



CENTERLINE



CONNECTICUT DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

March 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 -
Centerline@ctdressageassoc.org
Subject: Centerline

- CDA Website -
www.ctdressageassoc.org

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

March President's Message

"And a good time was had by all"...This year's annual Members' Party was a rousing success, if success is measured by attendance, the amount of food consumed, attention to the guest speaker, and lingering after the awards are passed out. Soon you will be able to view photos on the website. Many thanks to all of you who put the party together, and to those of you who came and shared in a wonderful evening.

Many thanks, also, to Lendon Gray, our keynote speaker. I have attended this party for many years and have never heard such silence during a presentation. Lendon discussed how to use goal-setting to help track progress. She emphasized the importance of being honest with oneself about what is possible and what resources are really available. She also made it clear that one difference between dressage and the other equestrian pastimes is discipline, both physical and mental.

This year, CDA awarded our first annual Volunteer Awards. Volunteering is a great way to become involved without showing. For helping out at CDA events, people were honored with gift certificates to the Equestrian Centre. Our Volunteer of the Year for 2004 is Desiree Bilodeau, who turned up at every event, did everything she was asked without complaining, and generally spread good cheer. She is off to join the Marine Corps and will be sorely missed. We wish her well.

The CDA Board has decided to dedicate the Volunteer Award Program in honor of Charlie and Philla Osborne. Charlie recently passed away. He and Philla have generously sponsored our recognized show at Ox Ridge. In addition they have turned up each year to work in the sun and rain serving as ring stewards. Charlie and Philla have boarded and trained a number of horses with Vicki Hammers-O'Neil for over 16 years, including Royal Rival, one of Lendon Gray's competition horses. They are very special people and exemplify generosity and graciousness, kindness and good humor. We will miss Charlie very much.

In closing, as I write this, it occurs to me that I got involved with CDA just for the fun of meeting people and also for the chance to hang around with talented and friendly horse folks in my spare time. I have just begun to show at the ripe age of "somewhere over fifty." I personally get so much pleasure out of my participation that I hope each of you will find your own niche, even if it is just reading Centerline or visiting the website.

Leslie Weiss

My Experience on the CDA Team

I spent the bulk of my summer fretting over riding. It was to be the first competitive season that my horse, Falcon, and I were a pair, and I could hardly hold in my nervous excitement. I'd ridden in Lendon's Jr. Young rider championships three times in the past with Sarah-Dalton Morris on whatever horse I was in love with at the time. I remember all three of those experiences distinctly as the highlights of the respective summers. This past summer, having bought a new horse that lives with Sharon Curran in Bethlehem. Although I was dying to ride the Dressage Festival, I was hesitant to send in my entry form because I was without a team and without the means. Literally at the last moment, days before entry forms were due, I heard about the CDA team, and jumped at the opportunity to join it. Because of the generous sponsorship of the CDA, I was able to bring my horse to his first big Dressage Show. My team, although ultimately strangers before we got here, had an amazing time together in and out of the saddle. If the CDA hadn't organized this extraordinary opportunity, I probably wouldn't have been able to go. Thank you so much! I had a blast.

Sincerely, Helena Smith

2005 Calendar of Events

March 12&13, 2005

Centered Riding Clinic
w/Deb Moynihan
Coventry Equestrian Center
Coventry, CT
Contact Colin Milne
(860) 742-1900
coventryequestrian@charter.net

March 18, 2005

CDCTA's Silent Auction
The Gallery Restaurant
Contact: Deb Van Ostrand
860-228-3135
mark_van_oststrand@sbcglobal.net
Ruth Beardsley
203-393-3253
ruthbeardsley@adelpia.com

March 23, 2005

Board Meeting
Fern Feldman
203-272-0711
Secretary@ctdressageassoc.org

April 2, 2005

CDA Clinic
It's All In Your Seat!
with Vicki Hammers-O'Neil
Once Again Farm
Meriden, CT
Leslie Weiss at 203-777-1950
lesweis47@yahoo.com

April 12 – 14, 2005

Dominique Barbier Clinic
Meenagha Ridges Farm
Registration and Information
www.ahorsefarm.com
Ruth Labbe 860-496-8568
aurora688@earthlink.net

April 16 & 17, 2005

Dressage Educational Weekend
w/Sarah Geikie and Deb Moynihan
Wishing Rock Farm
W. Suffield, CT
Contact: Deb Moynihan
(860) 646-8841
djmoynihan@snet.net

April 22, 23 & 24, 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

April 30, 2005

AHCC Spring Fling Horse Show
Three County Fairgrounds
Northampton, MA
Contact: Deb Thomas
860-526-9526
www.arabianhorseclubofconnecticut.org

Attention Foreign Riders!!!!

The following change is effective January 1, 2005 Competition Management must request proof, in English, of current membership in good standing from the respective National Federation of any non-citizen, or proof of current USEF membership. This rule will not only apply to riders, drivers, vaulters, etc., but also to ANY PARTICIPANT in any USEF competition.

This means that PARTICIPANTS will ALL have exactly the SAME requirements, either: (1) USEF membership, (2) proof (in English - so we can tell if it is valid) of current membership in good standing in their NF, OR (3) pay a non-member fee. This requirement will also apply to Paso Fino, Morgan, etc. classes.

This is good because there will no longer be any difference in the rules for international and non-international disciplines or for riders, handlers in DSHB, owners, trainers, coaches, etc making it much less confusing for everybody. No more emergency calls to USEF for Foreign Licenses etc!

Extraordinary Rule Change!!!

Medal spurs with round hard plastic knobs are allowed ("impuls" spur), "Dummy" spurs with no shank are allowed.

This change was made to follow the new FEI rule change.

Life is too short!

Are you getting ready to put that first entry in to the first show? Are you getting ready to go to make a zillion copies of each card, registration forms, and coggins? Wait! Good NEWS!!!

The USDF's IT Department has made a huge effort to help to reduce the needed paperwork for the competitors to have with their entry, and therefore to reduce the paper load that management/secretary must present to the Technical Delegate and store for three years. They have managed to develop a brief and very easy procedure to put all your USDF cards on one page per horse. All you need to do is follow these simple directions. Go to www.usdf.org. Click on Membership Verification found under 'Before The Show'. Click on Master Verification Search. You will start with the horse, then rider, and then owner. It is important that you do the owner verification even if rider and owner are the same. Once you have finished the search, it will print them all on one page right justified leaving room for the USEF cards on the left side and bottom. The horse's Coggins can easily go on the back. See the example sheet included in this publication.

So riders, get all your memberships updated, including owners if applicable, and any horse registration upgrades, have that coggins drawn early, and save yourself a lot of time and money (from mailing an entry with seven pieces of paper and all those copies). Just think of all the trees we are saving!

For show secretaries, getting an entry with one sheet of paper and check is a big WOO-HOO! However, if secretaries do not get the entries complete, at least they can get the USDF verification on one page!

Another bit of great news is that the USEF and USDF will be merging membership and horse registration numbers. In other words, the rider/handler/owner/trainer/coach/etc will have one number for both USEF and USDF. The same will be true for the horse's registration numbers. This great news was released at the end of November, and the organizations will be working hard this next year to find a way to make the transition.

Review of needed memberships!

After writing several long paragraphs on the needed memberships to compete at Recognized shows, a CDA board member and Education Coordinator, Donna Leonessa, sent this chart to be checked for accuracy. With a few minor corrections, it may just be easier to look at it rather than words! See "Show Membership Requirements" Chart.

See you on the centerline....
Debra Reinhardt
Show Manager and Secretary

SHOW MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

	USEF/USDF Recognized Show Not Qualifying for Championship		USEF/USDF Recognized Show Qualifying for Championship***	
	USEF	USDF	USEF	USDF
Horse		USDF Life Registered or USDF HID	USEF Annual or Lifetime Recording	USDF Lifetime Registered
Open Rider	USEF Membership with Dressage discipline or \$20 Non-Member Fee plus \$5 Discipline Fee (paid at each show)	USDF Participating or Group membership, or Free Non-Member Number	USEF Membership with Dressage discipline	USDF Participating Member
Junior Rider (18 yrs & under)	USEF Membership(no discipline needed) or \$20 Non-Member Fee (paid at each show)	USDF Participating or Group membership, or Free Non-Member Number	USEF Membership with Dressage discipline	USDF Participating Member
AA	USEF AA Membership with Dressage discipline or \$20 Non-Member Fee, \$5 Discipline Fee plus \$30 AA for total of \$55 (paid at each show) *	USDF Participating or Group membership, or Free Non-Member Number	USEF AA Membership with Dressage discipline	USDF Participating Member
Owner	USEF Membership with Dressage discipline or \$20 Non-Member Fee plus \$5 Discipline Fee (paid at each show)	USDF Participating, Business or Group membership, or Free Non-Member Number	USEF Membership with Dressage discipline	USDF Participating or Business Membership
Trainer**	USEF Membership with Dressage discipline or \$20 Non-Member Fee plus \$5 Discipline Fee (paid at each show)		USEF Membership with Dressage discipline or \$20 Non-Member Fee plus \$5 Discipline Fee (paid at each show)	
Coach	USEF Membership with Dressage discipline or \$20 Non-Member Fee plus \$5 Discipline Fee (paid at each show)		USEF Membership with Dressage discipline or \$20 Non-Member Fee plus \$5 Discipline Fee (paid at each show)	

* The non-member AA rider has a choice. The chart describes a \$55 fee to be a non-member AA rider at a show. If you do not really care if you are an AA for this one time show, you only need to pay the non-member fee (\$20) plus dressage discipline fee (\$5). If you absolutely want to compete as an AA, then you have to pay this AA fee (\$30) and it is only good for one show. At this point, it would be STRONGLY suggested you just join USEF and pay \$45 plus the \$13 dressage discipline fee. Then you sign the AA part of the membership and you can show anytime as AA member paying nothing more.

** Just a reminder! Trainer on the entry form is the person who is responsible for the horse on the grounds. This person must be present and is the person who named if the horse is drug tested or case of abuse. The coach is the person who coaches you before the class, not the trainer.

*** Memberships/Registrations/Recordings must be valid before the qualifying ride for the score to count.

IT'S ALL IN YOUR SEAT!

CDA presents an unmounted clinic with **Vicki Hammers-O'Neil**
Saturday, April 2, 2005 at Once Again Farm

Designed to show the importance of sitting properly, this clinic will illustrate how a correct position evolves into an effective seat, and is suitable for both youth and adult riders. There will be lecture, discussion, and participation in unmounted exercises for rider balance, flexibility and strength. Demonstrations will provide examples of how different rider conformations must adapt from the "textbook" or "ideal" position.

Please wear warm, layered exercise clothes, such as fleece breeches, as you will be both sitting and exercising. Please also bring a chair and something to exercise on, such as a mat, big towel or old horse blanket to put down on the arena footing.

Schedule: 9 AM	Registration
9:30- 10:30	Lecture by Vicki Hammers-O'Neil
Break	
10:45-11:45	Participant exercise class with Ann Doyle
11:45-12:30	Lunge line demonstration
12:30 1:15	LUNCH (provided)
1:15- 3:15	Demonstrations and Discussion

Directions to Once Again Farm: From I-91 North: Take exit 17 to 691 West. Take exit 4 off 691W. Turn left at the end of ramp. ** Turn right on to third residential street, Gwen Road. At the end of Gwen Rd. turn right onto Johnson Ave. Take the first left onto Finch Ave. Go 7/10 miles on Finch to Allen Avenue, turn left. Once Again Farm is 100 feet ahead on the right. From I-91 South: Take exit 18 onto 691 West. Then follow directions from I-91 North. From I-84 East and West: Take Exit 27 onto 691. Take exit 4; at end of ramp turn right. Then follow directions from I-91 beginning with **.

REGISTRATION

Name: _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Member adult: \$25 _____ Non-member adult: \$35 _____ Youth: \$15 _____

You can join CDA at this event and pay the member price. **Registration closes 3/26/05.**

Send completed registration and fee to LESLIE WEISS, 59 Hobart St., New Haven, CT 06511. For questions contact Leslie Weiss 203-777-1950; lesweis47@yahoo.com

Opening Date: April 1, 2005

Closing Date: April 23, 2005

Sunday - May 1, 2005
Connecticut Dressage Association
Schooling Show

Location - Once Again Farm
750 Allen Ave.
Meriden, CT 06451

Judge: TBA

Secretary: Kari Bradshaw
 110 Goshen East St.
 Norfolk, CT 06058
 860-542-5375

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 Award: Awarded to the rider with the High Percentage Score of the show for Adult and Junior Young Rider (excluding Equitation 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 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 1-91 North: Take exit 17 to 691 West. Take Exit 4 off 691W. Turn left at the end of ramp. **Turn right onto third residential street, Gwen Road. At the end of Gwen Rd. turn right onto Johnson Ave. Take the first left onto Finch Ave. Go 7/10 miles on Finch to Allen Avenue, turn left. Once Again Farm is 100 feet ahead on the right. From 1-91 South: Take Exit 18 onto 691 West. Then follow directions from 1-91 North. From 1-84 East and West: Take Exit 27 onto 691. Take Exit 4; at end of ramp, turn right. Then follow directions from 1-91 beginning with **

Opening Date: April 11, 2005

Closing Date: May 3, 2005

**Saturday, May 7th 2005
Connecticut Dressage Association
Schooling Show**

**Location - Coventry Equestrian Center
220 Talcott Hill Road, Coventry, CT**

Judge: Luis Reteguiz-Denizard (L)

**Secretary: Donna Leonessa
3080 South Street
Coventry, CT 06238
860-742-8110**

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 Award: Awarded to the rider with the High Percentage Score of the show for Adult and Junior Young Rider (excluding Equitation 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 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 email: dleonessa@hotmail.com to have the schedule emailed to you. You will be able to view the ride times on the CDA Website on the Friday before the show.

Directions: Rte 84 to Rte 384 to Rte 44. Follow Rte 44 for 4.5 miles and make a Right onto Route 31 after Highland Park Market. Follow approximately 1.5 miles and make a Right onto Talcott Hill Road. The farm driveway is 0.5 miles on the right.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

YOUNG RIDER RECIPIENTS:

MARISSA LORCZAK
DANIELLE BURGESS

ADULT AMATEUR RECIPIENTS:

LISA WEINER
KARI BRADSHAW

CDA's mission is to help educate riders on dressage in the New England Region. We provide clinics and workshops with Regional and National level clinicians. CDA also provides schooling shows throughout the Competition season to provide riders with the opportunity to practice their skill in a learning environment. Each of these schooling shows is held at dressage facilities located through the State of Connecticut. Once Again Farm, Coventry Equestrian Center, Stone Ledge Farm, and Win Some Farm. All of these facilities have beautiful arenas with quality footing. The CDA Board would like to award those members that have ridden in the highest number of schooling shows in 2004. These individuals show their commitment to the sport of dressage by practicing their skills at the CDA hosted schooling shows.

Marissa, Danielle, Lisa and Kari are each awarded scholarship funds to cover the audit fee for one of the 2005 clinics or a \$30 reduced fee to ride in one of the two riding clinics. Each of the clinics is listed below.

CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH OF YOU ON YOUR SCHOLARSHIP AWARD.

-Donna Leonessa

1. "It's All in Your Seat" clinic being held at Once Again Farm in Meriden April 2nd with Vicki Hammers-O'Neil;
2. Roel Theuissen from Wadsworth Farm in Mass. Riding Clinic; OR the
3. Shannon Oldham-Dueck clinic being held at Grandview Stables in Columbia on September 10th and 11th.

Double L Equine Express

New and Proud Sponsor of

CDA 2005 SCHOOLING SHOW SERIES

Connecticut Dressage Association is very pleased to announce that Lucy Twarkins and Laura Shulze, co-owners of *Double L Equine Express*, have agreed to sponsor and donate the new "CDA High Point Schooling Show Awards" during the CDA 2005 schooling show season.

This year CDA will sponsor five schooling shows in various locations throughout the state. The high point Adult and Youth riders of each show will be presented with special awards donated by *Double L Equine Express*. (Note: this excludes scores earned in the equitation class). More information on the awards will be included in the next issue of *Centerline*.

Lucy's and Laura's *Double L Equine Express* business started in 2003 with a mobile tack shop that visits barns and horse events around the state. Their business has since grown to include two stores: the first is located at 1070 Boston Post Road in Guilford, CT and the newest store is now open at Sweetwater Farm, Route 81 in Clinton, CT.

Wishing you all good luck and good health during the 2005 competition season. Whether you are a rider, groom, trainer, parent, spouse, friend, volunteer, judge or spectator have a wonderful time participating in CDA's schooling shows this year...and enjoy the ride!

Marcie Gordon
CDA Awards Coordinator

Make Checks payable to CDA

2005 Centerline Advertising Rates		CDA Members		Non-CDA Member	
Page Size	Monthly	Year	Monthly	Year	Year
Business Card	\$15	\$100	\$30	\$200	\$200
¼ Page	\$20	\$150	\$40	\$300	\$300
½ Page	\$25	\$200	\$50	\$350	\$350
Full Page	\$30	\$250	\$60	\$400	\$400

Centerline

Send Address changes to:

Heidi Nottelman

12 Easy Street

Plainfield, CT 06374

(860) 564-0214

e-mail: Membership@ctdressageassoc.org

CDA Newsletter for March, 2005

CDA BOARD MEETING Wednesday March 23, 2005 at 6:15 PM
 Call Fern Feldman at 203-272-0711 or Email - Secretary@ctdressageassoc.org for directions.