



CENTERLINE



CONNECTICUT DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

JUNE 2005

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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 -
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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

"June is bustin' out all o-o-ver...!" It has been a long, slow spring, which is good for flowers and holds back the flies, but I am glad to see sun coming and the jackets going. We are now well into the show season, with two schooling shows come and gone. Our second show at Coventry Equestrian Center rained out. Donna Leonessa creatively converted it into an indoor clinic with Lou Denizard. It was a great success.

The recognized show at Ox Ridge has not happened as of this writing, but may be history by the time you have this issue in hand. Since I am between levels at this point, I will be volunteering at our "big show" this year. I have always enjoyed helping out at shows and have learned a surprising amount. When it is time for me to ride, I use what I have absorbed through working at these shows.

In addition to our shows, we are offering a clinic with Roel Theunissen on July 9th and 10th at Cloverlea Farm in Coventry. This event is being managed by our adult education coordinator, Donna Leonessa (yes, Donna again!). Please read her article in this issue about Roel and his history with CDA. His clinics have been very popular in the past few years.

All best,
Leslie

3rd Annual CDA CLINIC with ROEL THEUNISSEN JULY 9TH AND 10TH AT

CLOVERLEA FARM in COLUMBIA, CONNECTICUT

CDA's mission is to promote dressage through education and opportunity. We have developed an Education Strategy which includes providing educational events that are conducted by high quality trainers who have the ability to explain their methodology to all levels of riders to improve their understanding of dressage. Roel, who operates Wadsworth Dressage Development Center, in Danvers, Massachusetts combines all of those qualities and more. Roel works with all horses and riders. All the horses and riders he works with are truly transformed through his training methodology. He is also a down-to-earth, articulate instructor. Roel has been introduced to many CDA members through this program. Auditors also benefit tremendously from watching and listening to Roel's methods since we promote a learning environment which allows auditors time to ask questions.

This year's clinic will be held at Cloverlea Farm in Columbia, Connecticut. Cloverlea Farm is a beautiful facility with both an outdoor and indoor available for the clinic. Thank you Beth and Jen for hosting this year's clinic with Roel.

If you are interested in auditing or riding in the clinic, please contact me at 860-240-9614 or dleonessa@hotmail.com. There is a Clinic Auditing and Riding Form in this Centerline on page 5 that you can complete and send to me with your check. I look forward to seeing all of you at the clinic.

Donna Leonessa
Education Coordinator

2005 Calendar of Events

June 4 and June 5, 2005

CDA Spring Competition
Ox Ridge Hunt Club
Darien, CT
Debra Reinhardt
(203)264-2148
(203)264-0086 fax
debra@centerlineevents.com

June 18, 2005

High Acres Farm
Dressage Schooling Show
Woodstock, CT
Jennifer Kingsley
860-928-5704
860-928-5437(fax)

June 19, 2005

Tri-State Horsemen's Association
Dressage & Two Phase
Woodstock Fairgrounds
Woodstock, CT
Contact:
Laurie Sigfridson
860-774-8482S
lsigfridson@juno.com

June 24, 25 & 26, 2005

Clinic with Mark Russell – author
"Lessons in Lightness-The Art of
Educating the Horse"
White Wood Farm
Killingworth, CT
Contact: Maureen
860-434-1169
Mo@besobold.com

July 9 and 10, 2005

CDA Clinic with
Roel Theunissen
Cloverlea Farm
Columbia, CT
Donna Leonessa
dleonessa@hotmail.com
860-240-9614

July 16, 2005

High Acres Farm
Dressage Schooling Show
Woodstock, CT
Jennifer Kingsley
860-928-5704
860-928-5437(fax)

July 17, 2005

CDA Schooling Show
Win Some Farm
Morris, CT 06763
Nancy Blanchard
860-283-8748

July 20, 2005

Fox Ledge Farm Schooling Show
East Haddam, CT
Ann Guptill
860-873-8108

Think Fast

Ahhh!!!! New England weather. I would hate to be a weatherman in New England. Last week, the weathermen predicted driving rain with wind gusts up to 60 miles per hour for Saturday, May 7th. Colin, the owner of Coventry Equestrian Center and I made the difficult decision of canceling the May 7th show on Friday at 10 am. In an effort to make the best out of the situation, I suggested to Colin that we hold a one day clinic with the Judge, Luis Denizard, instead. Luis a USDF Certified Trainer through 4th level had a very good reputation for helping all levels of riders. I had less than 24 hours to pull the clinic together with a clinician that I have never ridden with myself. I called or emailed each of the entries for the show. Several people, like me, were willing to ride with Luis for the first time. Thankfully, none of us were disappointed.

I found Luis to be very insightful and articulate in his instruction. He identified major issues with each rider's position that were directly impacting the horse's way of going. Luis explained how the rider's issue related to the horse's issue. He then went through the process of helping the rider to feel the issue so that they could change it.

For example, one rider over bent her body to the left when circling. This rider issue caused the horse to fall on her inside shoulder on the left. The horse then had difficulty picking up the left lead canter since she was not straight. Luis had the rider put her right shoulder back in order to prevent her body from turning to the inside too much. He also asked the rider to look at the outside ear to bring her face into alignment with her body.

Another example, I rode my horse, Zen. Luis asked me to leg yield Zen from the centerline to the rail. Zen's first few steps had good energy and cross over but he slowly lost impulsion. Luis immediately sensed the issue and told me that in my effort to correct Zen my half halt was slowing him down. He exclaimed, "You are not correcting Zen within the leg yield movement." "Correct him but don't prevent him from leg yielding and moving forward." Light bulb goes off, and I get some really good strides of leg yield.

Some of the riders had issues that had been affecting their riding for years. Luis pointed out that these issues would take considerably time and focus for the rider to resolve. Everyone improved from their session and everyone was thrilled that CDA was able to have the clinic at the last minute. I hope to ride with Luis Denizard again.

- Donna Leonessa, Education Coordinator and Organizer for CDA Schooling Show at Coventry Equestrian Center

Opening Date: June 10, 2005

Closing Date: July 5, 2005

Sunday, July 17, 2005
Connecticut Dressage Association
Schooling Show

Location - Win Some Farm
308 West Morris Rd
Morris, CT 06763

Judge: Kari Allen (L)

Secretary: Nancy Blanchard
P O Box 9
Thomaston, CT 06787
860-283-8748

Class List: USDF 2003 Introductory Tests A-B.
 USEF 2003 Training 1-4.
 USEF 2003 First 1-4.
 USEF 2003 Second and above-State test to be ridden.
 Dressage Seat Equitation. (Youth and Adult Amateurs only)

Fees: CDA members \$25 per Class.
 Non-members \$30 per test.
 Number deposit: \$1
 Checks payable to CDA.
 No refunds after closing date.

Awards: Up to six ribbons awarded in each class.
CDA High Point Award Medal: Awarded to the Adult Amateur and Junior Young Rider with the High Percentage Score of the show (excluding Equitation Class)
Double L Equine Express High Point Awards: Awarded to the two riders with the High Percentage Score of the show for Adult and Junior Young Rider (excluding Equation Class)

Rules: Number of rides per horse/rider combination may be limited to two. State two preferred tests first on application. Current All competitors must wear ASTM approved helmets while mounted or head gear appropriate to the level within 12 months is mandatory and must accompany entry. All competitors must wear ASTM approved helmets while mounted or head gear appropriate to the level. Classes may be combined, split, or canceled at the discretion of management. Family pets not allowed on the premises. 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 P.M. or you will be able to view the ride times on the CDA Website on Saturday before the show.

Directions:

From New York:

Take Route 84 east to exit 15-Southbury. Take Route 6 toward Woodbury/Watertown. Make left onto Route 61 through Bethlehem to Morris/Route 109. Make a left onto Route 109 toward Washington. Travel for approximately 3-4 miles (past Route 209, Lorenzo's Art Studio and the Morris Waste Station) to West Morris Road. Make a right onto West Morris Road and continue for approximately 1 1/2 miles to Win Some Farm #380 on the right. You will be directed to trailer parking.

From Massachusetts:

Take Route 84 west to exit 15-Southbury. Take Route 6 toward Woodbury/Watertown. Make left onto Route 61 through Bethlehem to Morris/Route 109. Make a left onto Route 109 toward Washington. Travel for approximately 3-4 miles (past Route 209, Lorenzo's Art Studio and the Morris Waste Station) to West Morris Road. Make a right onto West Morris Road and continue for approximately 1 1/2 miles to Win Some Farm #380 on the right. You will be directed to trailer parking.

Sunday - May 1, 2005

Connecticut Dressage Association

Schooling Show Results

Once Again Farm

Judge: Katie Rocco (L)

Intro A

Rider	Horse	Level	Score	Place
Alyson Evans	Hewie	Open	66.5	1
Gigi Cassese	Linus	AA	49.5	2
Janet Makeover	Sundance	AA	46.5	3

Intro B

Rider	Horse	Level	Score	Place
Alyson Evans	Hewie	Open	75.71	1
Elizabeth Bruns	Sympatico	AA	63.33	1
Marissa Lorzczak	Twilight Jazz	Youth	49.52	1
Cindi Fainer	Little Wing	AA	57.14	2
Gigi Cassese	Linus	AA	56.19	3
Janet Makeover	Sundance	AA	51.90	4

Training 1

Rider	Horse	Level	Score	Place
Carina Petersen	Lucky Dancer	AA	69.54	1
Kristine Gallagher	Optimum	Open	56.81	1
Marissa Lorzczak	Twilight Jazz	Youth	52.27	1
Elizabeth Bruns	Sympatico	AA	61.81	2
Alison Kost	Lola	Open	56.81	2
Anne Doyle	Salute	AA	61.81	3
Heather Martucci	E.B.	Open	55.90	3
Amy Swingle	Roswell	AA	64.54	4
Alison Kost	Qayag	Open	50.90	4
Meredith Tiedemann	Woodrow	AA	55.45	5
Virginia Leary	Granetta	Open	48.18	5
Bunny Joseph	Hickoryledge Merantage	AA	54.54	6

Training 2

Rider	Horse	Level	Score	Place
Mae Janiga	Reach for the Stars	Youth	70.00	1
Amy Swingle	Roswell	AA	67.30	1
Alison Kost	Lola	Open	59.61	1
Ashley Negri	Bravo	Youth	68.84	2
Stacey Berkman	Carrickter	Open	58.84	2
Meredith Tiedemann	Woodrow	AA	57.30	2
Veronica Victor	Nickelodeon	Youth	66.53	3
Jill Karas Simpson	Pintoresco	AA	57.30	3
Anne Doyle	Salute	AA	56.92	3
Kristine Gallagher	Optimum	Open	57.30	4
Cindi Fainer	Little Wing	AA	47.69	4
Veronica Victor	Nickelodeon	Youth	46.92	4
Alison Kost	Qayag	Open	59.61	5
Heidi Beaumont	Zambezi	AA	47.69	5

Training 3

Rider	Horse	Level	Score	Place
Courtney Eaton	Bill de Grandchamp	Youth	60.83	1
Carina Petersen	Lucky Dancer	AA	60.00	2
Bunny Joseph	Hickoryledge Merantage	AA	57.08	3
Patricia Kahle	Sutter's Lady	Youth	50.00	4

Training 4

Rider	Horse	Level	Score	Place
Mae Janiga	Reach for the Stars	Youth	64.61	1
Stacey Berkman	Carrickter	Open	58.84	1
Myra Flanagan	Bill de Grandchamp	AA	55.00	1
Ashley Negri	Bravo	Youth	60.76	2
Patricia Kahle	Sutter's Lady	Youth	55.00	3
Kirsten Walleck	Shadow Dancer	Youth	54.23	4

First 1

Rider	Horse	Level	Score	Place
Emily Anhalt	Whisper	AA	61.11	1
Kirsten Walleck	Shadow Dancer	Youth	49.25	2

First 2

Rider	Horse	Level	Score	Place
Kate Lussier	Hendrix	Youth	64.70	1
Emily Anhalt	Whisper	AA	63.522	2

Second 1

Rider	Horse	Level	Score	Place
Heather Martucci	Dare to Dream	Open	59.73	1
Susan Mortensen	Fancy Me	AA	58.94	2
Sandy Rabinowitz	Sequoia	AA	53.15	3

Third 1

Rider	Horse	Level	Score	Place
Ann Guptill	Oshin	Open	66.66	1

Third 3

Rider	Horse	Level	Score	Place
Roberta Carleton	Dream Weaver	Open	68.44	1
Lynn Smiley	Dove	Open	50.22	2

Fourth 1

Rider	Horse	Level	Score	Place
Roberta Carleton	Dream Weaver	Open	67.90	1
Karen Horn	Bijan	AA	56.51	2

Fourth 2

Rider	Horse	Level	Score	Place
Melinda Hamilton	McAllister	AA	66.51	1
Ann Guptill	Magnum	Open	61.39	2
Karen Horn	Bijan	AA	58.60	3

Prix St. George

Rider	Horse	Level	Score	Place
Rachel Gioia	King Solomon	AA	59.25	1

Dressage Equitation

Rider	Horse	Level	Score	Points
Mae Janiga	Reach for the Stars	Youth	72.00	4
Ashley Negri	Bravo	Youth	60.00	2
Kirsten Walleck	Shadow Dancer	Youth	58.00	1

“Congratulations”

Adult rider Alyson Evans riding Hewie with a score of 75.71 and Youth rider Mae Janiga riding Reach for the Stars with a score of 70.00 were the winners of CDA's High Point Awards sponsored by Double LL Equine Express

3rd Annual CDA CLINIC with
 ROEL THEUNISSEN
 JULY 9TH AND 10TH
 AT
 CLOVERLEA FARM in COLUMBIA, CONNECTICUT

RIDER AND AUDITOR CLINIC SIGN UP

Name _____ Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

<u>PLEASE CIRCLE:</u>	<u>CDA Member</u>	<u>Non-Member</u>
	<u>Rider</u>	<u>Auditor</u>
SATURDAY	\$80	\$30
SUNDAY	\$80	\$30
BOTH DAYS	\$160	\$55

Negative Coggins and Rabies Certificate required for all participating horses.

Please send Rider and Auditor Sign Up Form with check payable to CDA to: Donna Leonessa, 3080 South Street, Coventry, CT 06238. Contact Donna at dleonessa@hotmail.com or call work (860) 240-9614 with questions. No refunds will be permitted unless a substitute rider/horse is located by the original rider or the organizer.

**CLINIC- RELEASE OF LIABILITY
 READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS BEFORE YOU SIGN IT**

In consideration for _____ (the "Rider") being permitted to participate in the horseback riding clinic sponsored or organized by The Connecticut Dressage Association, Inc. ("CDA") on July 9th and 10th, 2005 at Cloverlea Farm, Columbia, Connecticut, the Rider and his/her parents (if Rider is under 18 years of age) agree that CDA, Cloverlea Farm, the clinician, and their agents, members, volunteers and assistants shall not be liable for, and agree to hold them harmless from, any accident, personal injury, death or property damage that may be sustained by any person or entity, including without limitation the Rider, as a result in whole or in part from the Rider's participation in the clinic. This agreement is binding on the Rider and his/her parents whether or not said accident, personal injury, death or property damage is due in whole or in part to the negligence of CDA, Cloverlea Farm, the clinician or any of their agents, members, volunteers or assistants. The Rider and his/her parents (if Rider is under 18 years of age) agree to defend and indemnify CDA, Cloverlea Farm, the clinician and their agents, members, volunteers and assistants for any claims, demands, or suits arising from the Rider's participation in the clinic, including without limitation those arising in whole or in part from the negligence of CDA, Cloverlea Farm, the clinician or their agents, members, volunteers or assistants.

This release is signed on _____, 2005.

Rider: (must sign)

Rider's parent (if rider is less than 18 years old):

Directions to Cloverlea Farm, 262 Rt 87, Columbia, CT

Take Rte 84 East to Exit 59 — Rte 384 East. Follow Rte 384 to Rte 6 East. Turn RIGHT on Rt. 87. Proceed 2.6 miles to Cloverlea Farm on your right.

Never Enough Time...

By Deborah Reinhardt

I am not sure about your schedule, but it seems that I have no time to ever do anything but work, clean house, do laundry, be around for family stuff, and fit a ride two or three times a week. It is hard to find the time to go and audit a clinic, let alone try to be good enough to actually ride in a clinic. I say all this but we are EXTREMELY fortunate to live in an area that offers many educational opportunities, and we need to put the time aside to do some of them. If cost is a concern there are many at a very low cost, like CDA's seminars/clinics, and actually many free opportunities, like the guest speaker at the CDA's Award Party.

This past weekend, May 7th, I had the chance to attend Crown Dressage International's Open House which is Ron Postleb's facility. Not only was this free but they fed you and wined you while you watched a well done demonstration. Ron started out with the progression of the lateral work under saddle, ie leg yielding to canter pirouette, which I had seen done before by someone else but it was good to hear it again. However, the next part of the demonstration was the progression of work in hand. He showed what a horse after 3 weeks of training could do all the way to the finished

product where the horse would piaffe or passage in hand. In addition, Ron showed some exercises that you could take home with you for your horse.

I am not here to promote Ron or Crown Dressage, although I think his place is beautiful and Ron is one of our area's great instructors, but I wanted to say that if you get an invitation or an opportunity to see something free, TRY to do it. By the way I dragged my husband, Steve who is very non-horsey but enjoys speaking with Ron, with me, and even he said that he could understand what was happening and really enjoyed it. OH! Maybe it was the wine talking... Only kidding...

As I was unable to attend the CDA clinic held at my own barn in April by my own instructor, Vicki Hammer O'Neil, due to my family schedule, CDA does put on several inexpensive clinics and by the sounds of the reviews in the last Centerline are very good. So again, try to put time aside for one or maybe two educational opportunities a year. It will teach you something even if you think you already know it and it will make you feel good doing something for a sport you love!

Sue Blinks to Conduct USDF/Region 8 FEI Junior/Young Rider Clinic

Sue Blinks will be the featured clinician at the 2005 USDF Region 8 FEI Junior/Young Rider Clinic scheduled for July 12-13, 2005, at Gleneden Dressage Stables in Bedford, NY. This clinic is generously hosted by Gleneden Dressage Stables and being organized by Lendon Gray.

Sue Blinks, a member of the silver-medal-winning U.S. dressage team at the 2002 World Equestrian Games will also be conducting clinics for USDF. Sue Blinks and Flim Flam competed for the U.S. on the 2000 Sydney Olympic Bronze medal team dressage squad, where they were the highest-placed Individual American entry with an eighth place overall. Blinks riding Delano was also a member of the fourth-place USET team at the 1998 World Equestrian Games in Rome, finishing 12th individually. She wrapped up her season by being honored as the USOC Female Equestrian Athlete of the Year. Other accomplishments include second- and third-place ribbons in the 1997 USET Grand Prix Championship and sec-

ond- and third-place finishes in the Grand Prix, Special and Freestyle at the Bayer/USET Festival of Champions that same year. Blinks is also a US Equestrian Federation dressage judge, and recently relocated to California.

Rider applications are being accepted by USDF through June 12, 2005. Applicants must be current USDF Participating Members between the ages of 14-21 currently riding at Third Level or above. Auditors of all ages and levels are welcome and pre-registration as well as walk-in registration is available. Rider applications and auditor registration forms are available at <http://www.usdf.org/Programs/AdvancedYoungRider/index.asp>, or by contacting Sheila Forbes, Director of Programs, at (859) 271-7879 or sforbes@usdf.org.

DOMINIQUE BARBIER RIDING CLINIC 2005

3 DAY RIDING CLINICS OFFERED ON:

- JULY 22, 23, AND 4th
- OCTOBER 28, 29 and 30th

EXHIBITION JULY 22ND at 7 PM

HELD AT: MEENAHGA RIDGES FARM IN WINCHESTER, CONNECTICUT

THIS IS A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY TO MEET AND WORK WITH A
FRENCH CLASSICAL DRESSAGE MASTER

CLINIC FEES

- ALL 3 DAYS ARE \$775. MAY ARRANGE FOR 1 AND 2 DAY SESSIONS. STALLS AVAILABLE FOR \$30 A NIGHT.
- AUDITORS ARE WELCOME FOR \$30 PER DAY OR \$60 FOR ALL 3 DAYS
- EXHIBITION IS \$20
- PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED TO ENSURE A SPOT.
- PAYMENT IS DUE AT TIME OF REGISTRATION.
- REGISTER BY JULY 1ST FOR FIRST SESSION AND OCTOBER 1ST FOR SECOND.
- DETAILS WILL BE PROVIDED AT TIME OF REGISTRATION.
- TO REGISTER CONTACT:
RICHARD BUCK AT 860-651-3784 OR EMAIL: NOBUCK@MSN.COM

USDF Announces New Continuing Education Program for Judges and USDF 'L' Graduates

The United States Dressage Federation (USDF) is pleased to announce a new educational opportunity, made possible with funding support from The Dressage Foundation. 'The Continuing Education Program for Judges and USDF 'L' Graduates,' developed by the USDF Judges Committee, has been designed to meet the growing need for continuing education. The goal of this program is to provide for, and continually improve, the training of individuals currently licensed as judges and those aspiring to become licensed.

This new program, implemented on a regional level, is designed to offer several different potential formats, from a classroom structure to a competition or clinic setting. The range of topics, such as musical freestyle, quadrille, and dressage seat equitation, is intended to assist judges and 'L' graduates in staying current on the latest rule and test changes and other related topics. In offering several program formats and topics, each region will be able to tailor the program to meet their individual continuing education needs. This program will also allow auditors the unique opportunity to gain insight into the judge's box as well as help improve their competitive edge.

Regional grants are available through USDF for this program, which is funded by the Edgar Hotz Judges Endowment Fund, through The Dressage Foundation. The Dressage Foundation's mission is to cultivate and provide financial

support for the advancement of dressage. There are grant requirements that must be met in order to be eligible to receive the regional grant.

Dr. Edgar Hotz was a prominent dressage judge and a highly regarded instructor for aspiring judges. Dr. Hotz, who died in October 2001, at the age of 60, had an illustrious judging career which spanned over 30 years. During this time, Dr. Hotz conducted many seminars and educational activities, such as the Judges Viewpoint Seminar and National AHSA Judges Forums. Dr. Hotz also served on numerous committees, including the AHSA Dressage Committee, USET Dressage Committee, USDF Judges Council, and German Judges Association.

If you are interested in learning about this new program, as an organizer, instructor or participant, or are interested in applying for a Continuing Education Grant, please visit the USDF Web site at www.usdf.org or contact Kim Sodt at ksodt@usdf.org or (859) 271-7876. Founded in 1973, the United States Dressage Federation is a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to education, the recognition of achievement, and the promotion of the sport of dressage. For more information about USDF membership or programs, visit www.usdf.org, e-mail usdressage@usdf.org, or call (859) 971-2277.

