

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**
- ◆ **CHARLES CRAVER OBITUARY**
- ◆ **PICTURES FROM USDF CONVENTION**
- ◆ **PICTURES FROM CLD CHRISTMAS PARTY**

CALENDAR

- ◆ **CLD EDUCATION DAY POTLUCK - SETTING GOALS**
FEBRUARY 11, 5:30 PM
@ STARWEST
- ◆ **SLADS "L" PROGRAM**
FEBRUARY 18 & 19
SLADS.ORG
- ◆ **CLD BOARD MEETING**
FEBRUARY 19, 2 PM
@ STARWEST
- ◆ **CLD SPONSORED MICHALAK FREESTYLE CLINIC @ ILLINOIS HORSE FAIR**
MARCH 3 - 5
@ ILLINOIS STATE FAIRGROUNDS, SPRINGFIELD
- ◆ **CLD BOARD MEETING**
FEBRUARY 25, 2 PM
@ STARWEST

Letter from the President

by Judy Nordstrom, President

Greetings members and friends and welcome to 2017! I hope everyone had a joyous holiday season.

I attended a segment of the 2016 Adequan/USDF Annual Convention this past December. It was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel at the foot of the Gateway Arch, situated on the Mississippi Riverfront in St. Louis. I felt the need to take advantage of the proximity of the convention, as it may be another long while before it is that close to home again.

I sat in on the roundtable discussions that were hosted by the GMO committee. I was hoping for some insight regarding some of the challenges facing our GMO these days, such as a decline in membership as well as declining volunteerism. What I learned is that we are not alone. These issues appear to be commonplace among most if not all of the other GMO's! Many boards are recycling the same few people year to year and struggle to develop new leaders. This was all too familiar to me! I did gather some ideas and welcome any insight from readers out there who would like to become more involved with strengthening the livelihood of our GMO.

The close of the year invites us to reflect upon 2016 as well as look forward to 2017. Upon my reflection, there were many celebratory events as well as humbling mistakes, some successes and some

Membership
Renewals
PAST DUE!
(renewal form p. 6)

Letter from the President

... concluded

blunders, but all in all a pretty good year. Ready or not we are already embarking on the new year which is sure to bestow upon us some new challenges and obstacles but hopefully growth and wisdom as well. This is the time to envision our dreams, make resolutions, break them, set new goals. Whatever it is you plan to accomplish, whether it is to exercise more, watch less TV, eat healthier, drink 10 glasses of water, or take a nap, I wish you all success at reaching whatever dreams and goals you set out to achieve.

Your president,

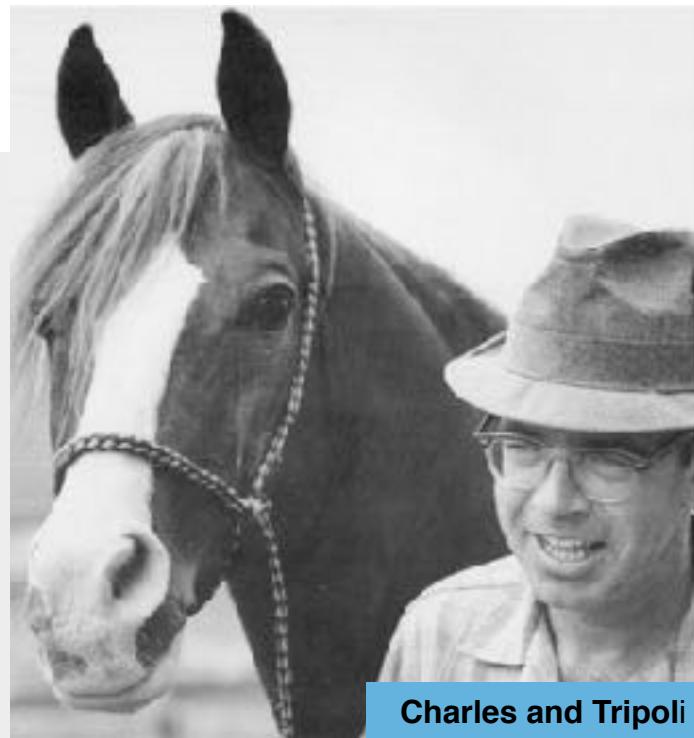
Judy Nordstrom, president@centerlinedressage.com

In Memorium, Charles Craver

by Alice Martin

ARAB, Inc, an Arabian Horse Association. club founded by Charles Craver, and Al Khamsa-IL, are planning a memorial for Charles on April 15, 2017 at the Sangamon Co. Fairgrounds, 318 W Birch St, New Berlin, IL 62670. (Our closest airport is Springfield, IL, SPI, 19.7 miles away.) We will gather about 11:30 am and have a potluck at noon. Long distance guests need only bring their appetites. Joe Ferriss, long time Al Khamsa supporter, will be the speaker at 1 pm. Friends of Charles and Jeanne are coming from around the U.S.

You are invited to join the celebration of this remarkable man.



Charles and Tripoli

Winchester, IL--December 30, 2016, preservation Arabian breeding lost a giant. Charles C. Craver, 88, died of complications of Parkinson's in Eastside Health and Rehabilitation Center, Pittsfield, IL. His wife of 42 years, Jeanne (Hussong), was at his bedside. Craver bred 593 registered Arabians, founded Al Khamsa, Inc., the Davenport Arabian Horse Conservancy, as well as ARAB, Inc., an AHA affiliate. His contribution to Arabian literature is extensive from the book, *The Annotated Quest* in 1992, to dozens of articles in Arabian magazines including the *Arabian Horse News*, *Arabian Visions*, *The Arabian Horse World*, *Arabian Horse Times* and *The Khamsat*. He was the first recipient of the Arabian Breeders' Association (ABA) Foundation Breeder's Award in 1999.

Like Homer Davenport, Charles Craver was entranced by the romance of the desert and its unique horses. He devoured Davenport's book, *My Quest of the Arabian Horse*, which led him eventually to

In Memorium, Charles Craver

continued...

his life long preservation of those horses. He was a friend and benefactor to Carl Raswan, noted Arabian author and desert traveler. He was a friend of Jane Ott, author of the *Blue Catalog*. These acquaintances and serious study of Arabian horse literature of the past two centuries led to the formation of Al Khamsa, Inc. in 1975. Craver Farms was the cover story of *Smithsonian* magazine in September of the same year.

His Davenport breeding program began with the purchase of the stallion Tripoli in 1955. Over the next few years he was able to purchase or lease nine Davenport mares and two additional stallions. These horses and six in the hands of other Davenport breeders were all that remained in the US tracing in all lines to the importation from the desert of Homer Davenport in 1906 and horses of the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893, where Davenport saw his first Arabian horse.

Charles also had a nearly life long interest in dressage. His father, also a student of dressage, was assistant Secretary of the US Treasury for 40 years. Charles and his parents, Bertha and Chuck, were among those who founded around 1950 the Eastern States Dressage Association, believed to be the first dressage club in the nation. Charles started most of his own stallions, often getting them up to piaffe and passage if he had the years to get them there. For several years a stallion he had bred, Sir, produced more get winning national dressage awards sponsored by the International Arabian Horse Association, than any other Arabian stallion in the country. His widow, Jeanne Craver, has long served as Secretary of CenterLine Classic I and II.

The combination of romantic and scientific student was quintessentially Charles Craver. He would set up experiments to see how much the backbone of a horse could "bend" laterally on a circle and then wax lyrical over the wonder of foaling. In horses he helped prove the existence of the "Q" factor, similar to the RH factor in humans. He made friends throughout the world attracted to his cheerfulness and dedication to the horses he championed. He was a friend to all who crossed his path. He never attended a potluck at which he did not pronounce, "I believe this was the best potluck ever."

USDF Convention Photos

At the 2016 United States Dressage Federation Convention in St. Louis, CLD sponsored an appearance by FredBird, mascot for the eleven-time World Series Champion St. Louis Cardinals. He was a hit with the "reserved" dressage crowd.



CLD Christmas Party @ Pinky & Jon Noll's





CenterLine Dressage New Member & Renewal Form

(Membership year is December 1 through November 30)

Name: _____ USDF #: _____

Name: _____ USDF #: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Birth Date for Youth Members (21 & Under): _____

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Renewal:	<input type="checkbox"/>
	New Member:	<input type="checkbox"/>

Reader Preference		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Paper Copy:	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Digital Copy:	<input type="checkbox"/>

Membership Type	Details	Totals
Individual Membership	<p>\$45</p> <p>Includes 1 Reader, 1 Vote, USDF Membership, Discounts at CLD Shows, Discounts on Advertising, Horse Nomination (requires separate form centerlinedressage.com/horse-nomination-form)</p>	<p>\$ _____</p>
Junior Membership (21 & under)	<p>\$25</p> <p>Includes 1 Reader, 1 Vote, USDF Membership, Discounts at CLD Shows, Discounts on Advertising, Horse Nomination (requires separate form centerlinedressage.com/horse-nomination-form)</p>	<p>\$ _____</p>
Family Membership	<p>\$65</p> <p>Includes 1 Reader, 2 Vote, 2 USDF Membership, Discounts at CLD Shows, Discounts on Advertising, Horse Nomination (requires separate form centerlinedressage.com/horse-nomination-form)</p>	<p>\$ _____</p>
Total Dues:		<p>\$ _____</p>

Please send to:

Kelly Griffith
 CLD Membership Secretary
 membershipsecretary@centerlinedressage.com
 5351 S. Cantrall Creek Road
 Cantrall IL 62625

Revised: 10.1.2016

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