

THE READER

CenterLine Dressage is a Group Member Organization of USDF founded in 1972. CLD members are automatically members of the United States Dressage Federation.



HEADLINES

- ◆ PRESIDENT'S LETTER
- ◆ CLD JENNIFER KOTYLO CLINIC
- ◆ HORSE FAIR
- ◆ DRESSAGE FOUND. FUND RAISER
- ◆ USDF CONVENTION RECAP
BY LESLIE BURKET
- ◆ FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES
- ◆ OMNIBUS ONLINE

CALENDAR

- ◆ CLD POTLUCK & LECTURE
MARCH 18, 2016 @ 6PM
@ PRES. JUDY NORDSTROM'S HOUSE
\$10 MEMBERS/\$20 NON-MEMBERS
- ◆ CLD JENNIFER KOTYLO CLINIC
MARCH 19 - 20
@ PRETENSE FARMS
- ◆ CLD EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
APRIL 2 @ 2PM
@ STARWEST LOUNGE
- ◆ CLD ICEBREAKER SCHOOLING SHOW APRIL 16
@ TOWER HILL EQ. CENTER
- ◆ CAROUSEL CONNECTION I & II

Letter from the President

by Judy Nordstrom, President

Hello friends and members,

The Horsemen's Council of Illinois just concluded the 2016 Illinois Horse Fair held at the Illinois State Fairgrounds. It is the largest all-breed event in the state of Illinois! There were clinicians, breed and discipline demos, educational talks and entertainment events throughout the whole weekend. I hope you were able to make it out there to enjoy the many aspects of the animals we all love, our equines!

Please join us March 18-19 as we welcome Jennifer Kotylo for a dressage clinic on movement and body awareness. We will hold a potluck lecture on Friday the 18th and riding clinic on the 19th at Pratensé Farm. Please see flyer for more details.

There has been a positive response to our membership letters that went out last month! Send in your memberships now before our first schooling show which will be held on April 16th at Tower Hill Equestrian Center. The closing date for entries is April 8th. My fingers are crossed for nice weather, as we just never know what mother nature has in store for us!

Wishing everyone a happy riding season!

Judy Nordstrom
President, CenterLine Dressage



CenterLine Dressage Clinic

with

Jennifer Kotylo

Friday night and Saturday

March 18 -19th

Pratensé Farm

6732 Wagon Ford Rd, Chatham, IL 62629

Please join us (at the home of Rob and Judy Nordstrom 8389 Tolan Rd. Pleasant Plains, IL 62677) as Jennifer will provide an unmounted lecture to familiarize all with the **Movement & Body Awareness** concept.

Checks payable to CLD. Mail Application to Paula Briney PO Box 526 Chatham, IL 62629. 217-652-1635 or email brineypaula@aol.com

Schedule	Friday, March 18	Saturday, March 19
Day	— —	Lessons @ Pratensé
Mid-day	— —	Potluck Luncheon @ Pratensé
Evening	Lecture/Potluck @ Judy Nordstrom's Home (6pm - 8pm)	— —
Fees	CLD Member	Non-CLD Member
Auditing	Donations welcome	Donations welcome
Riding	\$95/day	\$130/day
Friday Night Lecture/Potluck	\$10; Clinic riders free	\$20; Clinic riders free
Day Stall	\$10	\$10
Overnight Stall	\$25	\$25

Apply	
Name	
Horse Name	
Rider & Horse Level	
Stabling Day/Overnight?	
Times available for rides?	
Total Fees:	

Illinois Horse Fair

by Marilyn Weber

This year the Illinois Horse Fair had many popular and well attended clinics. Western Dressage had eight applicants aboard Arabians, Saddlebreds and Paint horses entered for three days of clinic rides with CLD Director Marilyn Weber. One rider sold her horse before the Fair so seven horses actually participated. On day one we worked on gaits and rider position with a lecture on protocol and equipment. The second day was spent working on figures and movements such as leg yields, shoulder in, circle sizes and serpentines. On the third day cones marked the perimeter of a dressage court and some test riding was done. Marilyn explained about centerlines, salutes and accuracy of figures.

The saddleseat clinic with Smith Lily was very popular. Two Five Gaited horses worked on getting that extra sparkle in the show ring. There were also two Morgans, four Arabians and a Hackney pony that worked on getting the most from their performances.

There were also talks and demonstrations on a variety of subjects such as emergency rescue, overcoming fear in riding, shoeing, trail obstacles and many more.

The Expo building was full of vendors and shoppers. Saturday had the barns, shopping areas, and clinic venues full of fairgoers. Lots of people stopped by the ARAB, Inc. stalls to visit the demo horses. The Arabian demo featured several CLD members and had horses provided by Hollow Crest Farms and Wallebb Arabians. Handlers were Jessica Hollewell, Jayme Geisler, Heather Voyles and Cindy Butler. Cindy, president of the Western Dressage Association of IL, was kind enough to catch ride Forte for Marilyn Weber, still wearing her stylish air boot that does not fit into a stirrup.

The evening rodeos were packed with the governor attending on Friday night. Although the fair was a bit spread out, there was certainly something for everyone, even pony rides for the kids.

Dressage Foundation Florida Dream Tour Fundraiser

Register online at www.dressagefoundation.org or call at (402) 434-8585

We invite all to join tour leaders Lendon Gray, Beth Baumert, and Carol Lavell for visits to some of Wellington's top facilities and trainers. This tour will

give you a taste of what it's like to go on TDF's International Dream Trip, in which young riders travel to visit European dressage trainers for a once-in-a-lifetime learning opportunity.

\$200 registration fee includes visits to at least three

training stables, a box lunch, and transport between stables.

THIS

THE DRESSAGE FOUNDATION'S
2016 FLORIDA DREAM TOUR

**MONDAY,
March 14**

To Benefit TDF and its Young Rider
International Dream Program

Merrill Lynch
Bank of America Corporation

Gardner Bloemers, CFP

Photo by Tom Wealby

Tripping to the Convention in 2015 Part II

by Leslie Burket

GMO Committee

Chair: Ann Shusko

USDF Liaison: Melissa Schoedlbauer

This is Ann's last meeting as Chair. As Ann is the new Region 4 Director, she is stepping down as the GMO Chair and Cindy Wiley will officially assume the role of GMO Committee Chair on January 1, 2016. Here are some of the topics discussed.

- It was suggested the GMO awards program add some additional award opportunities. Suggestions included new categories such as best educational materials and programs, the highest percentage of growth and to publish all nominated articles.
- GMOs are strongly encouraged to always nominate volunteers who have served well for the Volunteer of the Year award.
- There is a GMO Guide on the USDF website (<http://www.usdf.org/docs/GMOFlash/web/>). This contains a variety of information available to GMOs. Club leadership should be aware of this information as there are some advertising opportunities, including suggestions for membership drives.
- It has also been recommended that the GMOs submit their educational events and documentation to be shared with others.
- A map for newbies to the dressage show world is being developed and will include everything

one needs to know from entry to picking up your ribbon.

- We were reminded that GMO Bylaws are available and GMOs should be familiar with them.

Judges Committee

Chair: Gary Rockwell

USDF Liaison: Sharon Vander Ziel

There were many accomplishments this past year as well as subjects for which discussion continues.

- Glossary of Judging Terms was completed and posted to eTRAK.
- In cooperation with the L Program Committee, five articles were contributed to 'The Judge's Box' in USDF Connection.
- Contributed to the Judges Commentary portion of On The Levels project.
- There are 400 L graduates, 129 'r' judges and 50 R judges.
- A Working group has been formed to revise the Judges Checklist to be completed in early 2016.
- Reviewing Continuing Education opportunities for 'r' and L Graduates.
- Discussions continue as how to develop 'consistent' judging and scores.
- Do not allow show management to impact the judging and scoring of rides.
- Judging para riders continues to be discussed.



Tripping to the Convention in 2015 Part II

continued...

- Accepting comments from competitors regarding judging to understand their perspective.
- Looking into ways 'r' and L graduates can gain more experience, ie. practice judging or additional D sessions.
- There was lively discussion about the advantages/disadvantages of the double bridle at Third Level.

Competition Management Open Forum

Gary Rockwell: Leader

Forum members: Lois Yukins, Joyce Hardesty, Sue McKeown

This was an open discussion, including questions from those attending the meeting. It was a mixed bag of issues and rather fast paced. Here are some of the highlights:

- Currently the Small Tour (PSG, I1) is being reviewed to see if Freestyle should be included.
- The purpose of the Medium Tour is to bridge the gap from I1 to GP. Class options are I2A, I2B, I2 & F/S classes. They are being reviewed to see how they best serve the flow of the training. There are no changes to the Big Tour.
- Lois discussed the challenges of the L Program and the on-site judging opportunities.
- Dolly Hannon cautioned all riders to be familiar with the new Freestyle rules, including transitions. Patterns and harmony are the focus. Always have an extra CD with you. Count strides if you aren't making your mark. Keep choreography simple. Show management must provide stop watches for judges.

- Joyce Hardesty - a document has been created of special classes for show management, available from USDF. A fee will be assessed to shows that fail to include all Regional Championship qualifying classes on entries. RC shows will continue to open and close the arena gate.
- TDs are to review every entry for RC shows.

GMO Roundtable Discussions

Cindy Wylie monitored these lively discussions where you rotated through a variety of topics.

GMO Programs

- When hosting a symposium or clinic, reach out to other GMOs and offer a discount for the event.
- To highlight the value of your volunteers at a show, have a volunteer lottery. Throughout the day, draw a volunteers name and have a small gift of appreciation for them.
- Host a dressage camp for adults and/or kids. Check out www.dressagecamp.com for some ideas.
- Sponsorships - it is easier to get \$10 from 10 people than \$100 from one person.

Insurance

- Private facilities hosting a clinic must have insurance. Can get an endorsement on existing policy.
- Release forms must be correctly completed.
- A stand alone clinic policy is available for two days based on number of days and participants.



Tripping to the Convention in 2015 Part II

continued...

Insurance

- Golf carts for non-show usage should be rented directly through the cart vendor - no show involvement.
- The prize list/program should state that a license is required to drive a cart.
- Check to make sure caterer has own insurance.
- If alcohol is involved in any show event (ie at competitors party), the club is responsible for any related incidents.

Marketing

- eTRAK is an on-line database dedicated to dressage education. Many subjects are available for USDF University credits.
- There will be a new USDF app to be released in January 2016.
- In March there will be a new e-publication available.

Board of Governors Meeting (BOG)

What is the BOG? Who is the BOG? And what do they do?

The BOG is the governing body of USDF. It consists of three different elements that together, represent the members of USDF. The Executive Board consists of four officers, nine Regional Directors and three At-Large Directors. They are all very knowledgeable and welcome your questions and input to USDF. All are

listed on the USDF website by email, phone number or both.

- The four officers are: President - George Williams, Secretary - Margaret Freeman, Treasurer - Steven Schubert and Vice President - Lisa Gorretta.
- The nine Regional Directors are: Region 1: Lisa Schmidt, Region 2: Ken Levy, Region 3: Susan Bender, Region 4: Ann Sushko, Region 5: Heather Petersen, Region 6:Carolynn Bunch, Region 7: Terry Wilson, Region 8: Debra Reinhardt and Region 9: Sherry Guess.
- The three At-Large Directors are: Susan Mandas - Activities Council, Kevin Bradbury - Administrative Council and Carolyn VandenBerg - Technical Council.

Now the meeting!

Roll call always opens the BOG. If your name is called, it is because you did not register when entering the room. You must walk to the back and register while everyone watches and waits. Shame and there is always someone! President George Williams takes over with introductions and a review of the past year.

Stephen Shubert, our Treasurer, who previously opened with something funny, just jumped right into the budget review. The budget continues to be balanced! The main source of income is Membership Fees and the main expense categories are the US Dressage Finals, Sport Programs and Publications. We are a financially healthy organization. Although Participating Memberships are up, GMO membership is down a bit. Rider's focus is competition with goals. Rider Awards and Performance Certificates have risen.



Tripping to the Convention in 2015 Part II

concluded...

2015 Dressage Finals: Was well received with many rave reviews.

- Manager was Janine Malone and Secretary was Monica Fitzgerald.
- 372 Competitors, 36 States & 9 Regions participated.
- 2015 entries were similar to 2014.
- Volunteers, including Executive Board members, came from many different areas to fill the numerous positions!
- There were 33 All-Breed Awards presented.
- Live streamed on FEI TV. Cathy Connelly did commentary throughout each ride shown.
- This year some Freestyle classes were held outside.
- Brianna Zwilling, of Region 4, rode her seven-year-old Oldenburg gelding Griffindor to win the Third Level Freestyle Open Championship with 72.333%.

What has USDF been doing this year for the GMOs?

- Distributed survey to GMO members
- Developed advertising materials that are available online
- USDF logos are available online for use by GMOs
- eNews now includes all GMOs rather than just your local GMO
- Produced over 100 podcasts
- Developed a new app tied to the Connection magazine and will include additional online information. (This went live to users on January 16, 2016.)
- The 2016 Convention will be in St. Louis, MO, Nov 30th - Dec 3rd at the Hyatt Downtown.
- Robert Dover had a very successful year as he continues to develop our competitive teams.
- Young horse coach: Debbie McDonald stepped down. Christine Taurig will assume her position.

centerlinedressage.com

The hot topic for this BOG was the move of the Dressage Finals west. The original plan for the Finals was to rotate every three years between Lexington (someplace east) and someplace in the west. Following extensive discussions and voting on different options, the original direction was amended to keep the Dressage Finals in Kentucky until Regions 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9 can present, to the BOG, a venue that meets the needs of the Finals show. This means that the facility, stabling, footing, transportation, weather and accommodations must meet the needs of the show. Discussions will continue.

Periodically, throughout the meeting, we have mini breaks to draw names and give away the GMO contributed baskets. It's fun and appreciated by all! Sally Tiegs, a member of The New Dressage Company in Wisconsin, was delighted to take home the CLD basket! CLD Member Paula Briney, a PM delegate for Region 2, also won a basket!

Additional BOG discussions/announcements:

- Ken Levy will remain the Region 2 Director for another term.
- Ann Sushko will succeed Lloyd Landkammer as Region 4 Director.
- A Lloyd Landkammer fund will soon be available to help defray the costs of pursuing a show management educational event.
- Leadership challenged all GMOs to participate in the GMO Awards and submit something for each category. Start now identifying articles and photos so you don't run out of time!

Because the shuttle requires they pick us up three hours prior to flight time, we were bright eyed, packed up and waiting for our shuttle at 6am Sunday morning! Safe arrival at the airport and (WOW) what a huge security check in line! But we had plenty of time and the uneventful flight was a joy!

Till next year . . . Leslie

Creating A Winning Partnership With Your Horse

Adult Amateur Opportunity

Learn from two clinicians at each clinic

Featuring

Kathy Connelly

USDF Honorary Instructor

"S" Judge

World Cup Competitor

Coach for World Equestrian Games and the World Cup

Olympic and World Games Selector



Region 2

June 11-12, 2016

Tempel Farms
Old Mill Creek, IL

Hosted by Illinois Dressage and Combined Training Association

and

Betsy Steiner

USDF Honorary Instructor

International Rider, Trainer and Coach

World Equestrian Games Competitor

Creator of Equilates™



For current details on these and future clinics visit

www.usdf.org



YOUR CONNECTION TO THE
AMERICAN
DRESSAGE COMMUNITY

USDF Adult Clinic Series

February 20, 2016 CLD Executive Board Meeting

@ StarWest; Judy Nordstrom presiding

President Judy Nordstrom called the meeting to order at 2:09 p.m. in the StarWest lounge. Attending were Leslie Burket, Alice Martin, John Simpson, Teresa Litchfield, Kelly Griffith and Lisa Lehr. Kate Fleming-Kuhn, Malcolm J. Kuhn, Martin Kuhn and Katie Keim arrived later.



*new CLD member Malcolm J. Kuhn's (r)
first meeting photo by Lisa Lehr*

Meeting Minutes: Kelly motioned and Teresa seconded, the January minutes be approved. The vote was unanimous to approve.

Treasurer Report

- Katie reported that the current check book balance is \$14,682.39
- CD balance is \$15,657.35
- Katie will be moving \$10,000 from the check book to a money market savings account.

Membership Report

- Kelly reported that we have 4 new members, bringing our 2016 total to 39 members.
- Last week Judy mailed 93 past member letters explaining the many benefits of club membership, inviting them to re-join.

Webmaster Report

- Martin reported that 1 newsletter has been sent out since the January meeting.
- There are 125 subscribers.
- Average opening rate remains around 50%.
- Traffic up over the last 2 months

Social Media

- Lisa reported that we have 503 Likes on FaceBook, up from 494.
- There are 33 Twitter followers, up from 28.

Newsletter Report

We welcome Alice Martin back as a voting board member, our new CLD Newsletter editor. Going forward, articles for the Reader should be submitted by the first of each month. Target publication date for the newsletter will be the tenth of each month.

Year End Awards

Questions were received as to the possibility of one horse/rider team qualifying for year end awards in both Schooling and Recognized show divisions. The same horse/rider team may qualify for a year end awards in either Recognized Shows or Schooling Shows, but not in both.



February 20, 2016 CLD Executive Board Meeting

@ StarWest; Judy Nordstrom presiding

CLD Classic Show

- There was a discussion as to how to distribute the various tasks that must be completed well in advance of the Classic. Some electronic tasks were identified that we think could be handled by the show secretary and/or our show committee. Jeanne Craver will be contacted to see if this idea is feasible.
- CLD will continue to offer the TDF (The Dressage Foundation) award at the Classic show. In the past, it has been awarded to the highest ride in First Level-Test One. This year the TDF award will go to the highest score in Third Level-Test 3.

The next meeting will be Saturday, April 2nd at 2 pm in the StarWest lounge. Kelly moved and Martin seconded to adjourn at 3:31 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Leslie Burket, Secretary

Encouraging Younger Participation

Susan Lang, The Dressage Foundation KS State Rep, President KDEA

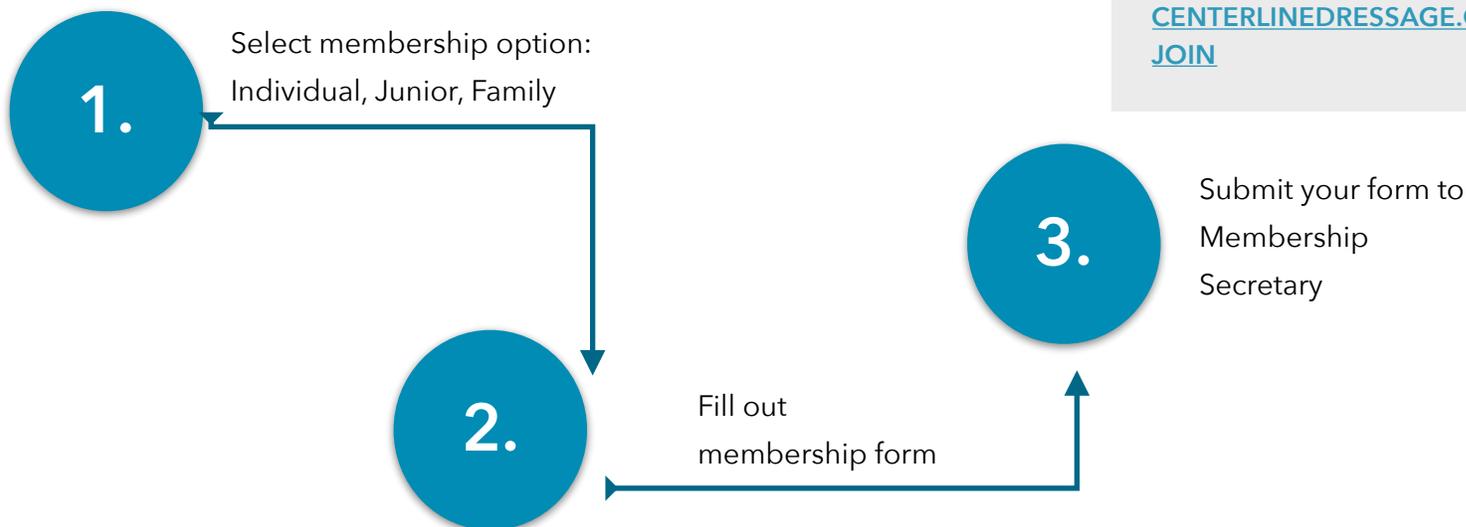
Kansas Dressage and Eventing Association has a 'Walk Walk' test that we use at our schooling shows for very young entrants. We also allow a parent or trainer to have the child on a 'tow rope' lead line while they do the test. The test is something that I wrote about 20 years ago...anyone could write one. KDEA also has a Dressage Trail test (one W/T, and one W/T/C) that we use from time to time. We have not offered either of these at our Recognized shows (too much hassle) but offer them at schooling shows.

Omnibus Online

The 2016 Omnibus for all local shows: CLD IceBreaker, CLD FireCracker, and CLD Classic I & II is now available for viewing and download on CLD's download page:
centerlinedressage.com/downloads



CLD Membership Renewals & Nominations Due!



♦ FULL DETAILS AT
[CENTERLINEDRESSAGE.COM/
JOIN](http://CENTERLINEDRESSAGE.COM/JOIN)

Club Officers & Personnel (Full list and mailing addresses online) all emails - @centerlinedressage.com			
President	Judy Nordstrom	217/626-1518	president@
Vice-President	Kelly Griffith	217/637-0884	vice-pres@
Treasurer	Katie Keim	217/652-1855	treasurer@
Secretary	Leslie Burket	636/532-9922	secretary@
Newsletter Editor	Alice Martin		reader@
FaceBook Senior Editor	Lisa Lehr		social@
FaceBook Editor	Jayme Geisler		social@
Membership Secretary	Kelly Griffith	217/637-0884	membershipsecretary@
Awards Chair	Lisa Lehr/Teresa Litchfield		awardschair@
Web Site	Moiety Design		kuhn@moietyenterprises.com

DEADLINE FOR READER ITEMS



CenterLine Dressage

Items for publication or inclusion in the READER should be received by the editor by the 1st of the month. Items for THE READER, activity forms, ads, etc should be sent with a check for the charges, if any, to:

THE READER
c/o Alice Martin
1736 S. Farmingdale Rd.
New Berlin, IL 62670