

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

- ✦ **LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT**
- ✦ **MEETING MINUTES**
- ✦ **LETTER FROM REGION 2 DIRECTOR**
- ✦ **INTERNATIONAL OMAHA**
- ✦ **2017 CONVENTION REPORT BY LESLIE BURKET**

CALENDAR

- ✦ **CLD BOARD MEETING
APRIL 7 @ 2 PM**
- ✦ **THE INTERNATIONAL OMAHA
APRIL 12-15**
- ✦ **CLD ICEBREAKER SCHOOLING
SHOW
APRIL 28, 2018
@
TOWER HILL EQUESTRIAN
CENTER**
- ✦ **ARAB, INC REGION XI SPORT
HORSE CHAMPIONSHIPS
MAY 16 - 20
@ NEC, LAKE ST. LOUIS**
- ✦ **CLD CLASSIC
JUNE 23 - 24
@ ILLINOIS STATE
FAIRGROUNDS**

Letter from the President

by Judy Nordstrom, President

Hello CLD Members and Friends,

Spring has officially sprung, although some days that has not been very apparent. I'm ready to put my winter coat, gloves and hat away once and for all, or, at least till November! Just recently, though, I have noticed some signs of new plant growth poking through the soil. I am sure we will soon see evidence of spring in some beautiful, new flowers.

In conformity with warmer weather comes a new show season, which is also suddenly upon us. In fact, our Icebreaker schooling show will be held in just a few short weeks at Tower Hill Equestrian Center on April 28. Get your entries in now! I hope you all are ready for a successful show season!

Happy riding, everyone!

Your CLD President,
Judy Nordstrom
president@
centerlinedressage.com



February 24, 2018 CLD Executive Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 2:20 p.m. In attendance: President Judy Nordstrom, Kelly Griffith, John Simpson, Kate Fleming-Kuhn and Malcolm, Katie Keim and Anastasia, Paula Briney on phone, Alice Martin and Chrissy Jacobs.

Chrissie reported on a trip to Parkway Printers with Judy where they looked at wicking jackets and T-shirts as possible fundraisers. The Board will have an online vote about ordering t-shirts and jackets.

Judy announced she is looking for a Volunteer Coordinator for the CLD Classic. There was a discussion on requiring three hours of volunteer time or a payment of \$100 for each horse owner or lessee in order to take part in CLD Awards program.

There was discussion on appointing Chrissy Jacobs as our replacement membership secretary. Vice President Kelly Griffith has continued functioning as membership secretary as her replacement has not fulfilled the duties.

Illinois State Fairgrounds Report - Paula Briney

- The Capital Development Board has been hired for the repair of the Coliseum. Work is due to start on May 1 with a seven million dollar budget. They will start on the Coliseum interior and then move to the exterior. Paula noted that the inside walls in the covered arena are now white and there are bleachers now on both long sides. Barn 13 is due to be repaired by mid-May in time for the CLD Classic in June. They will start on the interior of the 25 Series.

Membership Report - Kelly Griffith

- Since the January Board meeting, four renewals have been received, giving us 42 members thus far for 2018.

Web Report - Martin Kuhn

- Two email newsletters sent out since last report. We stand at 134 subscribers, down from 135 (1 bounced back email). Our average opening rate is at around 47%.
- Website Traffic spiked noticeably after most recent update but still below what we had last year at this time.
- Facebook followers are up slightly to 637. Twitter followers are down slightly to 45.

Treasurer Report - Katie Keim

- Final 2017 numbers:
 - Current bank balance is \$8999.64; savings balance is \$25,754.80. Loss for 2018 thus far is (\$1683.69).
- The tax return has been filed. There were no 1099's this year as the 2017 Classic was not held.

Newsletter - Alice Martin

- February Reader was electronically distributed on the 17th. Paper copies were mailed. Judy noted it would require a By-Laws change to put the Reader on a quarterly basis.

Symposium - Kate Fleming-Kuhn

- Currently nothing on the agenda with no suggestions for an educational discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45pm.

Next meeting: Saturday, April 7th at 2:00pm in the StarWest Lounge.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alice Martin,
Recording Secretary

Message From Region 2 Director

by Ken Levy, Region 2 Director

Fellow Region 2 members,

I was thinking about the change in season and all of the educational opportunities that become available during the Spring (before show season begins) and summer. I was reviewing comments I have received from education, clinic and show organizers about their most significant challenges. Universally, the lack of volunteers was their number 1 challenge. Local, Regional and National surveys conducted with USDF members finds that education and competitions are the most benefits that our organization can deliver.

Organizers spend many hours planning events that offer great competition and arranging diverse educational programs aimed at expanding your knowledge and skills. Often GMOs and other dressage focused groups take significant financial risk conducting these events. To be successful, and to make the event enjoyable for all who attend, one key element is needed... VOLUNTEERS! Volunteers are the foundation of our sport. At the National level, USDF officers and board members are all volunteers. Your GMO leaders and Participating Member Delegates are also volunteers. To run a great clinic or horse show, volunteers are critical. Unfortunately, volunteers are often few and far between. This puts the burden of work on far too few and often the quality of the programs or competitions suffer. Over time, not having enough help, causes organizer burn-out and programs begin to disappear. As this occurs, we all suffer.

I am challenging each of you to set aside time to support the sport you have chosen to pursue by volunteering. Volunteering has many benefits. Often, volunteers have audit fees waived. As a volunteer, you often gain access to clinicians "after hours" to ask questions and obtain advice that might not be available during the event. As a volunteer, you can be proud that your work helps others in their pursuit of knowledge or makes their competitive weekend less stressful and more enjoyable. There are many volunteer opportunities: Your GMOs always need volunteers for educational programs or schooling shows, Check the USDF web site for local recognized competitions. Sign up to scribe, score, or ring steward. Are you a USDF PM member? Why not run for one of the PM Delegate positions in the region? Regional Championships always need volunteers and there are always numerous volunteer opportunities at the National Dressage Finals. As an avid volunteer myself, I am always amazed at how much I personally benefit and how much fun I have helping my fellow dressage enthusiasts.

Let's make 2018 the Region 2 Year of the Volunteer.

I look forward to working along side of you this year as as proud volunteer.

Ken Levy



Contact

Robyn Eden
 Omaha Equestrian Foundation
 402 957 0429

The Omaha Equestrian Foundation (OEF) is excited to offer Wild Card opportunities for its Dressage Team Challenge competition at the International Omaha, April 12-15. Held at the CenturyLink Center, this team competition gives NextGen and amateurs, as well as seniors, youth and para riders in Grade 3/4/5 a chance to compete together. Each team must include three riders, one of whom is a Youth rider.

Seniors	Grand Prix and Grand Prix Freestyle
Seniors, Amateur, Youth	Intermediate 1 and Intermediate Freestyle
U25	Grand Prix U25 and Grand Prix Freestyle
Young Riders	YR Individual Test and YR Freestyle
Junior Riders	JR Individual Test and JR Freestyle
Para Riders (Grade 3/4/5)	Individual Test and Freestyle in respective grade

The two best scores of the first technical test and the two best scores of the Freestyle test count. In total, four scores out of the six tests will count, with the Youth rider scores breaking ties.

The Dressage Team Challenge offers competitors a chance to ride in the CenturyLink Center, the site of the popular 2017 FEI World Cup Finals, and to present their horses in one of the most prestigious equestrian events in the Midwest.

As the host of the 2017 FEI World Cup Finals in jumping and dressage, the Omaha Equestrian Foundation is committed to raising the bar on how these disciplines are presented in North America. This includes bringing high performance equestrian sport into the mainstream and presenting championship competitions to the Midwest. The International Omaha offers the Dressage Team Challenge \$45,000 in prize money.

Riders interested in forming a team and applying for a wild card berth should contact Thomas Baur, Director of Dressage, ACM.baur@t-online.de.

Contact www.internationalomaha.com to learn more about the International Omaha.

2017 USDF Convention Report

by Leslie Burket, CLD GMO Delegate

Here we are - after six exciting years - back in Lexington - and it's good to be back! The hotel lobby has been completely renovated, adding a new area for a nice little place to grab a bite as you hustle off to the next meeting!

We started off bright and early with the Delegates meeting where we were prepped about the convention agenda including the many meetings, educational sessions and breaks.

Region 2 Meeting

From there it was a quick hop to the Region 2 meeting, hosted by our Region 2 Director, Ken Levy.

- We started off with the Region 2 budget that is quite stable this year and is expected to remain stable. The only account with any change from 2016 to 2017 was the FEI JR/YR account.
- The Region 2 Schooling Show Awards Program is thriving. This program is available to any Region 2 rider but does require registration with a small fee. In 2017, over sixty riders participated and the beautiful ribbons were distributed through tenth place, in at least 15 different classes. To learn about the program, go to <http://www.usdfregion2.org> and click on Awards in the left margin. Everything you need is there! If a class isn't listed, they do take special requests! It's a fun program! It would be exciting to have someone from CLD participating!
- Region 2 has a new GMO (Wahoo!). We welcome Louisville Dressage Society (LDS) to Region 2!
- 2018 Regional Championships will be held at the Kentucky Horse Park. Dates are 10/11-14/2018. Championship rides will be in the Rolex arena.
- It is time to sign up for the Regional Site Selection Committee if you are interested in participating. The only qualification is that you be familiar with the facilities that have applied for the Championships in 2019. We don't know yet if Balmoral will be applying as it is currently a jumping facility and entries haven't closed yet. Contact Ken Levy if you have questions or are interested.
- Region 2 is discussing putting together a scribing clinic for newbies. More to come on that!
- The following social media sources are available to Region 2 now. We want to thank Mia Johnson for all the work she has done in making these available.
 - USDF Region 2 web site (<http://www.usdfregion2.org>)
 - USDF Region 2 Facebook page
 - USDF Region 2 PM Facebook page
- And last, but not least, our Region 2 Director, Ken Levy, reminded us that next year (2018) will be his last year as our Regional Director. As we will need candidates for 2019 Regional Director, he described the ideal candidate as having experience as both a GM and PM member, capable of managing budgets, has worked on USDF committees and has some IT skills. He also shared with us the duties and tasks associated with the position and responded to a variety of questions regarding role responsibilities, time involved including conference calls, traveling and meetings to attend. It appears interest has sparked a couple of members! If you have questions, you can contact Ken Levy or any other Regional Director if you are interested in serving as the Region 2 Director.

2017 USDF Convention Report

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BOG Meeting (Board of Governors)

- **George Williams**, President, welcomed us all and immediately attacked the agenda, as we had lots to cover. USE (United States Equestrian) is now functional, and USDF is accepting new responsibilities. There were four new GMO's this year. This is George's last year as president and his list of 'to dos' is formidable.
- **Stephen Heinzsch**, Executive Director, says membership is holding its own. USDF offered one hundred educational programs in 2017 including clinics, instructor and L program sessions.
- He thanked Centerline Dressage for their generous support of the convention.
- The new website went live in February with no complaints.
- 25 hours of the 2017 Dressage Finals Show were streamed over the USEF Network.
- **USDF Dressage Finals** - A motion was made to move the Finals Committee to the Activities Council but the vote for the motion did not pass. A second motion recommended there be a special ad hoc committee that would report directly to the BOG (Board of Governors). This motion passed.
- **Robert Dover**, dressage national USE chef d'équipe and technical advisor, reviewed his 'Roadmap to the Podiums' that includes strong program funding, training and competitive programs and a specific four-year plan, supported by coaches Debbie McDonald (developing coach), Scott Hassler (young horse coach) and Jeremy Steinberg (youth coach). We will have horses in every division, from the ponies to the international elite. There will also be a youth mentoring program.

2017 Competition Summary by Region:

Chart 3: 2017 Rides per Level per Region (Including Freestyle rides)

Level/Region	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
Training	3292	3521	2579	1068	1404	1503	2389	1778	1503	19037
First	3649	3390	2699	1062	1315	1750	2855	2120	1422	20262
Second	2208	2217	1848	622	747	901	1654	1137	793	12127
Third	2128	2038	2358	641	673	841	2259	1360	955	13253
Fourth	1254	995	1374	263	268	418	1020	695	388	6675
PSG	1104	878	1989	246	256	318	1131	717	365	7004
I1	653	696	1184	127	133	205	852	311	231	4392
I2	141	175	430	35	27	53	195	51	30	1137
GP	476	445	1354	85	103	177	496	183	138	3457
Total	14905	14355	15815	4149	4926	6166	12851	8352	5825	87344

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Committees - What They are Doing for the Membership

GMO Committee set an objective for the GMOs in 2018 to promote at least one GMO presidents' activity for each region to encourage regional networking. They also encourage GMO Officials to utilize the GMO Press List and the GMO Official's Facebook. They welcomed four new GMOs into the family: Three Rivers Equestrian Association - Region 1, Louisville Dressage Society - Region 2, Bozeman Dressage Society - Region 6 and Central Plains Dressage Society - Region 9.

Historical Recognition Committee will implement a historical exhibit at the 2018 USDF Convention to recognize founders and GMOs involved from founding to the present from all regions in honor of the 45th anniversary.

Membership Committee will spotlight eTRAK by working with a variety of recommendations to make it more attractive to adult amateur riders. Suggestions include videos that show the progression of training, rather than trainers demonstrating movements on upper level horses. It will also include non-riding topics, such as footing and mirror placement in arenas. To increase awareness of eTRAK, short videos will be distributed to members and, if interested, the member can view the full-length video.

Freestyle Committee has completed revisions to the 2019 freestyle, *pas de deux* and quadrille score sheets. Rules, guidelines and definitions will also be updated. To be published in 2019.

Instructor Trainer Committee hosted two FEI Education Days. The first featured Lilo Fore and Hans-Christian Mattiesen in Florida. The second was hosted by StarWest and held following a CenterLine Dressage sponsored clinic with Susanne von Dietz! (yea CenterLine Dressage!!!)

Judges Committee revisions for the Introductory Level Tests for the 2019 cycle have been completed and are pending approval. The Judges Committee, working in conjunction with the L Program and Instructor/Trainer Committees, proposed revisions to the USDF Pyramid of Training. Also, changes to the FEI tests will not impact USDF Training to Fourth Level.

Adults Programs Committee, determined to develop new programs and enhance educational offerings, have launched the USDF National Education Initiative (NEI) and have developed and edited content for the NEI web page and program. They have also updated the NEI grant programs, providing information on six approved programs scheduled to begin in March 2018.

- National Equestrian Initiative: The primary objective of the USDF National Education Initiative (NEI) is to create and support new and affordable programs to engage members. GMOs hosting NEI Programs can be confident they are delivering high caliber instruction and educational content consistent with classical principles of dressage and the Pyramid of Training. NEI Events are USDF University accredited and members who attend automatically earn University credits. GMOs hosting NEI programs are eligible to apply for a USDF National Education Initiative Grant.
- The Regional Adult Amateur Equitation Program: Ride in Dressage Equitation classes at recognized shows and earn a score of 70% and above OR qualify at any level at a Regional Championship show (except freestyle) and

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- The Regional Adult Amateur Equitation Program: Ride in Dressage Equitation classes at recognized shows and earn a score of 70% and above OR qualify at any level at a Regional Championship show (except freestyle) and you are eligible to compete for the Equitation Championship at Regionals.

Awards Committee discussed a request to change the name of the Vintage Cup Award to the Classic Cup. Outcome is pending.

FEI JYR Committee has collected metrics from 2012-2017 for the number of riders applying versus the number actually competing on each team. The vote was unanimous to raise the qualifying freestyle score to 65% for both Junior and Young riders, effective for the 2019 competition season.

Regional Championships Committee has reviewed qualifying scores, and determined the need to raise the minimum percentage for the freestyle levels and some of the FEI level open division, to be effective 2019. Discussing the possibility of requiring the judge at 'C' to have the freestyle designation when judging regional championship classes.

Youth Programs Committee published the youth eNewsletter (Youth Corner) in April, July and October. It has been well received and appears to be helping reach a larger contingency of our youth members with information about our youth programs including: Youth Outreach Clinics, Dressage Seat Medal Semi-Finals, Youth Team Competitions and the Youth Rider Recognition Pin Program.

The Convention wrapped up with the Awards Dinner Banquet Saturday night! Many of the award recipients come to the convention to receive their award during the Awards Dinner! It's exciting for them come so they can receive their award while all those dining are clapping and congratulating them! It's also a good sit-down moment where you can catch up with some of your convention buddies.



Leslie Burket has been an active and faithful member of CLD since at least 2009. You can see wearing many hats as CLD Board Secretary, often scribing at CLD shows, or doting on her Grand Prix gelding, Paddington.

CLD thanks Leslie for her service and her continued, detailed reports on the USDF convention.

CLD Year End Award Nominations/Score Submissions

Members now can go to one place to see all the information they need to nominate, confirm nomination, submit scores and confirm scores were received. As in years past, if you have forgotten to renew your CLD membership and wish to participate in year end awards, you may do so by paying for this year's membership and next's when you submit your horse's nomination for year end awards.

Awards Process

1. Nominate (every year)
2. Accumulate Scores
3. Submit Scores



2018 Nominated Horses

- Richthofen 7
- Rubin Raphael
- Esteban
- Westerstorm
- Ronin
- Heroico CDP
- Zlatan M. Ge
- Madroño XXXVI
- Binn Waiting (Pending)
- Hafta Ask (Pending)
- Washburn SW

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