



CENTERLINE



CONNECTICUT DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

JANUARY 2004

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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 -

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Subject: Centerline

- CDA Website -

http://ctdressageassoc.org

President's Message

Happy Holidays to all!! The date (January 31st) is drawing near for our Annual CDA Party & Year End Awards Celebration. Marcie Gordon has done a great job organizing this event and I encourage all to attend. I look forward to meeting many of our new members and celebrating in the success of our 2003 award winners.

I attended the USDF Annual Convention this past December 2nd through 7th. In addition to the required Board of Governors meetings, I was able to attend many of Committee/Council meetings, which allowed me the opportunity to learn about various accomplishments and objectives of many of the Councils/Committees. The highlight of the BOG meeting of course was the re-election of our own Fern Feldman to serve on the USDF Executive board for the 2004-2006 term, representing Region 8. Well deserved Fern!!!

The subjects discussed at all the meetings are too numerous to list in their entirety but some of those items that may be pertinent to our members include:

The Competition Management Council has set an objective to create a generic Entry Blank and generic Prize List information to assist both the competitor and competition management in managing required information for recognized competitions.

The Competitor's Council has set a goal to develop a Competitors Q & A on the website.

The FEI Young Rider Team Tests, Young Rider Individual Test, and Young Rider Preliminary Test will change as mandated by the FEI as of January 1, 2004. The current 2003 FEI Young Rider Freestyle Test will remain the same.

The Freestyle committee has made available "USDF Musical Freestyle Fundamentals". Each GMO is given one free copy and this video can also be purchased through USDF. If you have always wanted to ride and create your own musical freestyle, this video will show you how. A panel of distinguished judges and freestyle designers provide insight on musical selection, design and choreography for beginners to veteran freestyle riders.

Through recommendation of the Regional Championship Committee, championship classes must be judged by a large "R" or higher rated judge.

There is a web page short cut www.usdf.org/adultclinics.asp that allows for easier access to clinic information.

And for those of you who plan well in advance, the 2004 USDF Annual Convention will be held November 30th - December 5th 2004 in Lexington Kentucky.

So much was discussed at this convention it is not possible to include everything of importance in this newsletter. Although not yet posted, more complete information will be available on the USDF website www.usdf.org in the near future.

Until next month,
Nancy

"GETTING TO KNOW YOU....."

Featuring CDA member Margaret Freeman

Edited by: Marcie Gordon

Ed. Note: The following "interview" was written by Margaret Freeman in response to the questions I sent to her. Enjoy "getting to know her" and do plan to come to the CDA Annual Party on January 31st to meet her in person!

2004 Calendar of Events

January 17, 2004

Fox ledge Farm lecture Series
Conformation and Movement
Contact: Ann Guptill
860-873-8108

January 21, 2004

CDA Board Meeting - 6PM
Omnibus proof reading
Cheshire, CT
Call Fern Feldman for directions
203-272-0711

January 31, 2004

CDA Annual Party
See page 4 this issue.

Feb 14 and 15, 2004

Dressage Clinic with Dr. Cesar Parra
At Once Again Farm
Contact Rachel Gioia
860-873-1477

February 28, 2004

Fox ledge Farm lecture Series
How to use the Training Scale
Contact: Ann Guptill
860-873-8108

March 27, 2004

Fox ledge Farm lecture Series
Objectives of dressage tests
Contact: Ann Guptill
860-873-8108

Getting to Know You - Continued from page 1

I was born and raised in Portland, Oregon. My parents couldn't subsidize my obsession with horses, and since we lived in a city I couldn't find my own way to a barn. I started taking regular lessons the Saturday after I got my driver's license, on an island in the middle of the Columbia River, using my baby-sitting money. I earned a BA in Dramatic Literature at Mills College in Oakland, CA, and a MA in Journalism from the University of Missouri in Columbia, MO. I didn't ride more than weekly until I got out of graduate school. The first weekend of my first "real" newspaper job, as a features editor in Wilmington, DE, I started taking regular lessons and leased horses for a couple years. I bought my first horse when I was 26.

I was initially interested in hunters. Before I came east in 1971, I had no idea that eventing existed below the Olympic level, and I'd never heard the phrase "on the bit." I quickly became interested in eventing, but I was never very good at it, possibly because I didn't start jumping until I was an adult and lacked confidence or because my depth perception was lousy. I could never figure out far I was from a fence—not a great thing going cross-country!

In 1977, six years after I came to Wilmington, I married Henry Freeman, who was the assistant sports editor at the paper there. He told everyone we got married "to provide a home for the baby" (I had a pregnant mare), and we bought a 4-acre farm in nearby Avondale, PA. The paper is owned by Gannett Company, which is the largest newspaper group in the U.S. We were transferred by Gannett to Oakland, CA two years later and took our two foals. (The stud fee for the second one was a wedding present from my utterly non-horsy mother-in-law.) We worked there for three years, and then Henry was named the founding Sports Editor of "USAToday", so we moved across the country again (with our daughter and our two growing horses) to a small farm in Upperville, VA. It was just too far for my husband to commute, so we later moved closer to DC. I haven't had my own farm since, but I keep hoping to again someday.

While in Virginia, I finally realized I didn't have a future in eventing—I'd win the dressage and then something bizarre would always happen cross-country. I progressed through the levels and earned my USDF Silver Medal on a horse I bred and trained myself. I also became very involved in organizing shows, including the Eastern Regionals and BLM Championships, following my experience in SE Pennsylvania where I had been on the founding committee of Dressage at Devon. I also helped found Commonwealth DCTA in Virginia.

By the time we were transferred back to Wilmington in 1989, I was starting to judge schooling shows regularly and then recognized shows in 1992. I earned the "S" license in 1999. We lived in central NJ for seven years, where I showed almost weekly. In 2000, we moved to Mt. Kisco, NY, where my husband is now vice-president and editor of "The Journal-News" in White Plains. Since moving to NY, I've pretty much been "between horses" as my two horses both had long-term soundness/illness problems. I boarded for awhile at Lendon Gray's Gleneden near my home, and they're very nice to let me hang out there watching lessons and taking pictures for my articles. Of course, that means that I'm now also on the committee for the Youth Dressage Festival (formerly the NE JR/YR Dressage Championships) organized by Lendon. I board at a hunter barn in North Salem and drive around doing some free-lance teaching.

I basically have two "part-time" jobs. On weekends I judge horse shows, and during the week I'm a free-lance writer/editor for horse magazines, primarily as Assistant Editor of "The Horse Journal," which is a consumer/horse-care publication. I've also covered the equestrian events at four Olympics: in 1976 for the "Wilmington News-Journal" and in 1984, 1996 and 2000 for the Associated Press. I'm scheduled to go to the Athens Olympics in 2004 with the AP. It's easy for me to be on the road a lot since I don't have my own farm and since my daughter is now out on her own as an intern in Washington. My neighbors happily take care of our two Corgis when my husband is away as well. I'd also like to return to teaching college journalism, as I did in Delaware and Pennsylvania.

When asked, "How can CDA better serve its members?" Margaret replied, "There are plenty of recognized shows in this area, but it seems difficult to locate schooling shows. One way I feel CDA could to benefit its members would be to provide a system—local omnibus, newsletter and/or website—where members could easily learn about any schooling shows in the region. This situation benefits those who want to do show prep in a quieter setting than a big show, have budget problems that limit their showing, or who really don't want to be part of the more-intense recognized-show scene."

CDA thanks Margaret for sharing with us her personal remembrances and future goals. Her valuable observations will help us better serve **YOU** the members of CDA!



FOX LEDGE FARM

29-A Daniels Road, East Haddam, CT 06423 860-873-8108

2004 Lecture Series

Fox ledge Farm is pleased to announce a lecture series for 2004. The lectures will be held on Saturday evenings for m 5:00-7:00 p.m. They will be held in the Viewing Room of the main barn and will include a Pot-Luck supper. Ann Guphill FEI Rider/Trainer, USDF Certified Instructor, "L" Judge graduate and Chair of the USDF Freestyle Committee will give the lectures.

The following schedule is planned:

- ◆ January 17 – Conformation & Movement
- ◆ February 28 – How to Use the Training Scale
- ◆ March 27 – Objectives of dressage tests

Fees:

\$25/Lecture

\$20 if bringing a Pot-Luck Dish

Additional \$5 discount to FLF Boarders and members of CDA/CDCTA/USPC

A current membership card must be shown and only one discount will apply per person!

Advanced Registration is not required but please do let us know if you plan to attend so that we may plan the food and beverages. Pot-Luck participation is not required.

Please call FLF with any questions between the hours or 7am-7pm., or email Ann at egarts@snet.net.

In case of inclement weather the lectures will be held the following evening (Sunday).

Directions From Major Highways:

- ◆ Rt. 9 Exit 7/Rt. 82 East Haddam. At end of ramp turn left onto Rt. 82 East. Stop light, turn right, continuing on Rt. 82 E over the CT River. After bridge continue 1 ½ miles on 82 to stop sign. Turn left onto Rt. 151. Go ½ mile, take the first right, Daniels Road. Fox Ledge Farm is ½ mile down on the left, 3rd drive after horse crossing.
- ◆ Rt. 91 South to Rt. 9 South. Follow as above.
- ◆ Rt. 84 East to Rt. 691 East to Rt. 91 North to Rt. South, follow as above.
- ◆ Rt. 2 East or West to Rt. 16 East to Rt. 149 South Moodus Rt. 151 North. Go 2 miles, look for EH Volunteer Fire Dept. on left, turn left onto Daniels Rd. Fox Ledge Farm is ½ mile on left, 3rd drive after horse crossing sign.

2003 Annual CDA Party and Awards Celebration

This is a busy time of year.....take a moment now to mark your 2004 calendar and RSVP. Below you will find the updated information about our **Annual CDA Party and 2003 Awards Celebration on Jan. 31st**.

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 A thru L. (next year...M-Z!)

~ **Guest speaker: Margaret Freeman:**

Margaret is a CDA member, an "S" dressage judge, and a free-lance editor and journalist. She is scheduled to cover the 2004 Olympics in Athens for the Associated Press.

Margaret's topic will be:

"How To Talk Dressage to Sports Editors Who Can't Tell a Half-Pass From A Forward Pass"

- ~ Silent auction: All proceeds will help reduce member costs for future CDA clinics.
- ~ Door prizes ~ Meet new friends ~ See old friends ~ Have a great time!

When: Saturday evening, January 31, 2004 beginning at 6pm

Where: Cheshire, CT- home of Fern and Barry Feldman (see directions below)

Why: To celebrate **YOU**, the members of CDA and to honor our 2003 Year-end Award winners

RSVP: If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to Marcie Gordon **before Jan. 20, 2004.**

Phone: 203-573-0919 (feel free to leave a message)

Email: Awards@ctdressageassoc.org (type "Party" on the subject line)

Directions:

From I-84: take exit 26. At end of ramp, go right, 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; 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.

Are You A Missing Person?

Uh, oh!! Is your name missing from this list (compiled on December 21, 2003)? Did you forget to renew your CDA membership? If so, this will be your last issue of the *Centerline*, you won't be eligible for Year-End Awards, and worse your copy of the 2004 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 better still use the one in this *Centerline*. We'll be waiting for your prompt reply before **January 15, 2004**

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Anhalt, Emily | Blanchard, Nancy | Bradshaw, Kari |
| Brakeman, Jill | Braverman, Amanda | Braverman, Barbara |
| Braverman, Elizabeth | Braverman, Alan | Breid, Beverly B. |
| Brown, Elizabeth B. | Buhle, Kathryn | Caplan, Carol A. |
| Cavaliere, Donna M. | Chimblo, Kim | Cloud, Jacqueline |
| Crafts, Sybille | Crafts, Frederica | Davidson, Theresa |
| Deluca, Kristen | Deluca, Elida | Druckrey, Inge |
| Durham, Dvm, Tracy A. | Eisenstadt, Amy | Elliott, Pam |
| Evans, Marisa | Fletcher, Marguerite | Fostyni, Heathir |
| Giordano, Cynthia | Goldblatt, Patricia | Gordon, Marcie |
| Gordon, John | Gray, Lendon | Guptill, Ann |
| Hamilton, Cornelia W. | Hamilton, Melinda | Hebert, Minna |
| Hoag, Merry | Horneff, Vanessa | Howe, Peter |
| Hunt, Marty | Hutson, Nancy | Jensen, Doreen |
| Kingsley, Jennifer L. | Lambert, Linda K. | Little, Maryanne |
| Lorczak, Marissa | Malafrente-Alfano, Rhonda | Malin, Timothy |
| Mangini, Teresa | Mixson, Mady | Morey, Nina |
| Mosure, Kathleen | Newton, Amy | Nodiff, Marilyn |
| Nottelman, Heidi | Nunes, Barbara | Olivieri, Lauriann |
| Osborne, Charles | Osborne, Isabelle | Paolillo, Cynthia |
| Pedersen, Laura | Perlstein, Marla | Rabinowitz, Sandy |
| Reed, Carolyn Denton | Reinhardt, Steve | Reinhardt, Debra |
| Riedel, Kristen | Rosenthal, Thorn | Rossetti, Arianna |
| Rossetti, Jody S. | Sigfridson, Laurie Davis | Simpson, Jill Karas |
| Steincamp, Lynne | Swingle, Amy | Szepesi, Patrice |
| Szepesi, Alix | Thomson, Robin Barrett | Tortora, Margery |
| Weiss, Leslie | Wilson, Barbara | |

Second Governor's Horse Guard Fundraiser: Update

CDA is collaborating with 2GHG in its efforts to raise money to support itself in the face of funding cuts. 2GHG offers many charitable services to the community, including CDA. This year they sponsored an FEI class at our recognized show.

We are still accepting donations for them to sell. You may bring used, unwanted, or outgrown horse or rider gear to the CDA Annual Members' Party on January 31, or contact Leslie Weiss (203-865-6156 x1) or Lt. Paul Mazzara (203-410-7334) to arrange for a pick up.

This will be an ongoing project, so you never need stuff your closet again. Please spread the word to all your friends around the state.

Thanks very much,
Leslie Weiss
CDA Vice President

| 2004 Advertising Rates | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| CDA Members | |
| Page Size | Monthly Year |
| Business Card | \$15 |
| 1/4 Page | \$20 |
| 1/2 Page | \$25 |
| Full Page | \$30 |
| Non-CDA Member | |
| Page Size | Monthly Year |
| Business Card | \$30 |
| 1/4 Page | \$40 |
| 1/2 Page | \$50 |
| Full Page | \$60 |

CENTERLINE

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3080 South Street

Coventry, CT. 06238

860-742-8110

e-mail: Membership@ctdressageassoc.org

CDA Newsletter for January, 2004

CDA BOARD MEETING Wednesday January 21, 2004 at 6:00 PM
 Call Fern Feldman at 203-272-0711 or Email - Secretary@ctdressageassoc.org for directions.