



# CENTERLINE



CONNECTICUT DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

APRIL 2000

## Connecticut Dressage Association

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### CENTERLINE

Send address changes to  
Pam Bilodeau

*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 -

ct\_dress\_assn@geocities.com  
Subject: Centerline

### - CDA Website -

[http://www.geocities.com/~ct\\_dress\\_assn/](http://www.geocities.com/~ct_dress_assn/)

## April's President's Message

I want to thank all of you who attended the awards party. We had so many winners this year, and Pat Sheeran did such a great job picking the trophies. We did not have the 'Spin & Win' game but we did have the 'Fishing' game. This game was used to help raised sponsor dollars for our recognized show. Now the idea was if you signed up at the party to be a sponsor, you could go fishing. When you caught a fish...and I do mean WHEN!!!...it had a number for a prize. Now some must have had too much wine because my 3 ½ yr old son Robbie, and Ann Guptill's 2 ½ yr old Jim, had to show how it was done. The two boys did get carried away. Ann, I think, ended up with 3 or 4 fishes. She just handed them to me and said how much!!! In other cases if you did not hand Mommy a check, you were handed a fish by Robbie. Of course it worked and we raised \$675. However, could whoever paid me \$25 in cash call me? Thanks.

Our Recognized show is just around the corner. Our goal is \$2000 in sponsorships for this show and the money is used to help defray costs. So we have a great start, but a sponsorship letter will be mailed to all of you to help meet our goals.

We had new faces or ones who had not been in a while attend the last board meeting. It was great. Clinics were the main discussion and Penny has a lot of people to call for possible dates. It was decided to add a Tack Tag Sale at the recognized show. We all have stuff to sell and here is the opportunity. You will find more information in this issue on the Tack Tag Sale.

Please submit your name to our nominating committee, Philla and Charlie Osborne, so you can become part of the fun at the board meetings. The information can be found in this Centerline. As I mentioned at the awards party, I want to turn over a healthy board to the next president.

In this issue you find the 'death list'. Well, it is not actually a death list because if your name is on the list you will continue to receive the newsletter after this issue. If, however, your name is not on the list, this is your last issue. SSSSOOO....Do not miss the shows, clinics, and awards. Join now!

Our next board meeting is April 11th at 7:30pm at Fern's and the main topic is schooling show and success at setting up a clinic. Please come.

See you on the centerline....

*Debra*



2000 CALENDAR

April 11

CDA Board Meeting  
Fern Feldman  
203-272-0711.

May 20

CDCTA  
Riding To Music Clinic  
Ann Guptill  
Fox Ledge Farm  
Dorothy Z.  
203- 877-5836

May 20-21

USDF Instructor Workshop  
Morgan Hill Farm  
New Gloucester, Maine  
Leader - Sarah Geikie  
Sam Morrison  
207- 946-5045  
e-mail  
wlcmlhome@megalink.net

June 3 & 4

CDA Spring Competition  
Ox Ridge Hunt Club  
Debra Reinhardt  
203-264-2148

June 25

Three Phase Farm  
Brewster NY 10509  
Marybeth Gordon 914-248-7136

July 30

Three Phase Farm  
Brewster NY 10509  
Marybeth Gordon 914-248-7136

Aug 13

Three Phase Farm,  
Brewster NY 10509  
Marybeth Gordon 914-248-7136



# Are You A Missing Person?

Uh, oh!! Don't see your name on this list ( compiled on March 15<sup>th</sup>)? Did you forget to renew your CDA membership? Boo, hoo! This will be your last issue of the *Centerline*, you won't be eligible for year-end awards, and worse your copy of the 2000 Omnibus, practically hot off the presses, will molder lonely in its carton. Better root through all that stuff on your desk and find your renewal form - or use the one in this *Centerline*. We'll be waiting for you!

Kari Allen  
Emily Anderson  
Marty Astmann  
Tony Astmann  
Jocelyn Pierce Audet  
Charlene Baulski  
Desiree Bilodeau  
Pam Bilodeau  
Nancy Blanchard  
Kari Bradshaw  
Alan Braverman  
Amanda Braverman  
Barbara Braverman  
Elizabeth Braverman  
Max Brownstein  
Frances Byrne  
Elisa Candido  
Carol A. Caplan  
Robin Cassella  
Brenda V. Cataldo  
Donna M. Cavaliere  
Kim E.Forester Child  
Jacqueline Cloud  
Donna Coughlin  
Barbara Currie  
Patricia Davidson  
Caroline Dealy  
Mary Frances Denton  
Jody Destefanis  
Lisa Dijon  
Inge Druckrey  
Nancy Esposito  
Fern Feldman  
Lisa Ferguson  
Laurie Fiederlein  
Lisa Flagg  
Marguerite Fletcher  
Jennifer Ford  
Sherry Forgue  
Hadewych Couwenbergh  
Fostini  
Cynthia Giordano  
Patricia Goldblatt  
John Gordon  
Marcie Gordon

Cathy Grundman  
Judith Guala  
Ann Guptill  
Cornelia W. Hamilton  
Corrie Harreys  
Nancy Hasselbring  
James Hawes  
Maureen Hawes  
Bill Hilding  
Meegan Horan  
Peter Howe  
Marty Hunt  
Nancy Hutson  
Joan Iadaresta  
Diane Jacobson  
Anna Kingsbury  
Valerie Koif  
Pamela Korsmeyer  
Beth Larsen  
Virginia Leary  
Kim Lombardi  
Dee Loveless  
Janet I. Makover  
Jessica Maturo  
Nancy M. Mavrogeanes  
Micah Mazzacane  
Carolyn B. Mcevitt  
Katlyn Mcneill  
Catherine Mcwilliams  
Barbara Mele  
Mady Mixson  
Nancy Montanaro  
Jean Morrison  
Kathleen Morton  
Kathleen Mosure  
Susan E. Mund  
Laurie Nilsen  
Marilyn Nodiff  
Lauri Olivieri  
Cynthia Clark Paolillo  
Catherine Pereira  
Ann Pereira  
Carol J. Popp  
Dennis Proll  
Janice Proll

Monica Provence  
Sandy Rabinowitz  
Carey Radtke  
Carolyn Denton Reed  
Beverly B. Reid  
Debra Reinhardt  
Steve Reinhardt  
Teri Rexroad  
Lyn Rosen  
Thorn Rosenthal  
Jody S. Rossetti  
Stephanie Rossi  
Marian Severn  
Laurie Davis Sigfridson  
Carolyn R. Simmelink DVM  
Katie Simms  
Jill Karas Simpson  
Jane Smith-Vaniz  
Elise M. Sprague  
Janine Stoner  
Alix Szepesi  
Claudia Tarlov  
Darcy Taylor  
Susan Toll  
Monique M. Trahan  
Fritzie Updegraph  
Victoria A. Valenti  
Matthew Valenti  
Angela Voss  
Glenna Voytovich  
Linda Walker  
Leslie Weiss  
Silene White  
Barbara Wilson



## **Dressage un Ltd. brings the Connecticut Freestyle Championships to the Internet.**

*by Elizabeth C. Watts*

Dressage freestyle enthusiasts and competitors are now just one click away from viewing rules, qualifying shows, sponsor and prize information, and more for the Connecticut Freestyle Championships (CFC). Now when surfing the web equestrians can ride the wave directly to the Connecticut Freestyle Championship's homepage at [www.dressageunltd.com/ctfreechamps](http://www.dressageunltd.com/ctfreechamps).

"Dressage un Ltd (DUL) is very excited to be able to provide live coverage of the CFC," says DUL founder Kyra Beth Houston.

"Results from the qualifiers will be on-line the same day, photos and profiles of the competitors, and interviews with the winners will also appear on the website. For the Championship itself, we will have instant results and digital cam photos of the competition posted as it's happening. As Olympic judge Linda Zang said, 'Freestyles are the future of dressage.'

We are delighted to help promote the CFC!"

### **WHO CAN COMPETE?**

Entering its fourth year, The Connecticut Freestyle Championships are presented by The Equine Journal and sponsored by Pfizer's Animal Health.

This Championship competition is open to all riders residing anywhere in the U.S. and to horses of any breed, sex, or color. The CFC currently offers awards in two divisions: Division One is open to competitors at the FEI Freestyle Intermediaire I, II and FEI Grand Prix Freestyle levels. Division Two is open to competitors at the AHSA/USDF First through Fourth levels. Qualifying classes are held at any of Connecticut's USDF/AHSA recognized shows.

In 2000 there are three (3) qualifying shows where competitors can earn the points necessary to win cash and other great prizes. There are absolutely no additional entry fees for CFC classes and the same score may also be counted as a USDF/ABIG qualifying score with the correct fee to management. In fact, many winners of the Connecticut Freestyle Championships have gone on to become Regional and National Champions in their divisions with the United States Dressage Federation.

Past winners of the Connecticut Freestyle Championships have been awarded cash, saddles, bridles, customized artwork, and much more. The 2000 Championships will once again offers great prizes, so start working on your freestyle today!

### **WHAT CAN YOU WIN?**

Product sponsors for the 2000 Connecticut Freestyle Championships include Creative Works of Art by Katherine Ortis-Crouch, Smith-Worthington Saddlery, Stateline Tack, Bevals, Horse Classics Calendars, Mona's Monograms, Fox Ledge Tack Shop, and Founding Sponsor - Equestrian Arts Production, a freestyle music and movement production company.

Cash awards will go to the Champion and Reserve Champion in two divisions. Champion of the FEI division will be awarded \$500 cash and also win a monogrammed wool cooler courtesy of Beval's and Mona's Monograms; a customized oil painting of their horse by Creative Works of Art; a set of 2001 Horse Classic desk and wall calendars; and a \$100 dollar gift certificate from Fox Ledge Tack Shop.

Reserve Champion of the FEI division will be awarded \$350 dollars cash; and two(2) hours Freestyle editing and/or revision courtesy of Equestrian Arts Production.

Champion of the AHSA/USDF First through Fourth level division will be awarded \$250 dollars; a monogrammed wool cooler courtesy of Beval's and Mona's Monograms; a Dressage Bridle courtesy of Smith-Worthington Saddlery; and a complete customized freestyle package courtesy of Equestrian Arts Production.

Reserve Champion will receive \$150 dollars and a gift certificate from Stateline Tack.

All winners will receive free on-line memberships to Dressage un Ltd, and a one-year subscription to The Equine Journal.

### **DANCING TO THE MUSIC**

The dressage freestyle became an integral part of Olympic competition in 1996. Contenders for the 2000 Olympics are now focusing serious efforts on music and choreography for their freestyle performances, but competitors at all levels can enjoy the sport of dancing to the music with their mounts.

Musical freestyles have been likened to figure skating or the ballet for good reason. With a strong scoring system that carries separate marks for qualities such as the interpretation of music, inventiveness, and harmony between horse and rider, contenders have the added dimension of melding music to movements affording them the opportunity to focus on their individual strengths.

Tying movements to music is an enormous effort with results that are as fun to watch as they are to ride. While not everyone aspires to be any Olympic contender, riders of all ages can perform a freestyle, and with the right combination of personality, musical inspiration, and originality a lower level ride can become just as inspiring as a Grand Prix performance.

### **FUN FOR EVERYONE**

You don't have to be a dressage enthusiast, you don't even have to ride, to enjoy a dressage freestyle performance. While people often think that horse shows, particularly dressage shows, are for the few, they truly can be enjoyed by many. Connecticut's recognized dressage shows are a great place to get together with family and friends and enjoy a day out. Facilities usually offer plenty of parking and access to food vendors. Larger shows even offer entertainment, trade shows, and other fun at distractions at a low cost. Often times your only expenditure is the gas to get you there!

Attend any one of Connecticut's three recognized shows and enjoy the Connecticut Freestyle Championships. The qualifying shows are specifically the Connecticut Dressage Association's Spring Competition, Ox Ridge Hunt Club, Darien, CT - June 3 & 4; the Mystic Valley Hunt Club Inc's Dressage Competition, Gales Ferry, CT - June 10 & 11; and the Ox Ridge Dressage Summershow & Region 8 Championships, Darien, CT August 25-27. Stop by and get a taste of what dancing with horses is all about and you will see and hear why dressage can be enjoyed by everyone.

For more information on the Connecticut Freestyle Championships please call (860) 873-8108, and watch for our ads in The Equine Journal, The Chronicle of the Horse, and Dressage Today. Please check the New England Dressage Association's (NEDA) Omnibus, or the Connecticut Dressage Association's (CDA) Omnibus for details of regulations and contact numbers for the qualifying shows.

Please visit the Connecticut Freestyle Championship home page at [www.dressageunltd.com/ctfreechamps](http://www.dressageunltd.com/ctfreechamps)

## JR/YR Clinics at Gleneden Dressage offered by Lendon Gray and her staff

Six clinics for JR/YRS from any discipline are being offered this summer by Lendon Gray and her staff at Gleneden Dressage, Sunnyfield Farm, Bedford, New York.

### Open to all JR /YR'ers everywhere!!

If you and your horse would enjoy a day of dressage or would like to "tune up" for the Northeast JR/YR Championship show on Aug. 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> at Ox Ridge then please sign up!!

Dates - Clinics offered on the following Tuesdays - 6/20, 6/27, 7/11, 7/18, 7/25 and 8/1— Come to any or all!!!

Time - 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Aim to arrive at 12:30pm if possible.

Fee - \$ 40 per clinic (Please note that this fee can be waived if you are able "help out" at Gleneden on the day of the clinic or at a mutually agreeable alternative time !!!! )

Format -1pm. - Presentation by Lendon Gray, Chair of the Jr/Young Rider

Council, USDF

- Unmounted session
- Question and Answer Panel
- Study group for NE Championships
- Mounted lesson for groups of two or three

registration -To register for the clinics please call Ann Pereira at -

Home - (203) 888 2323

School - (203) 531-6500 ext. 552

E mail - during school terms only - [ann\\_pereira@cshgreenwich.com](mailto:ann_pereira@cshgreenwich.com) E mail - during school holidays - [ginper@aol.com](mailto:ginper@aol.com) Please include your name, address and telephone number if applying by e-mail or by phone!!! A registration form will be mailed on receipt of name and address.

Or write to Ann Pereira - 25 Forest Street Apt. 7 K, Stamford, CT 06901.

Please note that in the event of limited availability on any specific date then preference will be given to those riders who can attend all the clinics and that every rider will be registered on a first-come first-served basis.

Fern Feldman  
Region 8 Director

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**USDF Instructor Workshop** - May 20-21 at Morgan Hill Farm in New Gloucester, Maine. Workshop leader is Sarah Geikie from Conn. It is sponsored by the Central Maine Dressage Assoc., a branch of the Maine Dressage Society.

Contact person is :

Sam Morrison tel.: 207 946-5045 e-mail - [wlcmlhome@megalink.net](mailto:wlcmlhome@megalink.net)

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# CDA JR/YR

The Jr/Yr.'s have many activities planned for the summer. For starters, we are looking into doing a horse cookie treat fundraiser, which the jr/yr's will be selling at each CDA show, and on their own.

The next activity that will be available to jr/yr's is a series of clinics offered by Lendon Gray at her farm. These clinics will be a great tune up for the jr/yr championships on August 19 & 20 at Ox Ridge. The dates of the clinics are: 6/20, 6/27, 7/11, 7/18, 7/25, 8/1.

For specifics and registration form, please contact Ann Pereira at-

Home- 303-888-2323

School- 203-531-6500 ext.552

E-mail- during school terms only- [ann\\_pereira@cshgreenwich.com](mailto:ann_pereira@cshgreenwich.com)

E-mail- during school holidays- [ginper@aol.com](mailto:ginper@aol.com)

Another activity we are currently working on is arranging a PEOPLE IN HORSE CAREERS DAY.

This day is to be planned with speakers and different demonstrations by people who have a career pertaining to the horseworld. Please feel free to call either Pam Bilodeau at 860-585-8693, or Larissa Anderson at 860-283-8748, if you have any questions or ideas.



Hi Junior/Young Riders!

I hope every one is having a wonderful year so far. Jr/Yrs are going to have an extraordinary season! Already we have many clinics and other programs to help us learn and succeed. We also have many great volunteers who are willing to support us. Our new Jr/YR Coordinator, Ann Pereira is very enthusiastic and extremely willing to help with any ideas that we have.

The Jr/YR Executive Board has gotten a good head start this year. We have lots of plans that will hopefully benefit everyone. Every month we have a conference call meeting where we discuss each region's progress and new issues. If there is anything you would like brought up at the next meeting please let me know. The Board is designed to reach as many Jr/Yrs in the United States and get their thoughts. Your suggestions are extremely valuable!

One of the new programs this year is to have at least one official Jr/YR Instructor to teach training through third level in each region. This person should be either USDF Certified Instructor or Examiner, a rider who has represented USET internationally or who have been approved by the Jr/YR Council and the Instructor Trainer Council. It is recommended that the instructor falls into one of the three categories, but they don't need to be in order to be considered for the position. If you would like to nominate an instructor please submit their name to me and I will give it to the committee that chooses the instructor(s).

Also new this year is a series of clinics offered by Lendon Gray and her staff at Gleneden Dressage in Bedford, NY. Each clinic will include a presentation by Lendon, a question and answer panel, a study group for the Northeast Jr/YR Dressage Championships, and of course a mounted lesson. If you are interested in a day of fun and learning please contact Ann Pereira at (203)-888-2323 or at [ginper@aol.com](mailto:ginper@aol.com).

Please let me know if you have any suggestions, questions or ideas about the Jr/YR programs for this year, I would love to help. I hope that everyone has a terrific show season!! Good luck and have fun!!

Lindsay Whipple

(802)-476-8077 or [whipple@plainfield.bypass.com](mailto:whipple@plainfield.bypass.com)

## 2000 Year End Award Program

CDA's objective is to make our members happy they're involved in the organization and eager to participate in our programs. The board and a number of members took a hard look at the Year-End Awards program and determined we had to make it easier to recognize *your* hard work and competitive efforts. We decided we had to make the awards program more inclusive, not exclusive. We also needed to make the qualification criteria easier to interpret and follow, and the score reporting process less cumbersome.

To increase the number of riders, who earn CDA Year End Awards, we are revising the criteria used for determining winners. We also want to make the process more user-friendly and convenient for competitors. We recognize that it's difficult for you to compete all over the state or region for an entire show season. Work, family and other commitments mean some CDA members can only do a handful of shows. Also, recognized show scoring, even at the lower levels, has become more demanding and many amateur and junior riders who compete successfully in tests one or two at a particular level may not be ready for the higher tests, but nevertheless are the true stalwarts of our competitions.

CDA Year End Awards are a distinct honor. Winners receive lovely (large!) ribbons for champion, reserve champion and placing third through sixth. Champions also receive customized commemorative gifts. We hope all CDA members who make the time, effort, and not inconsiderable expenditures to show in 2000 will participate in our new, improved program!

Here are the revised guidelines we will implement in 2000:

### Schooling Competitions

Open to all CDA members who compete in: (1) CDA-sponsored schooling shows, (2) USDF League shows and (3) schooling shows whose prize lists appear in the CDA Omnibus. ***Please note: Shows listed only as part of advertisements will not count toward CDA awards. The prize lists must be separately published as well.***

Riders ***must be CDA members before*** entering the show, or they can join the same day ***before*** their first class.

Awards may go only to the ***same horse/rider combination***. Championship awards cannot be earned by the same horse/rider combination more than ***twice*** at each level.

***Three scores from at least two different shows*** must be earned. Scores from at least ***two different judges per level and at least three tests***. At least ***one score must be from a CDA schooling show***; the others may come from USDF league or schooling shows whose prize lists appear in the CDA Omnibus. ***For example, a rider can submit two scores from two tests of the same level from one judge at a CDA schooling show, and one score at the same level from a different judge from a schooling show whose prize list is published in the CDA Omnibus.***

Scores must be a ***minimum of 50%***.

Awards will be based on the ***average score of the best three tests***.

Awards will be divided by Junior and Adult. Categories are: (1) Introductory, (2) Training, (3) First, (4) Second Level and Above.

Riders should submit their scores ***at the end of the competition season***. A new form will be designed to document show names, dates, level/tests within the level, judge, score, etc.

We will ***not*** require the show secretary to sign the form. ***We will require the rider to attest via his or her signature (or a parent's signature if the rider is a junior) that the scores are genuine.***

### Recognized Competitions

Open to all active CDA members who compete in AHSA recognized dressage shows.

Riders and horse owners must be CDA members ***at the time of the show***. (The rider may count as owner if he or she has a leased horse.) Scores earned prior to this will not count.

Awards may go only to the ***same horse/rider combination***. Awards cannot be earned by the same horse/rider combination more than twice at each level.

## 2000 Connecticut Dressage Association Year-End Schooling Competition Awards Score Report

### Qualification Criteria (Please refer to 2000 CDA Omnibus for complete details.)

- Eligible Shows: CDA Sponsored Schooling Shows; USDF League Competitions; Other Schooling Shows whose Prize Lists are published in the 2000 CDA Omnibus.
- Rider must be CDA member prior to earning scores.
- Same horse/rider combination per level. Championships may not be earned by the same horse/rider combo more than twice at the same level.
- Three scores at same test level from two different shows. Two different judges. One score must be from a CDA Schooling Show.
- Minimum score must be at least 50%. Only the top three highest scores will be averaged to determine award placing.

Rider's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Adult( ) Junior( )

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone/Fax/e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Horse's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Breed \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

Competition Level for Award Purposes (e.g. Intro, Training) \_\_\_\_\_

Show Name and Location	Date	2000 CDA Omnibus page #	Level/Test #	Score Percent	Judge's Name

**Average of top three scores:** \_\_\_\_\_

***Certification that this is a true report:*** Your signature (or your parent's if you are a Junior) attests that these are accurate scores earned in accordance with CDA's Year-End Schooling Competition Award criteria.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

***Please submit this form to Patricia Sheeran, 6 Gale Road, Bloomfield, CT 06002 by November 1, 2000. Please do not send copies of tests!***

## 2000 Connecticut Dressage Association Recognized Competition Awards Score Report

**Qualification Criteria (Please refer to 2000 CDA Omnibus for complete details.)**

- Eligible Shows: 2000 AHSA Recognized Dressage Competitions.
- Rider AND owner must be CDA members prior to earning scores. Leased horses eligible.
- Same horse/rider combination per level. Championships may not be earned by the same horse/rider combo more than twice at the same level.
- Five scores at same test level from three different shows. Three different judges and at least five tests. Tests need not be highest tests in level, but scores from different levels may not be combined for the same award.
- Minimum score must be at least 52% for Training through Fourth, and 50% for FEI. Only the top five highest scores will be averaged to determine award placing. FEI classes with more than one judge may have scores averaged to count as one score.

Rider's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Adult( ) Junior( )

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone/Fax/e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Horse's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Breed \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

Competition Level for Award Purposes (e.g. Training, First, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Show Name And Location	Date	Level/Test #	Score Percent	Judge's Name

**Average of top five scores:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Certification that this is a true report:** Your signature (or your parent's if you are a Junior) attests that these are accurate scores earned in accordance with CDA's Year-End Recognized Competition Award criteria.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

***Please submit this form to Patricia Sheeran, 6 Gale Road, Bloomfield, CT 06002 by November 1, 2000. Please do not send copies of tests!***

Opening Date: April 7, 2000

Closing Date: May 1, 2000

**Sunday, May 7, 2000**

**Connecticut Dressage Association Schooling Show**

**Once Again Farm**

750 Allen Ave, Meriden, CT 06451

Judge: Janet Moulding "r"

Secretary: Penny Hawes

556 So. Plains Road, Litchfield, CT 06759

860 567-1441 • [ctrackrite@aol.com](mailto:ctrackrite@aol.com)

**Class List:** USDF 1996 Introductory Tests 1-2.  
AHSA 1999 Training 1-4.  
AHSA 1999 First 1-4.  
AHSA 1999 Second and above—State test to be ridden.  
AHSA 1998 Combined Novice Tests A & B  
AHSA 1998 Combined Training Tests A & B  
AHSA 1998 Combined Preliminary Tests A & B  
AHSA 1998 Combined Intermediate and above—state test to be ridden.  
Dressage Equitation.

**Fees:** CDA members \$15 per class.  
Non-members \$25 per test.  
Number deposit: \$1  
Checks payable to CDA.  
No refunds after closing date.

**Awards:** Up to six ribbons awarded in each class.

**Rules:** Number of rides per horse/rider combination may be limited to two. State two preferred tests first on application. Current negative Coggins within 12 months is mandatory and must accompany entry. All competitors must wear hard hats. Classes may be combined, split, or canceled at the discretion of management. Family pets not allowed on the premises. CDA thanks Once Again Farm for the use of its facility. Please treat the grounds as you would your own property. Place all trash in designated containers; no alcohol, please.

**Times:** Call the show secretary the Friday evening before the show between 6 - 9 pm or email [ctrackrite@aol.com](mailto:ctrackrite@aol.com) to have the schedule to you.

Opening Date: April 17, 2000

Closing Date: May 15, 2000

## Connecticut Dressage Association Spring Competition

Days & Dates: Saturday, June 3 and Sunday June 4, 2000  
Official Name: Connecticut Dressage Association Spring Competition  
Location: Ox Ridge Hunt Club, Darien, CT  
Manager: Debra Reinhardt  
(203)264-2148  
debra.reinhardt@snet.net

Secretary: Steve Reinhardt  
160 Woods Way Drive  
Southbury, CT 06488  
(203)264-2148  
steve.Reinhardt@snet.net

Judges: Betsy Berrey, MA, (S)  
Lois Yukins, MA, (S)  
Ruth Sarkunas, MA, (R)  
William Warren, RI, (r)

Technical Delegate: Halina Passaro, NJ

Levels: Training through Grand Prix, including FEI Jr/YR Selection Trial for Region 8. AA and Jr/YR classes offered at each level as noted, with 3 or more entries. ABIG/USDF Qualifying including Connecticut Freestyle Champion (CFC) Qualifying classes offered.

Awards: All 1st place will receive a trophy sponsored by the **Equestrian Centre**. Six ribbons will be presented in each class. Awards for high scoring Open, Jr/YR, Adult Amateur, and CDA Member. To qualify for CDA member award you must be a member by closing date. To qualify for Adult Amateur award you must be an AHSA AA.

Entries: a) Leadline class-\$10. Training thru Second-\$35 per class. Third thru Fourth, USDF Freestyles-\$40 per class. All FEI classes -\$45 per class. Qualifying classes add \$10 to class fee. b) An \$8 drug fee, a negative Coggins dated within 12 months of show date, and copy of AHSA and USDF cards for Rider, Owner, and Trainer; and AHSA and USDF papers for the horse, if qualifying, are required with each entry. Please include \$20 AHSA non-member fee or \$5 discipline fee if applicable. c) Make checks payable to CDA. d) No refunds after closing date. e) Incomplete entries, including missing AHSA cards, will be subject to \$10 fee. f) Non-negotiable check will be charged \$20. g) Refunds will be given for cancellations received in writing before the closing date less \$10 office fee. h) Post entries will be accepted to fill scratches with a \$20 post entry fee.

Times: Times will be mailed at least one week prior to the competition.

Stabling: Limited number of temporary stalls available at \$125 for duration. A stall cleaning deposit of \$25 on a separate check is required. Tack stalls available only if space permits. No refunds on stabling after closing date (except for stall deposit). May arrive on Friday afternoon, must vacate by 7pm Sunday.

### Accommodations:

Double Tree, Exit 13 Norwalk off I-95. 203-853-3477, host hotel - \$79

Holiday Select, Exit 8 off I-95. 203-358-8400. Pets allowed! - \$89

Howard Johnson, Ledge Rd, Darien, CT 203-655-3933

## Directions:

From New York: Exit 10 off CT I -95; left off ramp, right at fourth light, Middlesex Rd. Two miles to entrance on right.

From New Haven: Exit 10 off CT I-95; (Noroton Heights), bear left at island, and continue uphill to stop light, turn right, go to third light, turn right onto Middlesex Road. Two miles to entrance on right.

From New York or New Haven on Merritt (cars only): Exit 37, Rte 124 south, right off ramp, 1.5 miles to Middlesex Rd, turn right and bear left at stop sign, entrance on left.

Footing: Two sand arenas with sand warm up. Two sand arenas on grass and warm-up on closely mowed Polo Field.

Entertainment: Food available on the grounds beginning 7am each day. Competitors Party after classes end on Saturday.

Other: Management reserves the right to combine, divide, or cancel any class. Farrier on the grounds. Veterinarian on call. All dogs must be leashed.

## Class List:

100. Leadline	10yrs & Under	Sun.
1. Training Level Test 1	Open/AA/Jr-YR	Sat./Sun.
2. Training Level Test 2	Open	Sat./Sun.
3. Training Level Test 3	Open	Sat./Sun.
4. Training Level Test 4	Open/ ABIG/USDF Qualifying	Sat./Sun.
11. First Level Test 1	Open	Sat./Sun.
12. First Level Test 2	Open/AA/Jr-YR	Sat./Sun.
13. First Level Test 3	Open	Sun.
14. First Level Test 4	Open/ABIG/USDF Qualifying	Sat./Sun.
21. Second Level Test 1	Open	Sat./Sun.
22. Second Level Test 2	Open/AA/Jr-YR	Sat./Sun.
23. Second Level Test 3	Open	Sat.
24. Second Level Test 4	Open/ABIG/USDF Qualifying	Sat./Sun.
31. Third Level Test 1	Open/AA/Jr-YR	Sat./Sun.
32. Third Level Test 2	Open	Sat.
33. Third Level Test 3	Open/ABIG/USDF Qualifying	Sat./Sun.
41. Fourth Level Test 1	Open/AA/Jr-YR	Sat./Sun.
42. Fourth Level Test 2	Open	Sat./Sun.
43. Fourth Level Test 3	Open/ABIG/USDF Qualifying	Sat./Sun.
50. FEI Test of Choice*	Open/ABIG/USDF Qualifying	Sat./Sun.
55. FEI Jr Team Test	Region 8 Selection Trial	Sat.
56. FEI Jr Individual Test	Region 8 Selection ABIG/USDF Qualifying	Sun.
57. FEI YR Team Test	Region 8 Selection Trial	Sat.
58. FEI YR Individual Test	Region 8 Selection ABIG/USDF Qualifying	Sun.
60. Freestyle First thru Fourth	Open/ABIG/USDF Qualifying/CFC	Sun.
61. FEI Freestyle	Open/ABIG/USDF Qualifying/CFC	Sun.

\*FEI Test of Choice will be split if entries warrant.

\*\*Please note the class number, day, and Open, AA, Jr/YR or Qualifying if applicable on your entry.

\*\*\* Leadline class held during lunch break, participants will be asked to salute judge, clean & neat attire shoes with heels, and helmet required.

Opening Date: July 6, 2000

Closing Date: July 30, 2000

Sunday, August 6, 2000

**Connecticut Dressage Association Schooling Show, Jr/YR Fundraiser**

**Cloverlea Farm**

266 Route 67, Columbia, CT 06237

Judge: Dee Loveless "r"

Secretary: Penny Hawes

556 So. Plains Road, Litchfield, CT 06759

860 567-1441 • [ctrackrite@aol.com](mailto:ctrackrite@aol.com)

**Class List:** USDF 1996 Introductory Tests 1-2.  
AHSA 1999 Training 1-4.  
AHSA 1999 First 1-4.  
AHSA 1999 Second and above—State test to be ridden.  
AHSA 1998 Combined Novice Tests A & B  
AHSA 1998 Combined Training Tests A & B  
AHSA 1998 Combined Preliminary Tests A & B  
AHSA 1998 Combined Intermediate and above—state test to be ridden.  
Dressage Equitation.

**Fees:** CDA members \$15 per class.  
Non-members \$25 per test.  
Number deposit: \$1  
Checks payable to CDA.  
No refunds after closing date.

**Awards:** Up to six ribbons awarded in each class.

**Rules:** Number of rides per horse/rider combination may be limited to two. State two preferred tests first on application. Current negative Coggins within 12 months is mandatory and must accompany entry. All competitors must wear hard hats. Classes may be combined, split, or canceled at the discretion of management. Family pets not allowed on the premises. CDA thanks Cloverlea Farm for the use of its facility. Please treat the grounds as you would your own property. Place all trash in designated containers; no alcohol, please.

**Times:** Call the show secretary the Friday evening before the show between 6 - 9 pm or email [ctrackrite@aol.com](mailto:ctrackrite@aol.com) to have the schedule emailed to you.

Opening Date: August 24, 2000

Closing Date: September 18, 2000

Sunday, September 24, 2000

## Connecticut Dressage Association Schooling Show

### Once Again Farm

750 Allen Ave, Meriden, CT 06451  
Judge: Ann Villani "L"  
Secretary: Penny Hawes  
556 So. Plains Road, Litchfield, CT 06759  
860 567-1441 • [ctrackrite@aol.com](mailto:ctrackrite@aol.com)

**Class List:** USDF 1996 Introductory Tests 1-2.  
AHSA 1999 Training 1-4.  
AHSA 1999 First 1-4.  
AHSA 1999 Second and above—State test to be ridden.  
AHSA 1998 Combined Novice Tests A & B  
AHSA 1998 Combined Training Tests A & B  
AHSA 1998 Combined Preliminary Tests A & B  
AHSA 1998 Combined Intermediate and above—state test to be ridden.  
Dressage Equitation.

**Fees:** CDA members \$15 per class.  
Non-members \$25 per test.  
Number deposit: \$1  
Checks payable to CDA.  
No refunds after closing date.

**Awards:** Up to six ribbons awarded in each class.

**Rules:** Number of rides per horse/rider combination may be limited to two. State two preferred tests first on application. Current negative Coggins within 12 months is mandatory and must accompany entry. All competitors must wear hard hats. Classes may be combined, split, or canceled at the discretion of management. Family pets not allowed on the premises. CDA thanks Once Again Farm for the use of its facility. Please treat the grounds as you would your own property. Place all trash in designated containers; no alcohol, please.

**Times:** Call the show secretary the Friday evening before the show between 6 - 9 pm or email [ctrackrite@aol.com](mailto:ctrackrite@aol.com) to have the schedule emailed to you.

## SHOW SEASON: ARE YOU READY?

by Mary Jo E. Zanolli

The warmer temperatures and longer days mean one thing for many riders- show season is coming! In this two-part article on showing, five top competitors offer valuable advice to help readers prepare for the upcoming season. Joy Congdon, USDF bronze and silver medalist, plans to compete with her Dutch horse Gershwin in Intermediare II and Grand Prix this year. Pam Goodrich has shown in both the United States and Europe. She is currently competing with her Danish horse Melville at Prix St. Georges and Intermediare I in Florida. Carol Lavell, well known for her Olympic partnership with Gifted, is now competing in Florida at second level with her horse Much Ado, a five-year-old Dutch. Sharon McCusker, a USDF gold medalist, has been competing with Peter the Great, a Westfalen, at Grand Prix for four years. Tom Noone recently rode the Westfalen Fresco to win in the Grand Prix and Grand Prix Freestyle at both Dressage at Saratoga and Dressage at Devon.

A rider that is preparing a horse for competition has a different focus in daily schooling sessions than one that is training a horse. Goodrich says, "While schooling a horse that is in training one must sometimes overlook some things to get the horse to understand. A competition horse, however, must be taught to respond to rider aids with very little preparation time before each new movement." Lavell agrees, saying "in training one should be more forgiving and not push as hard."

In riding a horse that is competing regularly, Noone says, "the focus is on polishing the movements and responsiveness to aids, introducing little or no new work to avoid confusion." McCusker explains that when training, movements are done to help build the horse and develop self-carriage. When preparing for a show, movements are practiced, "to perfect the movement and achieve a feel of fluency throughout the test."

In the weeks preceding a show it is a good idea to ride in a new setting. Lavell says, "it can be helpful to ride in a new environment among unfamiliar horses as that type of atmosphere simulates a show." Schooling shows and riding at a friend's barn are good ways to acclimate the horse to a new situation. McCusker reminds riders to be sure to practice tests in the correct size arena, saying, "riders who don't regularly school in a dressage arena are often surprised at how quickly transitions and movements come up."

At least one month before a competition Congdon starts to practice test rides in daily work focusing on, "getting the movements and transitions on command." As a show approaches Noone will, "increase the intensity of daily rides but decrease the duration, trying to peak the horse every weekend to condition the horse to peak on weekends." Goodrich tries to tailor workouts according to the needs of the horse. She states, "a lazier horse I will work a bit less before a show to try to increase his energy level, while a hotter horse may get two light workouts a day."

Practicing a test before a show varies depending on the individual horse. Congdon suggests adding improvisations to the test to get the horse "thinking the right way." "If a medium canter down the long side is required, at the end I will add in a 10 meter circle at 'A'. Eventually the horse will start anticipating the circle and will rebalance on his own in the corner." McCusker may change the place where she asks for a transition to prevent the horse from

anticipating. Some riders have difficulty working on test trouble spots. Goodrich says, "riders must be careful here not to overdrill the movement and cause the horse to lose confidence."

Generally a horse should be schooling one level above what they are showing. Congdon reasons that, "when a situation is stressful, like showing, people and horses revert to old habits and weaknesses surface." Noone decides what level to compete a horse based on, "how comfortable and confirmed the horse is in the movements." Riders should not take shortcuts in training because, as Lavell says, "letting something slide will have a negative effect later on. Eventually turn on the haunches becomes a walk pirouette; the working and lengthened trot becomes the collected, medium, or extended trot. All work carries over to the next level."

This year the New England Dressage Association will be organizing three recognized dressage shows; the Spring Show, the Stoneleigh Burnham/NEDA Show, and the Fall Festival of Dressage. The Spring Show will be held May 13 at Apple Knoll Farm in Millis Massachusetts. The Stoneleigh Burnham/NEDA Show will take place at the Stoneleigh Burnham School in Greenfield Massachusetts June 17 and 18. Fieldstone Farm in Halifax Massachusetts will be the site of the NEDA Fall Festival of Dressage from September 14-17. Judges will include Janet Black, Marilyn Heath, Lois Heyerdahl, Carol Lavell, Elizabeth Lewis, and Michael Poulin, among others. For details on the Spring Show call Paul Cormier at 508-995-5988, for the Stoneleigh Burnham Show call Mina Payne Cooper at 413-773-8333, and for NEDA Fall Festival contact Beth Jenkins at 508-655-6490. Competition manager Jane Sheehan can be reached at 508-339-6209 for information on any NEDA show. All shows will offer classes from Training level through Grand Prix. NEDA has a Year-End Awards Program open to all NEDA members, details of the program are in this year's omnibus. Everyone here at NEDA hopes to see you "entering at A" sometime this show season!

Mary Jo Zanolli is a junior at the University of Connecticut, majoring in Journalism and Communications Processes. Her favorite pastime is working with her horse Thumper, a Westfalen yearling with whom she plans to compete in dressage.



*Don't find yourself  
out on a limb  
Remember to renew*

Dear Editor;

Recently, I have been queried about the procedure for putting together a winning freestyle program. Some of the questions involve the wisdom of doing this yourself, or whether it should be left up to a professional. I thought I would try to answer these questions in this forum.

First of all, it is important that the music fit the horse, not just emotionally, but precisely in tempo. All the musical changes need to be accurate with the changes in gaits of the horse. I recently reviewed a video of the "face off" between Gigolo and Bonfire, a wonderful competition. The horses were magnificent, but the music left a lot to be desired in a few ways. In both events, the horse's footfalls were not with the music, something that should have been fixed long before this world event. Also, the music did not have a theme. Bonfire's music kept reverting to a song I never would have picked, "Song Sung Blue", but to add to the detriment of that selection, the rest of the music was nondescript.

I recently read in a column of "Ask the Experts" in *Dressage Today* (March 2000) where a question was posed regarding creating the music for your own freestyle. The person who responded gave all the details one would go through in putting one together, including getting the right tempos, not mixing styles, and how to speed up or slow down music digitally. The column was interesting, but I would have to disagree with the answer. My recommendation would have been to leave this critical part of the ride up to an expert, period. My first reason is that I do not think mixing down digital CD's is a very original way to present your music. Second, most riders who are not musicians would not have the expertise to make the changes necessary to effect quality transformations. Third, most people do not have the equipment necessary to make adjustments to the tempo of the horse, and even if they did, may not know how to use it. Fourth, if they take this to a recording studio that has this equipment, it is going to cost more to record this than a musician who can create it, and do it better. I own a horse, and I've seen the dentist float my horse's teeth, but I would never attempt it, even if I owned the equipment

My recommendation is a professional musician who uses a MIDI synthesizer. This is the method I use, and I believe it is the best way to get accuracy, quality, and fluidity between the changes. It really is a live performance even though the end result is a tape, as the musician is constantly adding in tracks he is actually playing, which gets layered in on top of the tracks already recorded. The music can be adjusted, and tweaked to get an exact beat to the horse. The final product sounds like a band, orchestra, or whatever you want. The key to a good music background once you line up someone to do this, is to videotape your horse doing exactly what you want as your final product. The musician can then be very accurate when creating your music.

Recently I had a conversation with a judge, who told me he couldn't understand why riders spend so much time, energy, and money on what they are doing, and then present mediocre music. Obviously the tip here is: When you want a professional job done, contact a professional.

Matt Valenti  
hoofrhythms  
20 Tanglewood Road  
New Hartford, Connecticut

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## **Nominations for Board of Directors**

It is time for the membership to place into nomination their choices for members to the board of directors.

You must have the nominations in by the 15<sup>th</sup> of April so that we may present the ballot in the May issue of *Centerline*.

*Please sent or call your nominations to:*

*Phillia and Charlie Osborune  
82 Sharon Goshen Turnpike  
West Cornwall, CT 06796  
or  
Phone 860-672-6296*