

MINUTES OF ALASKA DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION'S FEBRUARY 2005 MEETING

PRESIDENT: RAENA SCHRAER, 830-9882 SEC'Y.: MARY KAYE HESSION, 345-1090
VICE-PRESIDENT: SUSIE KAISER, 346-2351 SHOW COMM.: JENNIFER LUNDBERG, 301-2738
TREASURER: DEANA JOHNSON, 348-2503 AWARDS: RAENA SCHRAER, 830-9882
SENIOR BOARD: MARTI MILLER, 694-6123, 786-7437 (w) SENIOR BOARD: LINDA KELLEY, 746-5994
JUNIOR BOARD: EMILY CARR, 345-8665 JUNIOR BOARD: JORI DITTMER, 349-3949

Attendance: The Feb. 28, 2005 ADA board meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. with a quorum of Raena Schraer, Mary Kaye Hession, Marti Miller, Susie Kaiser, Linda Kelley, Deana Johnson, and Jori Dittmer. Emily Carr and Jennifer Lundberg could not participate.

Minutes: The January meeting minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Deana Johnson submitted a current balance sheet and a profit and loss comparison between 2004 and 2003. Our fiscal trends are healthy. On March 1 Deana will pay USDF the required \$17 per person according to the current roster. Already 42 of last year's total of 52 members have renewed, and we received \$1,201 in sponsorships in response to Deana's e-mailed solicitation. The donation we received from Debbie Moloznik and subsequently mislaid still has not come to light; Deana will check with Sue Mues to see if it was accidentally included with her papers.

Membership outreach:

- Raena Schraer and Carolyn Schultz plan to complete our U.S. Dressage Foundation grant application for an adult dressage camp over the weekend.
- Raena will find a location for the ADA spring membership meeting right away.
- Christine Erikson gave Raena her personal opinions on the "Super Volunteer Award" that she funded: The recipient need not be an ADA member, and could even be a board member, but should have been involved for three or more show seasons doing the extraordinary. It should not be expected to grant the award every year; more like every three to five years if there's a worthy volunteer. Show management or the show committee chair—someone who's in the know about the volunteer's efforts—should submit the nomination. The award should suggest self indulgence: maybe a gift certificate to a nice restaurant, a spa treatment, or an afghan. To fund the award in future, Christine suggested that a percentage (1%?) of each show entry could be dedicated to it.
- We have books and movies now for our members to check out. Susie still has the USDF freestyle video and Linda Kelley has one of our three sets of the Masters of Equitation series on the trot and canter.

Show committee:

- The ADA shows are not yet recognized by ASH, but Deana gave Susie Kaiser a check to give to ASH for recognition.
- The Anchorage Horse Council has been notified of the dates we will need the dressage arena for our shows. It plans to have a cleanup day at WCCEC before the season opens.
- At the May schooling show, we'll have the assistance of the local Pony Club. Ten or more kids will be available for rock-picking in and around the dressage arena the Friday before the show. In turn, on Saturday night Deana will give Pony Clubbers a 30-minute lesson on how to use the arena markers and practice for a test. Susie will be the contact for this dressage show as well as the July schooling show. We'll ask Dr. Julie Grohs to judge the May show.
- Deana will call Sigrun Robertson (proposed June TD) and e-mail Debbie Moloznik (proposed August TD) to be sure they haven't officiated at those same shows more than two years in a row. She will let Linda Kelley know the outcome for the Omnibus.
- Raena will contact Anita Owen to see if she already signed a contract with us. Deana thought Sue Mues might possibly have the contract.
- Susie will file the paperwork so that we can offer the Dover Award at our June and August shows.
- On Deana's motion, the board decided to drop our show fee structure to \$20 for Introductory classes, \$25 for Training/First, \$30 for Second Level and above and freestyle classes, and \$35 for the ADA Championship Class. Prix Caprilli classes will also be \$30 because of the jump setup required.
- Kelly Ward, Marti Miller's husband, has again agreed to be our on-call show farrier.
- The board worked through all of details Linda Kelley needed to be resolved for the Omnibus.
- We still don't know which Valley Circuit show will have dressage classes.
- The June Anchorage Horse Council schooling show at WCCEC (no dressage) has been changed to June 11-12.

Clinics:

- Our contract with Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez calls for her to do a two-day clinic after the August show. However, we know that a group of Fairbanks dressage riders would very much like her to come north instead. Deana will check with Debbie and see if she would like to do that.
- Raena will check with Anita Owen to see if she is willing to do clinics after the June show.
- In view of our healthy balance sheet, the board decided to charge only \$90 per session for clinics and absorb any extra cost.
- ADA does not plan to sponsor any clinics with Sue Kolstad during her stay in Alaska this June, but she is available for private clinics.

Committees: Raena will be in charge of awards for the year-end banquet (Susie will arrange for ribbons and other show awards). We'll ask Jayne Dittmer to serve on our Hospitality Committee, and Peggy Peters had also volunteered to help. Carolyn Schultz will continue as ADA Historian.

IRS non-profit status: Marti reported on the status of our IRS 501(c)(3) filing. She found that Rick Brown had left a well-organized packet of 501(c)(3) documents for us in February 2003 when he moved to Colorado. (He also corrected our status with the State of Alaska as a non-profit corporation.) The package was nearly complete at that time, with a checklist to guide final completion and submittal, but the filing process appears to have stopped there. The forms are no longer current as to board and financial information, and we need an Employer Identification Number. On Deana's motion, the board authorized Marti to contact an accountant she knows who does non-profit filings and see if she can finish the process for us. If the cost would exceed \$500, Marti is to check back with the board. Raena will obtain a taxpayer ID number from the IRS.

Newsletter:

- The March issue will be Raena's last as editor. This issue should list our year-end award winners from last fall, the Old Man Award, and the ASH Dressage Medal winner. We should also celebrate ADA members who achieved national rankings in USDF's All-Breeds awards program (per the USDF Connection 2004 Yearbook). In the American Quarter Horse Association's rankings, Debbie Erickson's Joe Rebel Tucker took third place at Second Level Open and second place at Third Level Open, as well as second place in Second Level Adult Amateur and first place in Third Level Adult Amateur. She also won third place at Training Level Adult Amateur on her Park My Hot Rod. Also for AQHA, Peggy Bowker rode her Miss Boston Wonder to third place in First Level Adult Amateur. And in Appaloosa Horse Club rankings, Linda Kelly won first place in Training Level Open and Adult Amateur as well as First Level Open and Adult Amateur on her TVR Dunny Chip.
- On Deana's motion, the board decided to eliminate the newsletter as a monthly publication. Instead, we will post news on ADA's website, alaskadressage.org, and do mailouts only as needed. We would definitely need a spring mailout to distribute the spring meeting invitation and Omnibus, and a fall mailout to send out ballots and banquet invitations. Linda has Publisher software and volunteered to send out the Omnibus as well the fall packet.

Next meeting: The meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m. The next meeting will be on April 3 after the spring open membership meeting.