



CENTERLINE



CONNECTICUT DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

November 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.

November President's Message

Greetings! The competition season is over now and the real work begins. If you are submitting your scores for awards this year, the contact person is Debra Reinhardt. You will find forms in this Centerline and on our website, ctdressageassoc.org.

The Board of Directors is in the final stages of updating our by-laws. There are some changes you should be aware of. First, we will be aligning CDA's annual calendar with that of USDF. When you get your renewal form, check the dates as these will be different. Also, we will be submitting a slate of Directors for your approval at the annual members' party. There are a couple of open seats on the Board and we are accepting nominations for additional directors. If you would like to join us, or would like to recommend someone, please contact myself or Fern Feldman. We are particularly interested in people with marketing skills to help us recruit sponsors and advertisers for our Omnibus and our recognized show. The meetings are really fun, productive, and there is "dinner-by-Fern." All members are welcome to attend any board meeting. The schedule is on the website.

I will be attending the USDF convention in early December for the first time. I will be attending as your delegate and will bring back a report of my activities for you. I hope to see at least some of you there!

On behalf of CDA, the Board donated \$200 to the Connecticut Humane Society, which is conducting an equine rescue effort for horses endangered by Hurricane Katrina. One of CDA's standing missions is to support organizations which benefit horses and riders, both within and outside of the dressage community. Your dollars at work!

All best,

Leslie



2005 Calendar of Events

October 2, 2005

Win Some Farm
Dressage Schooling Show
Morris, CT
Margaret Deakin
860-567-3545

October 9, 2005

Dressage Schooling Show
Coventry Equestrian Center
Coventry, CT
Colin Milne
860-742-1900

28, 29 & 30, 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

October 29 – 31, 2005

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

Classifieds

Dressage Saddle

New Albion SLK Ultima
M/W tree 17 ½" seat
\$3,000.00 or best offer
860.529.8805

Horse for Half -Lease

8y/o Imported Dutch warmblood,
training level, bay, 17.3 hands, good
disposition.
Looking for someone with second -
third level ability. Bethany, CT
Heathir Fostyni
203-272-6375

CDA Clinic with Shannon Oldham-Dueck

As we drove up to Grandview Stables, we were impressed by the beautiful, well maintained facility. Esther Roberts greeted us and graciously offered a stall for my horse and use of the cross ties and wash rack. What a great beginning. I tacked up my five year old Friesian, Ceasar, and shortly after, our clinician Shannon Oldham-Dueck arrived. With her friendly demeanor, Shannon asked about my horse's training, checked the fit of my bridle and saddle, and then we were off to work.

We started at the walk working on a bigger walk with longer strides and more contact. It was clear to Shannon that Ceasar was not as light and responsive to the aids as he should be. She explained that he needed to carry me without my legs constantly reminding him. We worked on a 20 meter circle at the walk and trot. When he slowed down he was reprimanded with a strong aid to carry himself. We then progressed to walk-trot-walk transitions. Shannon said that you want to feel the "trot" in the walk transition. If you don't, you immediately do an upwards transition back to the trot. This really helped Ceasar gain energy into the walk.

Our next task was leg yield. To help Ceasar be more responsive to the leg, Shannon demonstrated an in hand turn on the forehand exercise. She held both reins to the inside and used the handle of the whip to simulate where the inside leg would be. Ceasar was to move sideways, displacing the haunches.

We then moved on to the canter. I told Shannon that Ceasar feels like he is falling to the inside on the right lead. First, she had me spiral in on a circle at the trot and spiral out from my inside leg. Shannon explained that every time Ceasar falls in at the canter it is an opportunity for me to get him off my inside leg and train him. She also had me work on more inside flexion.

Shannon explained that Ceasar was good in the mouth but was too light in the contact. She stated that I need to be able to hold his front end in one place and push his back end to the front end. By getting him more responsive to my leg, he will develop a stronger contact and create more power behind. Some of Shannon's phrases that really hit home for me were: Don't keep going with bad reactions, get a good reaction and relax, make sure that every time you ask for something that his is genuine and be consistent in your training.

This clinic was a valuable educational experience for both Ceasar and me. Shannon Oldham-Dueck is a knowledgeable instructor who presented her information with just the right amount of encouragement. I would like to thank the CDA for sponsoring the clinic, Esther Roberts for her hospitality and Donna Leonessa for organizing the clinic. In addition, we should all recognize that The Dressage Foundation provides the funds that keep clinics affordable.

By Jody Rossetti

IN REMEMBRANCE: MARCIE GORDON



One of our directors and dear friend, Marcie Gordon, died recently after a battle with ovarian cancer. I have asked the CDA board members to write their thoughts and I have consolidated them into this remembrance. It has been difficult for each of us to write about Marcie, because my belief is that we all would be saying similar things.

Marcie's husband, John, joined CDA's board first. It took us awhile to realize that if both he and Marcie were part of the group, the advantage to us was much more than the sum of the parts. Marcie and John together were, and still are, a phenomenon.

We all learned a lot from Marcie: the comfort of her hugs when she greeted you; her particular brand of thoughtfulness in asking just the right questions or saying the right thing at the right time; her sense of "good manners," and just doing the nice thing - these were some of her most noticeable attributes. Marcie taught us that the happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the most of everything that comes their way. When things are at their worst, people get better and change the situation any way they can.

Marcie taught us that in a relationship, go for someone who makes you smile, because it takes only a smile to make a dark day seem bright. Find the person that makes your heart smile. She loved many: certainly her husband, John and her children, but also her friends, co-workers, her garden, her life, and, I have to believe, CDA.

It was Marcie who organized our awards program. It was she who did all the collating and notices to award winners, the thank you notes, and the set up for our annual party. She tried to know everyone, so there was always a personal "congratulations" for one's efforts and successes. Marcie was kind and respectful of children as well as of adults. Her generosity of

spirit, her energy, and the rare gift of looking you straight in the eye with a twinkle of joy were special attributes. Marcie did everything with heart, enthusiasm, and to perfection.

I know that we were only one segment of Marcie and John Gordon's lives. They have many, many friends and loved ones out there. We were lucky to have Marcie as part of CDA and part of our lives for as long as we did. She will be much missed. Our hope is that John, another of the wonderful people in this world, will be able to move beyond his personal loss and let all of us extend our support and love to him.

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away. Marcie was very gifted at living, at cherishing every moment. With all the hardships in life, let us resolve to live more like Marcie and John. Let us embrace the opportunities our animals and loved ones offer us to participate fully in everything we do.

I admired the beauty
While I was human, now I am part of the beauty.
I wander in the air,
Being mostly gas and water, and flow in the ocean;
Touch you and Asia
At the same moment; have a hand in the sunrises
And the glow of the grass.
I left a light precipitate of ashes to earth
For a love token.

-Robinson Jeffers

The CDA Board of Directors

The memorial service for Marcie will be held on Saturday, November 5 at 1 PM at the First Congregational Church of Waterbury, located at 222 W. Main Street, Waterbury CT 06702. Donations may be made to the First Congregational Church Scholarship Fund in her name.

2005 Connecticut Dressage Association Year-End Schooling Competition Awards Score Report

Qualification Criteria: Please refer to pages 21 to 24 in 2005 CDA OMNIBUS for complete details.

- *Eligible Shows: CDA Sponsored Schooling Shows; Other Schooling Shows whose Prize Lists are published in the 2005 CDA OMNIBUS.*
- **Open to all current out and Adult Amateur riders** ; must be CDA member PIO to earning scores.
- *Scores must be earned by the same horse/rider combination per level.*
- *Three scores at same test level from two different shows and from at least two different judges. One score must be from a CDA sponsored Schooling Show.*
- *All scores submitted must be a minimum of 55% and earned between November 1, 2004 and October 31, 2005.*
- *The scores will be averaged to determine award placing. All scores submitted are subject to auditing for accuracy.*

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY:

Rider's Name _____ () Adult Amateur () Youth

Address _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Horse's Name _____

Competition Level for Award Purposes (e.g. Intro, Training, First, etc.) _____

Show Name & Location	Show Date	2005 CDA Omnibus Show listed on page #	Level/Test #	Score Percent	Judge's Name

Average of the three scores submitted:

Certification that this is a true report: Your signature (or your parent's if you are a Youth) attests that these are accurate scores earned in accordance with CDA's 2005 Year-End General Awards and Schooling Competition Awards criteria.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please submit this form to Deborah Reinhardt, 160 Woods Way Drive, Southbury, CT 06488 by November 5, 2005. **Submissions post marked after November 5, 2005 will not be considered.** Please do not send copies of tests.

Remember that you are able to submit this form electronically on our website (www.ctdressageassoc.org) by clicking on **CDA's 2005 Awards Program** on our home page then choosing the correct direct submission form, for **Schooling Show Awards**. The online submission forms will be available September 1, 2005.

2005 Connecticut Dressage Association Year-End Recognized Competition Awards Score Report

Qualification Criteria: Please refer to pages 2124 in 2005 CDA OMNIBUS for complete details.

Eligible Shows: USEF Recognized Dressage Competitions ridden between November 1, 2003 and October 31, 2005.

*Rider **AND** owner must be CDA members p 10 to earning scores. Leased horses are eligible.*

Same horse/rider combination per level.

All scores submitted must be a minimum of 55% for Training through FEI. All scores submitted are subject to auditing for accuracy.

*Five scores at the same level from three different shows must be earned for **raining t roug ourt eel** . Scores must be from at least three different judges per level.*

*Three scores at the same level from at least three different shows must be earned for **I** . Scores must be from at least three different judges.*

Scores from FEI and Regional Championship tests with more than one judge will be averaged.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY:

Rider's Name _____ () Adult Amateur () Youth () Open

Address _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Horse's Name _____ Is Horse Leased? Yes _____ No _____

Horse Owner's Name (must be current CDA member) _____

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

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

Average of scores: _____

Certification that this is a true report: Your signature (or your parent's if you are a Youth) attests that these are accurate scores earned in accordance with CDA's 2005 General Awards and Recognized Competition Award Criteria.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please submit this form to Deborah Reinhardt, 160 Woods Way Drive, Southbury, CT 06488 by November 5, 2005. **Submissions post marked after November 5, 2005 will not be considered.** Please do **not** send copies of tests!

You are able to submit this form electronically on our website (www.ctdressageassoc.org) by clicking on - **CDA's 2005 Awards Program** - on our home page then choosing the correct direct submission form, for **Recognized Show Awards**. The online submission forms will be available September 1, 2005.

2005 Connecticut Dressage Association Lendon Gray CDA Schooling Show Equitation Trophy

Qualification Criteria: Please refer to page 24 in 2005 CDA OMNIBUS for complete details.

- *Eligible Shows: Any of the five (5) CDA 2005 Sponsored Schooling Shows.*
- *Rider must be CDA member 10 to earning scores.*
- *Riders must ride the Dressage Equitation Seat Class test in a minimum of to 2 CDA sponsored Schooling Shows during 2005 to be eligible for award consideration.*
- *Submit the three highest scores, which will be averaged to determine award placing. All scores submitted are subject to auditing for accuracy.*
- *Open only to Adult Amateur or Youth riders.*

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY:

Rider's Name _____ () Adult Amateur () Youth

Date of Birth(if Youth) _____

Address _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Show Name & Location	Date	2005 CDA Omnibus show listed on page #	Points Earned	Judge's Name

Total of two point scores submitted:

Certification that this is a true report: *Your signature (or your parent's if you are a Youth) attests that these are accurate scores earned in accordance with CDA's 2005 Year-End Awards Criteria for the Lendon Gray Equitation Trophy.*

Signature _____ Date _____

Please submit this form to Deborah Reinhardt, 160 Woods Way Drive, Southbury, CT 06488 by November 5, 2005. **Submissions post marked after November 5, 2005 will not be considered.** Please do **not** send copies of tests!

Remember that you are able to submit this form electronically on our website (www.ctdressageassoc.org) by clicking on - **CDA's 2005 Awards Program** - on our home page then choosing the correct direct submission form for **Lendon Gray CDA Schooling Show Equitation Trophy**. The online submission forms will be available September 1, 2005.