



CENTERLINE



CONNECTICUT DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

MARCH 2000

Connecticut Dressage Association

President
Debra Reinhardt
203-264-2148
Debra.Reinhardt@snet.net

VP Events
Penny Hawes
860-567-1441
litich.hills.eqstrn@snet.net

Membership Secretary
Pam Bilodeau
860-585-8693
takhads@aol.com

Recording Secretary
Fern Feldman
203-272-0711
fern@home.com

Treasurer
Stephanie Rossi
860-621-7194

Omnibus
Corrie Harreys
charreys@snet.net

Publicity/Centerline
John Gordon
203-573-0919
ct_dress_assn@geocities.com

Awards/Scholarships
Pat Sheeran
203-243-3565
davopat@aol.com

Jr/YR Representative
Lorissa Anderson
860-283-6257

Board
Jennifer Baumert
860-228-9242
Minna Hebert
860-868-0484
Kim Lombardi
860 589-8496
Sue Toll
203-426-2470
Holly Wahl
860-651-8684
Robyn Wahl
860-683-0838

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/

Region 8 Report

We New Englanders *SAY* we like the change of seasons, but considering the cold and the snow and the amount of clothes we have to wear to keep warm, riding can be problematic. The flip side: we wear breeches and high boots when it's 95 degrees out! Yet, we love to ride, and for those of us who stay home through the cold winter, we enjoy what we have. Spring and summer are coming, as is show season.

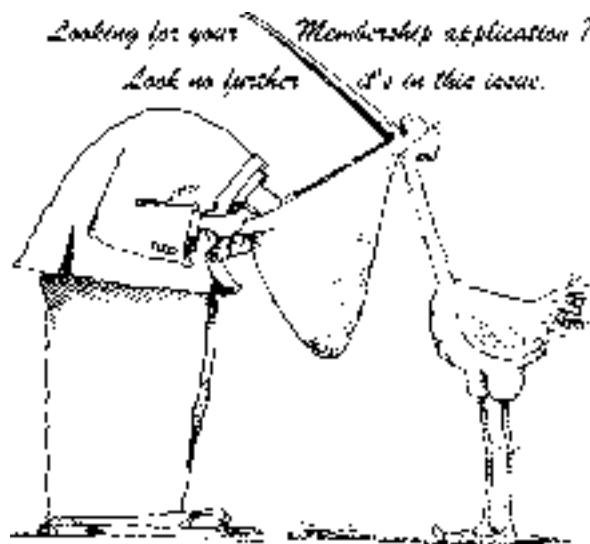
Region 8 has a wonderful complement of shows for 2000, and I hope that all of you will participate, whether it is as a competitor or a spectator, but certainly as a volunteer. Please commit to help; you have no idea how appreciated you will be. This is not a "signing your life away deal"; it's only asking for a few hours to offer to help in some way. Here's an idea: instead of complaining to the management that the port-a-johns are out of paper, say, "We need some toilet paper in these johns, where can I go to find some so I can put some in. And, I'll check some of the others for you." Now, that's an idea-basic, but near and dear to all of us!

Mr. Conrad Schumacher is going to be coming to Gleneden Dressage, Bedford, NY, April 7-9, 2000 for his spring Advanced Young Rider Clinic. For those who saw him at the Symposium, a return visit is eagerly anticipated. The advantage to this venue is the proximity, the intimacy, and the cost. (There is a modest auditing fee.) Mr. Schumacher loves to work with the Young Riders, and it is a wonderful opportunity to watch him help these kids improve over the three days. If you need more information, don't hesitate to call or e-mail me. Generally, the clinic runs from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., except for an abbreviated last day.

Is anyone out there interested in running an adult team competition this summer? In response to the concern that the adult amateurs, particularly, need more support, USDF is encouraging each region to host this type of competition. There is actually some funding available for this. It need not be an elaborate deal, and should really be a fun type of thing to run. So, please contact me if this appeals to you and/or your GMO. Paul Cormier, the coordinator for the Adult Education Council, can also be contacted: marquisdemud@aol.com; 508-995-5988.

There is also some funding available through Paul's Council for education programs for adults. The distribution of the funding is to be decided by Paul as coordinator, myself as Regional Director and a Region 8 member (Melanie Tenney). This was allocated at the meeting in Denver, and it is for this year. Questions, contact Paul or me.

Fern Feldman
Region 8 Director



2000 CALENDAR

March 21, 2000

CDA Board Meeting
Fern Feldman
203-272-0711.

USDF 1999 Convention

By Kim Lombardi

How are all of you holding up in this winter weather? It certainly is not very conducive to riding horses. Cold hands and feet can be quite a deterrent and make us long for warmer weather!

The convention was held in Denver, Colorado this year. Most of us had some difficulties dealing with the altitude, ranging from dizziness and nosebleeds to extreme dryness. For those of you who know me, it made my curly hair straight. What a different look! The convention kept me so busy that I had very little time to see any of Denver. Shortly after we arrived the weather turned bad and travel was difficult. The only mountains that I saw were through the hotel window and from the airplane!

As you know, one of the main events this year was the election of our new USDF President Sam Barish. It was a close race between Sam and Janet Brown. They both did a lot of last minute campaigning, passing out buttons and speaking at our Regional Meetings. Sam won the election and I am sure he will do a wonderful job as our new president.

I spent as much time as possible in Technical Delegate and Management meetings. Since I was the assistant manager of the 1999 Region Eight Championships and the 1998 Ox Ridge Open Show (and involved in other shows) I felt that these meetings would be the most educational for me. I was fortunate to attend a luncheon with the managers and coordinators of each of the Regional Championships to discuss our experiences, good and bad. Our Regional Championships should be an event, and not just another horse show!

Friday was spent in the Board of Governors meeting. This is where the Council and Committee reports are presented and voted upon, such as Advanced Young Riders Council, Instructor/Trainer Council, Judges Committee, TD Council, etc. I attended the USDF Technical Delegate Apprentice Program on Saturday and the AHSA Technical Delegate Forum on Sunday.

My only regret is that I was not able to attend many of the USDF University Mini-Sessions (just not enough time). They included topics such as, "Enhancing Equestrian Performance with Massage Therapy" by Gail Bieber, "Nutrition Specific Solutions for the Dressage Horse" by Douglas Gordon, "Kinetics of Horse and Rider" by Dr. Max Gahwyler and many more interesting subjects. I came home from the convention with so much information! It was a great experience to spend a week with so many other dressage enthusiasts! If you have a chance to go to the convention next year in Cincinnati, Ohio, I am sure that you will find it to be as exciting as I did.

Try to stay warm!
Kim

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"There is something about riding down the street on a prancing horse that makes you feel like something, even when you ain't a thing."

Will Rogers

The Equine Journal



The 2000 Connecticut Freestyle Championships

Sponsored by:

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www.dressageunltd.com

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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 featuring East Coast Rider's Cup, Darien, CT August 25-27.

AWARDS: There will be two (2) divisions with One Champion and One Reserve in each division. **For specifics please check www.dressageunltd.com/ctfreechamps or the Equine Journal.**

2000 QUALIFYING REQUIREMENTS:

1. Open to all competitors residing anywhere in the U.S. and open to horses of any breed, sex or color.
2. Same horse/rider combination for all rides, all divisions, all qualifications and all awards.
3. Division One - FEI Freestyle Intermediaire I, II and FEI Grand Prix Freestyle
4. Division Two - AHSA/USDF First through Fourth Level.
5. Division One - To qualify for the Connecticut Freestyle Championships, the horse/rider combination must have a minimum of two freestyle scores, earned at two different qualifying competitions from two different judges. In addition, the same horse/rider combination must have one non-freestyle scores of 55% or better earned in a standard FEI test at the same level OR at any test of the next highest level from any of the qualifying shows. Non-freestyle scores will be used as a qualifying tool to demonstrate the ability of the horse/rider combination to perform the required movement at that level.
6. Division Two -To qualify for the Connecticut Freestyle Championships First through Fourth level, the horse/rider combination must have a minimum of two freestyle scores, earned at two different qualifying competitions from two different judges. In addition, the same horse/rider combination must have one non-freestyle score of 55% or better earned at the same level OR at any test of the next highest level from any of the qualifying shows. Non-freestyle scores will be used as a qualifying tool to demonstrate the ability of the horse/rider combination to perform the required movement at that level.
7. In both divisions all eligible scores will be recorded. The Champion will be determined by averaging the two highest recorded freestyle scores. If more scores are received, i.e. - one from each qualifying show, the two highest scores will be averaged. The highest average score meeting all qualifications with an average of 55% or better will be the Champion, the second highest will be Reserve. If needed, the highest test of the level will be used as a tie breaker.
8. Winning Freestyles may not have been performed in the Connecticut Freestyle Championships for the previous two years by any horse/rider combination.
9. AHSA rules for riding the Qualifying Class must be followed.
10. The same score may also be counted as a USDF/ABIG Qualifying score with the correct fee to management. Please check individual prize lists.

JR/YR'S ACTIVITIES

Fellow Junior/Young Riders

Hi, my name is Larissa Anderson and I am the Connecticut Dressage Associations Junior Representative. I will be working with Pam Bilodeau and Jennifer Baumert on the planning of activities and events for the jr/yr's. We the jr/yr's, have been given a full page in the Centerline Newsletter every month to talk about what we would like to see happen. We are thinking about possibly having a question/answer type column. Whether it is from a vet, farrier, or training question, we will find the professional to answer it. The upcoming show season should be fun and exciting!!! Especially with the Jr/Yr championships and Region 8 championships in August. Hopefully you all will be showing??? You can also write about your accomplishments, experiences or anything you want. We will need everything e-mailed or mailed so that it arrives by the 15th of every month (see editor's blurb page 7) in order for it to go into the next months Centerline. Remember don't be shy, you can talk about anything. If you do not have e-mail access or are unable to mail it in on time, you can give either Pam or I a call and we will take care of it for you. If you have any ideas, question, or comments, please feel free to contact us.

Thank You All!
Larissa Anderson

Attention Jr/Yr's!

There will be a Jr/Yr meeting on March 18th at 2:00 at Pam Bilodeau's house. We will be discussing future jr/yr events, such as the jr/yr championships at Ox Ridge in August, jr/yr incentive program, Lendon Gray clinics, etc. If you are interested in attending and meeting new people please call Pam Bilodeau at 860-585-8693, or Larissa Anderson at 860-283-6257. We look forward to hearing from you!

Hello, My name is Desiree' Bilodeau. I am a 13 year old intermediate rider. I have been riding for 10 years. My achievements are: 1998 Intro championship, 1998 Training level championship, 1999 Training level Reserve championship. I am looking for a horse to ride that I could take to a few shows this summer, and to the jr/yr championships at Ox Ridge. If you have a horse for me to further my riding education with please call me at 860-585-8693 or e-mail me at majesticbeauty16@aol.com.

Hi JR/YR,

This is going to be your page in the Centerline. Any artists? How about helping to design the logo for this page or drawing cartoons or anything that you would like to see on this page. Questions? We will try to have them answered by a professional. Like to write? How about writing reports or articles of interests for your fellow jr/yr's. Remember you and your involvement will determine the success of this page.

The Editor



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 15th 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*

Teikyo Post Sponsors Animal Abuse Symposium

You're driving to work one morning, glancing out the window, when you notice what appears to be a sick animal in a lot near the highway. You slow down to get a better look and discover a thin, weak horse whose ribs you can count. There is no grass, hay or water, and no shelter from the sun or the elements – not even a tree. What should you do? What are your moral duties to rescue the horse? What are your potential legal liabilities if you do so? What is your best course of action? What can or should be done to or for the owner? This could easily apply to a dog or cat that you see being abused or neglected.

Cases of animal neglect are sadly all too common. Ironically, most of the owners really do love their animals. Some are “collectors” who simply acquire more animals than they can take care of; others have become sick, old, or economically disadvantaged, and cannot care for them. Sometimes the animal is so sick that it should be put down, but the owner cannot bear to make that decision. But unfortunately, sometimes the owner is simply cold and uncaring towards the animal that is dependent upon him for humane treatment.

Teikyo Post University will hold an Animal Abuse Symposium **Saturday, March 25, 2000 at 1 p.m.** at the Waterbury campus. A panel composed of members of local animal rescue organizations, legislators, animal control officers and attorneys will discuss how to prevent animal abuse and the laws surrounding it. Also present will be representatives of various animal rescue associations who will explain their mission, how you can contact them for help or get involved with helping the animals.

Admission is \$10. Proceeds will benefit Teikyo Post University's Equine Scholarships and local animal rescue associations. **For information, contact Carole Baker at 203-596-4631.**



President's March Message

First and foremost, A HUGE THANK YOU to Fern and her husband, Barry, for opening their home to our annual awards party. We always have so much fun. As I am writing this before the party (since the editor is asking for it!!!), I hope the party was great and we all had fun.

Believe it or not, show season is just a few weeks away. The CDA Omnibus is also just about to come out. Corrie, our new editor of the Omnibus, has been doing a great job and we are sure this one will be done well.

Our schooling shows are all set and the recognized show's planning is well underway. Our clinic schedule is very sketchy...ok! We have none planned! It seems that every time we try to do a clinic, it does not fill, the clinician has jury duty, or something. The board would like to do a clinic and we will try it again. If you have any ideas of who, where and when you would like a clinic, please contact Penny Hawes. It would be of great help.

Elections are upon us, again. I know there are some of you who would like to be part of the board. Please submit your name to our nominating committee, Philla and Charlie Osborne. The information can be found in this Centerline. The officers will be changing and I would like to turn over a healthy board to a to a new president. So come and be part of the fun!

I want to welcome all the members who have joined for the first time or rejoined CDA! Our membership campaign has been strong. However, if you have not renewed, your April issue of the *Centerline* will be the last and you will not receive an Omnibus or test packet.

Our next board meeting is March 7th at 7:30pm at Fern's and the main topics are clinics and shows, again. Please come.

See you on the centerline....

Debra

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 2000 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.geocities.com/~ct_dress_assn/

