	FEI Junior Freestyle
FEI Intermediate II	FEI Young Rider Team Test
FEI Grand Prix	FEI Young Rider Freestyle
USDF First Level Freestyle	USEF National Young Adult (Brentina Cup)
USDF Second Level Freestyle	USEF Developing Horse
USDF Third Level Freestyle	FEI Young Rider Grand Prix 20-25
USDF Fourth Level Freestyle	

For more information, contact the USDF Regional Championships Coordinator at regchamps@usdf.org or by phone at (859) 971-2277. Founded in 1973, the United States Dressage Federation is a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to education, recognition of achievement, and promotion of dressage. For more information about USDF membership or programs, visit www.usdf.org, e-mail usdressage@usdf.org, or call (859) 971-2277.

United States Dressage Federation Partners with United States Pony Clubs, Inc.

Lexington, KY (October 24, 2007) - Taking advantage of their proximity in the Kentucky Horse Park, the United States Dressage Federation (USDF) and the United States Pony Clubs, Inc. (USPC) have agreed to collaborate on mutually beneficial projects. According to Karin Glassman, USDF Director of Programs and Education, "this cooperation supports the educational missions of both organizations while strengthening the development of dressage in the United States. USDF brings to this relationship an in-depth educational curriculum about dressage theory, training, judging, and instructional techniques, while USPC adds its legacy of promoting horse management and a system of nationally approved standards for achievement by youth members."

Peggy Entrekin, USPC Executive Director, is "excited about the fact that we are working closely with USDF to strengthen our relationship and provide opportunities for our youth members. Now is the perfect time to be undertaking these joint ventures in light of USPC beginning our new Specialty Dressage Ratings at the C-3, B, and A levels." Glassman adds that since USPC has extended its membership age to 25 and instituted a *Horsemasters* program for adults, USDF and USPC can extend their educational offerings about dressage to members of both organizations at any age and at all levels of ability.

Several shared projects have already been completed, including jointly organized educational workshops held at the USDF National Education Center during the USPC Festival 2007, incorporation of the *USPC Manual of Horsemanship* into the recommended reading list for USDF Certified Instructor candidates, invitations to Pony Club members to attend USDF Youth Team Championships and the Adequan/USDF Annual Convention, and inclusion of qualified USPC Dressage Specialty Examiners in the eligibility criteria to attend the Succeed/USDF FEI- Level Trainers' Conferences.

In the near future, plans are underway to include USDF educational modules in the agenda for the USPC Annual Meeting 2008 in Boston, MA, develop a new dressage recognition award, promote freestyle and quadrille competition, and enhance the dialogue between USPC examiners and USDF examiners, faculty, and certified instructors. USDF is currently seeking to identify USDF Certified Instructors and "L" Program graduates who have ties to their local Pony Clubs or to USPC at the national level, or who wish to work with their local Pony Clubs as an instructor, clinician, lecturer, or examiner.

For more information about the partnership, please contact USDF at programsandeducation@usdf.org or instructorcertification@usdf.org.

Additional Clinician for the USDF FEI Junior/Young Rider Clinic Series

Lexington, KY (October 18, 2007) – United States Dressage Federation is pleased to have Jan Ebeling join the list of clinicians for the USDF FEI Junior/Young Rider (Jr/YR) Clinic Series. These clinics, with funding support provided by The Dressage Foundation, are open to riders between the ages of fourteen and 21, currently riding at Third Level or above. However, auditors of all ages are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Although an American citizen since 1998, Jan is a native of Germany and holds his Bereiter license. Additionally, he holds the distinction of having been an apprentice rider under the late legendary German master, Herbert Rehbein.

In 1984, Jan relocated to the United States (US) in order to work alongside Olympian Robert Dover. In 1998, Jan was the Intermediate Reserve Champion at the United States Equestrian Team Dressage Festival of Champions in Gladstone, NJ, returning in 2000 to win the Intermediate I

Championship aboard Ricardo. This was quickly followed by a reserve champion win in 2002 on Liberte, and high placings in 2003 that earned him a spot on the US Pan American Games team. It was at the 2003 Pan American Games, in Santo Domingo, that Jan was the highest ranking member of the US Gold Medal team, finishing fifth overall on Liberte.

Jan will be training with US Team Coach, Klaus Balkenhol, and competing in Europe this fall in preparation for the 2008 Olympic Trials.

Jan's first USDF FEI Jr/YR Clinic will be held on January 5-6, 2008 at the North Texas Equestrian Center in Wylie, TX. For more information on the USDF FEI Jr/YR Clinic Series or to register, visit the USDF Web site at www.usdf.org or contact a programs and education coordinator at jryoung rider@usdf.org.

Annual CDA Party & 2007 Awards Celebration

This is a busy time of year.....take a moment now to mark your 2008 calendar and RSVP. Below you will find the updated information about our **Annual CDA Party and 2007 Awards Celebration on January 26th**.

Who: ~ All current CDA members (you may bring your spouse or a guest)

What: ~ Catered buffet dinner courtesy of CDA ~ B.Y.O.B. please ~ setups and soda provided
~ Please bring a dessert if your last name begins with M-Z (next year...A-L)

~ **Silent auction:** This was a very popular attraction at last year's party! Bring you checkbook!
All proceeds will help to reduce member costs for future CDA clinics.

~ Door prizes ~ Meet new friends ~ See old friends ~ Have a great time!

When: Saturday evening, January 26, 2008 at 6pm.

Where: 890 Mountain Road , Cheshire, CT - home of Fern and Barry Feldman

Why: To celebrate **YOU**, the members of CDA and to honor our 2007 Year-end Award Winners.

RSVP: If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to Leslie Weiss **before Wednesday, Jan. 16th**.

Phone: 203-777-1950

Email: lesweiss47@yahoo.com (Please type "CDA Party" in subject line)

Directions:

From I-84: take exit 26. At end of ramp, go south, towards Cheshire, on Routes 68/70. Follow 70 (68 goes to the right), then make a right onto Mountain Road, right after a gas station. Go straight on Mountain Road; stop sign; go straight for 6/10's of a mile more. White ranch on left; circular drive;
890 Mountain Road, 203-272-0711.

From New Haven: take 91 North to exit 10. Follow the "connector", route 40, to the end. Make a right onto Route 10, go about 8 minutes. Make a left onto Higgins Road, go to the very end, stop sign. Make a left onto Mountain Road, go 6/10's of a mile. White ranch; circular drive; 890 Mountain Road,
203-272-0711.

USDF Youth Convention Scholarship Winners Announced

Lexington, KY (October 9, 2007) - The United States Dressage Federation's (USDF) Youth Executive Board is pleased to announce the winners of the USDF Youth Convention Scholarships for the 2007 Adequan/USDF Annual Convention. This year's winners are Ryan Michelle Eskridge, Jillian Kemenosh, Katherine Greene, and Shari Wolke. Applicants are judged on such qualities as participation in USDF or dressage-related activities, written communication skills, desire to learn, ability to utilize knowledge, and the manner in which they plan to share the knowledge learned at Convention.

Four scholarships of up to \$1,000.00 are given out annually to help with the expenses associated with attending the annual convention.

Ryan Michelle Eskridge, 18, from Charlotte, North Carolina, was a member of the Region 1 Young Rider Team in 2006 and 2007. Ryan is a member of the National Spanish Honors Society. She volunteers for the Horse Rescue Society and Operation Christmas Child. Ryan is a very dedicated rider who wants to use her experience at the convention to learn more about the sport, learn about the future of dressage, and become more involved in USDF.

Jillian Kemenosh, 17, from Haddonfield, New Jersey, competed at the USEF Junior National Championships at the Festival of Champions, finishing tenth. Jillian was also a member of the Bronze Medal team at the 2007 USDF/Platinum Performance North American Junior and Young Riders' Championships, and came in ninth individually. Jillian is involved in a community service organization that helps various causes and also volunteers weekly at the Atlantic Riding Center for the Handicapped.

Jillian plans to share her experience at convention with her local Group Member Organization (GMO) by delivering a presentation at their local meeting.

Katherine Greene, 18, from Chittenango, New York, is an honor student inducted into the National Honors Society last year. Katherine is currently riding Training and First Level and attended her first USDF Region 8 Youth Team Championship this year. Katherine would like to use the knowledge she gains from the convention to better understand USDF and learn how she can be involved. She is looking to convention for information that will help guide her choices regarding college and her future with horses.

Shari Wolke, 20, from Lansing, Michigan, is a First Level rider who competes at USDF recognized shows and enters the USDF Youth Art Contest every year. Shari is a member of the Michigan State University Horseman's Association and is a member of the Michigan State University Polo Team. Shari would like to share her experiences at the convention with her local GMO and the Michigan State University Horseman's Association. She also looks forward to meeting new people who can further her knowledge of dressage.

Funds for the USDF Youth Convention Scholarship have been raised by the USDF Youth Executive Board through the annual Youth Executive Board Silent Auction held at the Adequan/USDF Annual Convention. The USDF Youth Executive Board is presently accepting donations for this year's auction. If you would like to make a donation, or for further information about youth programs at USDF, please contact Senior Programs and Education Coordinator, Sharon Vander Ziel, at 859 971-7047 or via e-mail youth@usdf.org.



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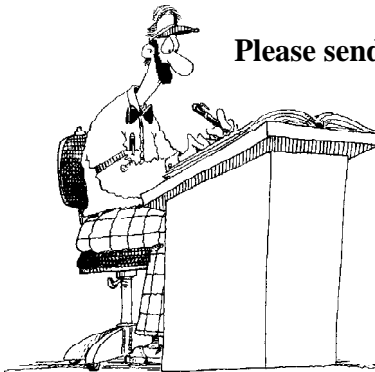
All articles are to be submitted by the 15th of the month. They can be mailed to me at:

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

or
They can be Emailed to me at Centerline@ctdressageassoc.org

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 2007 - 2008 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>

He's of the colour of the nutmeg. And of the heat of the ginger.... he is pure air and fire; and the dull elements of earth and water never appear in him, but only in patient stillness while his rider mounts him; he is indeed a horse, and all other jades you may call beasts. ~William Shakespeare, *Henry V*

2007 Advertising Rates

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