

The Reader



CenterLine Dressage is a Group Member Organization of USDF. CLD members are automatically members of the United States Dressage Federation.

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UPCOMING CLD EVENTS

(For full calendar of events, see the online calendar at centerlinedressage.com)

April 20

CLD IceBreaker Schooling Show
at StarWest

Melanie Michalak, Judge
Manager: Sue Graham
sgraham6@hotmail.com

April 21

CLD AA/Youth Subsidized Michalak Clinic
at Pratense Farms

Contact: Paula Briney
brineypaula@aol.com

April 27

CLD/ARAB Inc. IRAP Educational Event
at Heartland Equine, Curran
Regenerative Therapy Treatment Options
Contact: Rachel Boyce

DVMs@heartlandequine.net

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY NANCY SIMPSON

CenterLine Dressage congratulates all of our members who are listed in the *USDF Connection* 2012 Yearbook issue (February 2013). Whether we as riders or owners participate in shows or prefer to enjoy our horses without the formality of an organized competition, we all enjoy the feeling of satisfaction when things go well. Whatever successes you have enjoyed with your horse this past year, we salute you all!

I was happy to see so many familiar names in this Yearbook Issue. These are USDF awards. Congratulations to members.

If you have suggestions for CLD programs, or want to discuss any issues at all, please contact me at president@centerlinedressage.com or 217-793-6810

Check Out the Newly Revised CLD Website!!!

<http://centerlinedressage.com/>

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International Sport Horse Registry/Oldenburger

Training Level Open	Fonzarelli, ridden by Kelly Griffith (3rd) 72.321%
Training Level Adult Amateur	Fonzarelli and Kelly Griffith (3rd) 69.450%
4 & 5 Year Old Stallions/Geldings Materiale,	Fonzarelli and Kelly (2nd) 77.800%

KWPN of North America

First Level Open	Agathon JP, ridden by Kate Fleming-Kuhn, (3rd) 72.241%
Second Level Open	Avenger JP, ridden by Jordan Meadows (4th) 65.357%
Second Level Adult Amateur	Avenger JP, ridden by Jordan Meadows (1st) 65.357%
Fourth Level Open	Westerstorm, Kate Fleming-Kuhn rider, Deb Klamen owner (3rd) 68.689%

North American Danish Warmblood Association

Fourth Level Adult Amateur	Manhattan, ridden by Julie Kellner (1st) 63.715%
Fourth Level Open	Manhattan and Julie, (3rd) 63.715%

Oldenburger Horse Breeders Society North America

Second Level Open	Greystoke, Martin Kuhn rider, Kate Fleming-Kuhn owner (3rd) 71.370%
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Performance Shagya-Arabian Registry

First Level Open	Wineglass Victory, ridden by Dr. Rachel Boyce (1st) 60.529%
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USDF/Dover Saddlery National Merit Winner

Judith Nordstrom (24th) 65.754%
Jordan Meadows (33rd) 64.484%

USDF Medals

Congratulations also to Deb Porter, who earned her Bronze Medal in 2012; and to Allison Gerlt, who earned her Silver Medal.

ICEBREAKER IS HERE

IceBreaker schooling show is this Saturday. We have just under 40 entries as of now, schedule available online at centerlinedressage.com/downloads. Come out and show your support for the CLD members, ride times start at 9am with a lunch break at 12:30pm. Its good to see that we have lots of IceBreaker veterans and quite a few new names on the list. On behalf of the CLD Board, we would like to invite you to come out to visit and meet new people. Don't forget we will have concessions available and also CLD clothing for sale at the show.

TREKKING TO THE USDF CONVENTION CHAPTER II - COMMITTEE MEETINGS

BY LESLIE BURKET

For all delegates and PMs, the regional meetings (Chapter I) are a priority for the delegates, as these meetings focus on information pertinent to your specific region. The Committee Meetings, of which there are many from which to choose, are oriented toward the business side of USDF.

Committees are organized into three major groups called Councils. Following are the Councils and their associated Committees:

Administrative Council

- 1) Bylaws
- 2) GMO
- 3) Historical Recognition
- 4) Nominating

Technical Council

- 1) Competition Management
- 2) Freestyle
- 3) Instructor Trainer
- 4) Judges
- 5) L Program
- 6) Technical Delegates

Activities Council

- 1) Adult Programs
- 2) Youth Programs
- 3) Awards
- 4) FEI JR/YR
- 5) Regional Championships
- 6) Sport Horse

Following are the Committee meetings I attended . . .

<i>Glossary of Terms</i>	
BOG	Board of Governors
GMO	Group Member Org.
PM	Participating Member

JUDGES ROUNDTABLE – Gary Rockwell

Mission: To promote the pursuit of excellence in dressage judging.

This was a well attended session that garnered much discussion on many topics. Following are the ‘hottest’ discussed topics and the Chair of each sub-committee.

Test Writing – Bill Solyntjes

There are many changes coming down the road for the USDF dressage tests (Training through Fourth Level). They are currently collecting information for the new tests and here are some of the topics that are being discussed. All of these items have been discussed in on-going committee meetings, as well as here at the Convention.

- a) Discussion is on-going about the recommendation that Training and First Level tests be ridden in a 20x40 arena. The justification for this potential change is that the smaller arena, without all the long, straight lines, is better designed to help the horse retain his balance throughout the test.
- b) Rider Collective Marks – being reviewed to insure they best represent the rider’s efforts.
- c) A study was done, comparing the number of rides at each level for a season:
 - ❖ First Level – Tests 1, 2 and 3 all averaged about 10,000 rides
 - ❖ Second Level – Tests 1 and 2 each averaged 2000 rides and Test 3 averaged 6000 rides
 - ❖ Third Level – Test 1 – 3700 rides; Test 2 – 1700 rides; Test 3 – 5000 rides
 - ❖ Fourth Level – Test 1 – 2800 rides; Test 2 – less than 1000 rides; Test 3 – 2800 rides
- d) Many movements, in all tests, are being reviewed to see if any changes can be made to insure the difficulty of the movements is appropriate for the levels.

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Rider Tests – Janet Brown

Emphasis was stressed that these tests are NOT going to be pre-requisites for anything – they are just an option for the riders! Because there are no scores for gaits, these tests are for the rider without the big, fancy moving horse. There was some discussion about additional tests being developed that will be brought into the system, as they are ready. There are currently no plans for Year End Awards for these Rider Tests.

GMO COMMITTEE – Ann Shusko

Mission: To accelerate the growth and development of Group Member Organizations (GMOs), to broaden and strengthen the dressage community and increase access to education.

Regional GMO Volunteer of the Year will accept two members as a ‘volunteer team’ starting in 2013. It is a good idea to have GMO membership applications at your recognized and schooling shows. Frequently, the non-member fees for the rider can almost pay for a membership. Several clubs have increased their memberships using this technique. Also, add the benefits of a GMO membership to your website and link to USDF. An active discussion, concerning the needs and costs of insurance for the GMOs, did not highlight many problems at the GMO level. A ‘take home’ thought from Ann: how can the GMO Committee provide more support for GMOs or be more involved? This is a topic for local GMOs at their meetings. Any feedback should be sent to Ann Shusko.

SPORTHORSE COMMITTEE – Donna Rochetti & Kristi Wysocki

Mission: To promote the development of quality dressage stock in the United States.

2013 Rule Changes:

1. Horse of the Year (HOY) – will require scores from a minimum of three judge’s to qualify.

2. For the 2014 Breeders Series Final, at least one of the judges must be ‘R’.
3. There is a recommendation that pony classes be included for All Breeds awards but not HOY.
4. Proposed changes to score sheets for 2015 are due by next fall. The expectation is for major changes, including the conformation score having multiple elements.
5. A Sport Horse Prospect award is given at Devon, combining the in hand and material scores for 3 year olds.

There is ongoing work on the development of the Sport Horse Faculty. Seminar materials have all been reviewed. The intent is to expand the program to parallel the ‘L’ program, with 4 days of training

- ❖ Day 1: Conformation
- ❖ Day 2: Movement
- ❖ Day 3: Practical
- ❖ Day 4: Hands On

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

This BOG has been diligently looking at the membership numbers, much like Region 2, evaluating the changes and ways to bring the numbers up. There has been a gentle decline of members since 2007, as follows:

- ❖ 2007: 38,000 members
- ❖ 2008: 33,000 members
- ❖ 2009: 31,000 members
- ❖ 2010: 29,000 members

For 2011 and 2012, a study was done to capture the USDF membership and how it is divided between Participating Members and GMO members (NOTE: These do not add up to the total membership number as many participating members are also GMO members.

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	USDF Membership	Participating Members	GMO Members
2011	29,966	16216	22448
2012	28869	15383	21765

Discussion followed as to the reasons for the membership declines, as well as how to increase membership growth. How to ‘define’ membership is being reviewed as is the ‘value received’ from members.

Keep your eyes out for Chapter III – Education events that were offered at the Convention!

CLD APPAREL

CLD will be selling clothing embroidered with our logo at IceBreaker, and throughout the year...

- ❖ 'Baseball' Caps : \$15.00
- ❖ Ladies and Mens Polo Shirts : \$25.00
- ❖ Sweatshirts : \$25.00

Various colors and sizes will be available, plus, clothing can be custom ordered in various colors with custom colored embroidery. Payment is expected at time of purchase, and at the time a custom order is placed.

PSHR INSPECTION

BY DR. RACHEL BOYCE

I presented my two Shagya-Arabian geldings at the Performance Shagya-Arabian Registry (PShR) Inspection April 5th-7th at Run Along Farms in Geneseo, Illinois. The inspection was the first of its kind for Shagya-Arabians in the United States. Although there are only a few hundred Shagya-Arabians in the U.S., PShR is working hard to promote the breed in Sporthorse disciplines, gain recognition by the International Shagya Gesellschaft (the International Shagya registry) and continue to improve the quality of breeding stock. Many CLD members have seen my 2004 Shagya gelding, Wineglass Victory, at local dressage shows over the last few years. Lots of people ask me about his breeding and most have never heard of Shagyas, so I thought I would share a little history of the breed.

The breed was started in 1789 when the Hungarian military set out to develop a new breed of horse that combined the very best of Bedouin Arabians: elegance,

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endurance, hardiness, athleticism, temperament, and devotion to their rider, but with larger size, jumping ability, and riding ease to master the rigors and versatility of a cavalry horse. The intent of the program was to develop a superior cavalry horse that was equally at home under saddle and in harness and that could be used to improve other breeds as well.

The breeding program started at the Imperial Stud at Babolna, Hungary. Desert bred Arabian stallions of the correct size and type were bred to carefully selected native southeastern European mares which in turn were largely descended from Arabian stock. Careful records were kept from the very outset, not just of the pedigree and size and performance of the individual horses, but of the breeding quality and performance of their offspring.

Right from the outset, performance testing was regarded as essential. Both mares and stallions were put through rigorous tests, including dressage, a 10-day 480 mile ride across plains, forests and mountains, 2-mile sprints, and long distance driving. Careful records were kept of the horse's jumping, speed, condition, and disposition. New stallions were rigorously progeny tested, including breeding to 30 mares a year for 3 years, the mares differing in quality. Ten were of low quality, ten of average quality, and ten high quality. The offspring were carefully reviewed by committee, and if any did not meet the standards, the entire group was sold off. Any mare or stallion that did not meeting the high standards were culled and sold at auction, ensuring that only high performance bloodlines were used in the breeding program. Through time, elite desert bred Arabians were carefully added to the bloodlines, and English Thoroughbreds and Lippizaners were occasionally included in the breeding mix to help improve size, movement, and riding qualities.

The breed's name comes from a magnificent Bedouin stallion named Shagya, born in 1810, bred (from Kehilan and Sglavy strains) and raised by the Bani Saher tribe in Syria and obtained by Hapsburg monarchy in 1836 at age 26 to stand at stud in Babolna. This magnificent stallion was renowned in his day not only for his perfect size, type, and movement, but also for his ability as a sire to pass on these qualities to his offspring. Today, virtually every Shagya breeding line has his blood somewhere in it. The characteristics of the Shagya are well established. The Shagya should have the appearance of a beautiful, elegant, and harmonious riding horse with correctness of gaits and movements, who enjoys jumping and has good jumping ability, has pleasant rhythm and rideability, is trusting, good natured, and willing to learn, and has robust health, longevity, and fertility with stamina and frugality. World War I was devastating for the breed, and the stud at Radautz was dispersed at the end of hostilities. World War II was even worse, yet the flagship stud at Bablona as well as state studs at Topolcianky (now Slovakia), Radowce and Slatina (now Romania), and Kabijuk (now Bulgaria) have managed to recover. Today, Shagya breeding has expanded to include private owners throughout Europe (Germany, Austria, Hungary, Denmark, Switzerland, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, France, Norway, Sweden), the United States, and Venezuela. The International Shagya Gesellschaft e.v. (registry) has been established to preserve the goals of Shagya breeding, preserve Shagya bloodlines, and promote performance testing to preserve the essential qualities that make the Shagya the outstanding all-around horse that it is.



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At the PShR Inspection, more than 20 horses were presented for evaluation in several different tests: in-hand presentation/evaluation, rideability (where each horse is ridden by the owner or trainer and by two test riders), free-jumping, and an interior test (temperament testing where horses are evaluated based on their response to the introduction of different stimuli—an umbrella, a can of rocks shaken behind them, etc.). The horses were divided into 3 groups: purebred mares, purebred geldings and Sporthorses (part-Shagyas). Two judges evaluated each horse as it was put through the tests: Dr. Walter Huber, a Sporthorse judge and Shagya enthusiast from Germany and Svetlozar Kastchiev, the director at the Kabiuk State Stud in Bulgaria and a very talented FEI dressage rider, judge and eventing judge. I presented my two geldings in each of the tests and, at the end, could not have been any more proud of my boys. Wineglass Victory, my 2004 Shagya gelding, was first in both the rideability class and the free jumping class—where he gracefully and effortlessly cleared a 3'4" fence despite having only jumped twice before in his life! Wineglass Gideon, my 2008 Shagya Sporthorse gelding (he is half Hungarian Warmblood), was second to his big brother in the rideability class and tied for second in the free jumping class. He also won the Interior test. The judges were very complimentary about both horses performances, preparation and presentation and felt that they were both good representatives of modern Sporthorse breeding. The test riders were Lindsay Twiss of Wisconsin and Brenda Zeitler, USDF Silver Medalist from the Bloomington, IL area. They also had very positive comments about both horses. My proudest moment may have been when Brenda told me, after riding both horses, what a pleasure they were to ride and to keep doing what I'm doing. Those of you that have watched my struggles, frustration and occasional successes with Victory over the years will know just how much that comment meant to me!

The inaugural PShR inspection was a success! A lovely group of Shagyas was presented and demonstrated the athleticism, versatility and beauty of the breed. The judges, test riders and spectators were suitably impressed. The participants learned a lot from very knowledgeable, helpful and tough but fair judges and we all had a fabulous time reconnecting with friends and spending the weekend with our horses. After 3 full days of bathing, grooming, polishing, braiding, riding, and running in order to present each horse 5 different times, I was exhausted but I could not have been happier or more proud of my boys! I will have lots of photos and a highlight video to share if anyone is interested.

Ready for your next partner? Consider a Shagya-Arabian...I can help you find one...but neither of the two in my barn are for sale!

Dr. Rachel Boyce, along with partner Dr. John O'Keefe, operate Heartland Equine Health Center in Curran, IL. Long time friends of CLD Heartland Equine will be hosting an educational seminar on "The ABC's of Regenerative Therapy." The event, co-sponsored by CLD & ARAB Inc, will take place at Heartland Equine on April 27, 2013 at 1pm.

Show Season is almost here !

Join Sangamon Valley Pony Club and CenterLine Dressage for April Clinics with Melanie Michalak

Melanie's 2012 clinics were popular with our young and our adult amateurs, so we have arranged for her return.

Clinics will be held at Pratense Farm

Contact Paula Briney to schedule your rides

brineypaula@aol.com or 217-652-1635

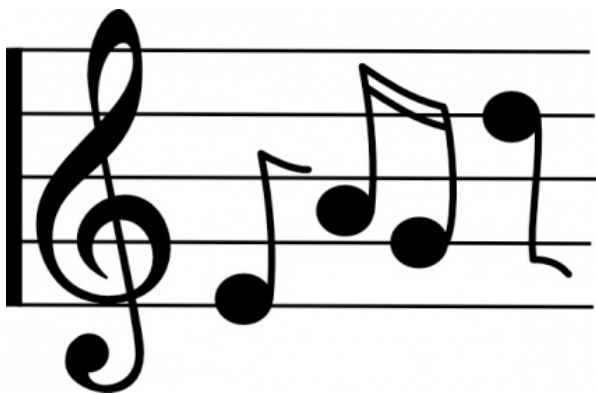
April 21: CenterLine Dressage is the prime sponsor of this clinic; CLD members will be scheduled first, followed by Pony Club members. This clinic follows the CLD IceBreaker schooling show on April 20 at StarWest.

Jr/YR's and AA's, CLD will help to pay for your ride!

Cost per ride: \$85.00 for Open CLD Members, \$95 for non-CLD members

For Youth Members of CLD: \$42.50 (CLD will pay 50% {\$42.50} for one ride)

For Adult Amateur members of CLD: \$51 (CLD will pay 40% {\$34.00} for one ride)



One of Melanie's specialities is developing musical rides. If you are interested in learning more about riding to music, mention this to Paula at the time you sign up !

2013 CALENDAR OF EVENTS*CLD events in bold see also page 1***May**

- 4 - 5 Carrousel Connection Dressage I & II
 @ Illinois State Fairgrounds
 Contact: Lorna Donahue, calv96@aol.com
- 10 - 12 Gerhard Politz Clinic at StarWest.
 Contact: Kate Fleming-Kuhn at kate@starwestonline.net
- 18 Tower Hill Dressage Schooling Show
 Contact: Teri Morenz, towerhillec@gmail.com
- 29 - June 2 ARAB, Inc. All-Arabian Dressage
 @ Illinois State Fairgrounds.
 John Simpson, Mgr.
- 31 - June 2 SLADS Dressage Classic I & II
 @ Lake St. Louis, MO
 slads.org

June

- 22 Tower Hill Hunter/Jumper Schooling Show
 Contact: Teri Morenz, towerhillec@gmail.com
- 28 **FireCracker Entry Deadline**

July

- 6 **CLD FireCracker Schooling Show**
 @ StarWest
 Judge: Lisa Holderle
 Contact: Judy Nordstrom, Manager vice-pres@centerlinedressage.com
- 12 **CLD Chevaux Entry Deadline**
- 12 - 14 Gerhard Politz Clinic at StarWest.
 Contact: Kate Fleming-Kuhn at kate@starwestonline.net
- 20 **CLD Chevaux Schooling Show**
 @ Voigt Farms, Chrisman Illinois
 Judge: Paula Briney, "L"

Club Officers & Personnel
(Full list and mailing addresses online)

President	Nancy Simpson	217/793-6810	president@centerlinedressage.com
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Web Site	Moiety Design		kuhn@moietyenterprises.com

CLD Advertising Rates

(see detailed info & photo policy online www.centerlinedressage.com/advertising)

Reader Page Ads	Full Page	\$50 Non-Member	\$25 Member
	Half Page	\$25 Non-Member	\$12.50 Member
	¼ Page or Less	\$12 Non-Member	\$6 Member

Photographs (original preferred) can be included in your ad. They can be black and white or color, but they will be black and white in the printed READER. Page Ads Up for 1 Month

Reader Classified Ads	50 words or less	\$5 Non-Member	\$3 Member
	Additional 25 words	\$2 Non-Member	\$1 Member

No Photographs Classified Ads Up for 1 Month

Web Advertising Basic Classified Web Ad included in any Reader Package! See online for more details.

DEADLINE FOR READER ITEMS



CenterLine Dressage

Items for publication or inclusion in the READER should be received by the editor by the 15th of the month. Items for THE READER, activity forms, etc should be sent with a check for the charges, if any, to:

THE READER
c/o Kim Jones
1736 S. Farmingdale Rd.
New Berlin, IL 62670

