



ADA Newsletter **October 2004**

USDF Mission Statement:

Dedicated to education, the recognition of achievement, and the promotion of the sport of dressage.

2004 ADA Board and Show Committee:

President/Newsletter:
Raena Schraer

Vice President:
Sandy Gibbs

Secretary/Awards:
Mary Kaye Hession

Treasurer:
Deana Johnson

Senior Board:
Kari Bazy-Garber
Sue Mues
Marti Miller

Junior Board:
Emily Carr

ADA 2004 Sponsors:

Platinum:
Debbie Erickson

Gold:
(in honor of Margaret Adams)
BowkerMechanical
Tim & Laurie Collins
Ardene Eaton
Sandy Gibbs
Gottstein Family
Sharon McLaughlin
Mues Family
Carolyn Schultz

Silver:
Deana Johnson
Jennifer Wilson

Bronze:
Kari Bazy-Garber

*Thank you to our current 2004
sponsors!*



President's Arena

It's been a while since the last newsletter, and thus I have not had the opportunity to write to all of you wonderful members.

The first thing that comes to mind is the just-past show season. As many of you know, it is my first year back after going to college and living in the states for a bit afterwards. I did not have time to ride or show during these years, and so this past year has been the first time in a while that I have been part of the scene. After seeing how smoothly the show season went, it is my opinion that the members of the horse show community and in particular the members of this organization are working together better than ever before. I have had nothing but good experiences in the areas of being a competitor at the shows and organizing the ADA shows. So, congratulations to everyone who is a member of ADA for bringing your enthusiasm and direction to the organization. It was absolutely wonderful to see so many people at the shows this summer, helping and competing. We had a tremendously successful season, and all of us on the board of ADA are looking forward to 2005.

With that aside, make sure you look through this newsletter carefully. There are a number of important things within. First, it is time to vote for your new 2005 board. You may or may not know that board members are elected to a 2 year term. Those board members who were elected to the 2004/2005 term were myself (Raena Schraer), Deana Johnson, and Marti Miller. This means that these 3 people will still be with you in 2005. As you will see on the ballot there are 4 seats to be filled. Sandy Gibbs has politely declined to run again, and did Sue Mues. Kari Buzzy Garber is moving to Florida, as many of you may know, and Mary Kaye Hession is up for reelection. Emily Carr is up for reelection for the junior seat, and there is one other junior seat which we will offer to a junior selected by write-in. The biographies of those running this year can also be found in this issue. So, be sure to cast your ballots, and it will be announced at the Annual Awards Banquet who has been elected to start in 2005.

This brings me to my next piece of information. The Annual Awards Banquet will be October 30th, at O'Malley on the Green. Look for the invitation in this issue of the newsletter and be sure to make your reservations. Like usual, it should be a lot of fun and (amongst other things) will feature a silent auction, dinner and awards.

That is about all I have for you right now, see you at the banquet!

Raena Schraer

Biographies of ADA members running for the vacant board seats in 2005:

(biographies were written by those running and sent directly to the newsletter editor)

Junior board candidates:

Jori Dittmer (potential write -in candidate)

Dear ADA:

Hello, my name is Jori Dittmer and I am 12 years old and in the sixth grade at Huffman Elementary School. I want to thank you for considering me as a candidate for the junior position on the ADA board.

I have been riding horses for four years. The last three years I have been an active member of Pony Club. In Alaska I am a founding member of Honor Bound Pony Club. Currently I am rated as a D-3 rider. I plan to try for my C-1 rating next spring. I have a horse named Silver. Silver and I have enjoyed competing together for the first time ever in the ADA shows this last summer.

If I am chosen to serve as a junior member, I will look forward to learning all about putting on ADA shows. I know that I will learn a lot and gain more responsibility by being a junior member of the ADA board. I would do my best to represent the youth.

It was an honor to have been asked to apply for this position. Thank you again for considering me as a junior board member. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Jori Dittmer

Emily Carr

I am thirteen years old and in junior high at Goldenview Middle School. I have been riding horses for nine years and enjoy many different disciplines from hunter/jumper to gymkhana to dressage. I spent a long time training my first pony, Li'l Dickens, to be the ASH pony performance champion. However, even after achieving that goal in 2001, I knew there were things that I just couldn't seem to get my pony to do. I finally decided to try dressage. Now, after training with Lisa O'Dell for the past three years, I am sold on dressage. It has made a world of difference in my pony. Li'l Dickens and I were the Training Level Jr. Champions for 2002 and 2003. Now, my horse Tucker and I are training for first level. I really believe that dressage is the best way for all horses and riders to learn the basics and grow together as a team. I love all the focus that goes into

riding dressage, and now know that there is *nothing* boring about it. In August, I competed in the Lendon Gray Youth Dressage Festival in Saugerties, NY. It was an incredible experience, and I hope to return to the east coast next summer to train with Katja Eilers. I have served as a junior member of the ADA board for one year, and would like to return for another term. Now that I am figuring out how the board works, I feel that I can contribute more ideas and time to helping ADA.

Senior board candidates:

Susie Kaiser

Born and raised in Fairbanks, Alaska. Hooked on horses from the start! Began riding at 4 years of age and purchased her first horse when she was 12. Began her showing career when she was 8 years old. Loves to trail ride (especially Paper Chases!). Was very active in and served as the President of the local 4H Equestrian Club for many years while growing up. Was a member of the Silver Birch Riding Club, which is now known as The Interior Horsemen Association. Moved to Anchorage in the late seventies with her then newest horse Doreean, who is now 25 years old! Joined the two newly formed Alaska Hunter Jumper Association and the Alaska Dressage Association and served on the Board and as Treasurer for many years, receiving their highest award... the ADA Kathryn Brooks Award. Served as Show Secretary and Show Manager for numerous years and continues to do so! Became an AHSA (now USEF) Show Steward and acted as such for Alaskan Dressage, Hunter/Jumper and Open shows. (Until Britany decided to show and couldn't continue as a Show Steward. YIPPEE!) Was nominated and served on the Board of the Anchorage Horse Council. Previously served multiple 3 year terms on Alaska State Horseshows and has now served 1 more 3-year term, as President. Comes to all (or as many as possible) horseshows as a participant, show Mom or just to help out or watch and continues to support any and all Alaskan horse activities!

Mary Kaye Hession

Mary Kaye Hession is an adult amateur rider who returned to active riding and competition in 1989 after many years away. She boards her Dutch crossbred mare, Natural Law, at Diamond H and competes over fences as well as in dressage.

Mary Kaye has been an ADA board member for two years and its secretary since spring 2003, as well as webmaster for ADA's website at www.alaskadressage.org. She had previously been secretary of Alaska State Horseshows (ASH) from 1997 through 2002. In 1998 she began serving as secretary/treasurer of USEF's Zone 12 and became chair of that committee as of fall 2004.

Mary Kaye believes that dressage in Alaska has been strengthened by reaching out to riders of all backgrounds. Dressage riders know that dressage is an ideal foundation for

whatever a horse may be asked to do. But other riders—whether western, hunter-jumper, or trail—need to hear the news. By conveying that message to them, and reassuring them that they are truly welcome to participate regardless of what type of horse they have, more riders are willing to give dressage a try and even to ride up that centerline and halt at X.

Jennifer Lundberg

My horse career started at age 11 when my parents finally let their horse crazy daughter have a horse. We were a military family so it wasn't something they were willing to get into until we settled. I started as many do in 4-H with an Anglo Arabian mare. Sam was perfect. My Dad thought he'd be smart and breed her so that he wouldn't have to buy any more horses. Before Shatar was ready to ride, the foal produced from his scheme, I went through 3 more horses (Welsh/Arab cross pony, Thoroughbred, and quarter horse). I got bored with the 4-H stuff pretty quickly and scared my parents into getting me jumping lessons. This introduced me to Pony Club, the best experience of my life. While I was only in Pony Club for 4 years I did achieve my C-3 rating before going off to college. We sold the show horse (the 17 hh quarter horse) but I kept my little Arab gelding. In college I got involved in horse management judging for Pony Club rallies. I obtained the Chief Horse Management status and even was a judge at the national rally. I moved to Alaska nearly 3 years ago with two ISR/Oldenburg mares.

My showing experience is varied. It includes Arabian halter, western, English pleasure, combined training events, sport horse in hand, and lots of dressage. That is my specialty. So far I have obtained my USDF Bronze Medal (the 3rd level scores on the Arab). I've competed through 3rd level and schooled through Prix St. Georges. While I'm about to be horseless for the first time in 20 years, I still love being around the horses and the people. I look forward to serving on the board and seeing everyone at the shows next year!

Ardene Eaton

My infatuation with equine partners began with the first gallop of my *Breyer* stallion across the kitchen table, so when my daughter decided to enter the hunter jumper world I was thrilled. Kim and I rode in a hunter barn for many years and I enjoyed being a "Horse Show Mom" each summer as well as a show secretary a few times. The dressage world; the horses and the people have become part of my life now. I would really enjoy becoming more active in ADA. Thank you.

Linda L. Kelley

Greetings to all -

Susie Kaiser finally talked me into running for the ADA board. So here is a little information about my family and I as requested. My spouse Jim and I have lived in eight different states over the past fifteen years. We arrived in Alaska in August 2001 with nine members of our "critter" family in tow. Jim is currently assigned to Elmendorf Air Force Base. However, he is relatively close to retirement and it looks like Alaska is where we plan to stay. I have earned both bachelor and master degrees in aviation and space science and have utilized my degrees in many different ways over the years. I have served on several volunteer boards for both aviation and equine related organizations in the past.

I have enjoyed being a part of the Alaskan equine community for the last few years. I currently show Dunny at Training and First Level dressage, as well as, competing in some hunter/jumper classes. Dunny is uniquely challenging but seems to enjoy most of what we do. I believe dressage is a great discipline for ALL equines, regardless of whether they compete in the show ring or are just good backyard family members. I also feel that it is important for the sport of dressage to be supported by the community. I look forward to helping accomplish the membership's goals for ADA by serving on the ADA board.

Thank you - Linda L. Kelley

Debra Wilson

My name is Debra (Debbie) Wilson and I assume I was nominated to the board because I drove everyone crazy with my phone calls this past show season. I am married, have 1 grownup daughter, 1 sister and 1 brother. I am an Office Manager/Paralegal for a law office in town and have been with the same employer for 18 years.

I got my first horse before I could walk. He was white with a black mane and tail and had a red saddle. He had really nice springs and ever since then I have been searching for that kind of suspension. Mom gave him to a younger cousin when we started galloping around the house. We came to Alaska in 1966, my dad was in the Air Force, and I started taking riding lessons from Elmendorf stables when I was 8y.o. That was when Elmendorf was open to the public for rentals, lessons and boarding. We moved to Texas from 69 to 73 and I used to bike a 20-mile roundtrip to the riding stables there. My girlfriend and I were there so often that people used to hire us to ride and groom their horses when they went on vacation. We came back to Alaska in 73 and one of my friends had been given a 3 y.o. Palomino QH by her parents for her birthday. We were under that horse more than on top of it for the first couple of years but I understand she is still kicking at 34! I was away from horses for about 10 years and then met a friend at work in 1984 who had 2 and she asked if I would come out and ride with her, that was

the beginning of the end. I bought my first horse in 1986 and struggled for 16 years to make a dressage horse out of him but he was always a better trail horse. He did not really like it and did not have the conformation so we only made it to 2nd level. I retired him from dressage for good in 2000 and in 2002 I bought my new horse Winston in Olympia, Washington.

Be sure to vote, using the enclosed ballot and addressed envelope

Update on ISR/Oldenburg inspection

The first annual ISR/Oldenburg N.A. Mare and Foal Inspection, hosted by Moonlight Sport Horses, on September 23 was a great success. Dr. Karsten Kuehl, the judge and breeding director for the registry, was very pleased with the quality of mares and foals presented. All the eight mares presented scored in the Main Mare Book range, a remarkable achievement. Several of the mares were placed into the Pre-Mare Book due to a pedigree issue. The two foals presented scored the very respectable 7.8. There were mostly Alaskan-bred horses at this inspection, including one of the foals. The bottom line is that Alaskan-bred mares and foals are in par with the rest of the US and the World! Dr. Kuehl took this opportunity to turn the inspection into a mini clinic as well and all learned a lot about warmblood breeding and broodstock evaluation. He is quite excited about returning next year, though when it's not so cold! He has offered to provide a full breeding seminar on sport horses in conjunction with the next mare and foal inspection. There will be a full article on the inspection and pictures in the near future. If you are interested in any of the horses that were presented and are for sale, please contact Jennifer Lundberg at 907-301-2738 and I'll get you the contact information for the sale horses.

Alaska Junior rides in national competition

My Trip to Lendon Gray's Youth Dressage Festival

By Emily Carr

It was so fun to be able to represent Alaska at the Lendon Gray Youth Dressage Festival this past August. I was invited to attend the festival back at the beginning of the year, and was so excited when my parents said that I could go. The show was started 6 years ago by Lendon to encourage young riders to become true horsemen with correct position, competitive skills, and knowledge of all aspects of riding and horse care. It is a three part competition - equitation, dressage, and a written test - each counting 1/3 of your total score.

It was a lot of work for my mom to plan for travel, show details, getting me a horse to ride, etc., but Lendon was very helpful from the start. All I had to do before leaving was study for the written test and practice, practice, practice! I found out just three weeks before the show that I had studied the WRONG books for the past few months, and had to order and read 2 new books! (I was considered to be a 14 year old based on FEI rules and would be in the 14-17 age division. I had studied the materials for the 10-13 year olds!) OOPS!!

Along with my mom and Lisa O'Dell, I traveled to Salisbury, CT so I could spend a few days practicing on the horse that I was borrowing for the show. I chose a 5 year old Dutch Warmblood named Samira (Sammy). She is young, but very responsive and is an awesome mover. Sammy is in CT being trained for sale by Katja Eilers, a master German classical dressage trainer. While there, we also found a great tack shop that was having their biggest sale of the year - more fun!

On Friday, we followed Katja and the horses to the brand new HITS on the Hudson show grounds in Saugerties, NY. When we pulled in, Lisa was amazed, and I just felt sick! The grounds and barns were like nothing I had ever seen - the sand in the show rings looked like white beach sand, and the big stadium jumping arena held three full sized dressage arenas and had room for more! There were shops, restaurants, ponds, bridges...so cool! Well, I took the written test on Friday night and thought I did OK. It turned out that I didn't even know how much I didn't know.

On Saturday morning, I warmed up for my equitation test and Sammy was acting her age. She was really tense with all of the horses in the warm up arena and started bucking and crow hopping all over. I kept my cool, even though it was already over 90 degrees out! The equitation test started out fine, but then Sammy decided to do a lavade right in front of the judges. I stayed on, and got her back in frame, but we were both shaken and later messed up a canter transition. I really thought that I had blown it, even though Lisa gave me a pep talk and told me that I had handled it all very well. When the scores were posted later that morning, I was thrilled to see that I had placed second in my age group with a score of 85.

On Saturday afternoon, Sammy and I did a training level prix caprilli test (separate from the main competition) and we had some refusal issues. We still scored a 62.8 after the 6 point reduction for refusals, but not good enough to place well. By Saturday evening, it was great to relax at the dinner buffet while we watched some amazing musical freestyle demonstrations and a grand prix dressage demonstration by Albrecht Heidemann. His horse was so beautiful. It really made me want to work hard and someday train a horse that can do even half of what I saw that night!

On Sunday morning, I completed my part of the competition by riding training level test 4 from memory. Sammy was calmer than she had been the day before, and we did our best. We scored a 60.385 to place 4th in our division. We found out later that I placed 4th overall in my age division - so close to being a medalist! I got a ribbon and a

certificate for a pair of custom breeches. Also, I had joined a team with some of Katja's students and we placed 9th out of over 50 teams! What a week!

At this year's festival there were 245 riders from 26 states and three countries. The judges included three Olympic bronze medalists, Hilda Gurney, Dottie Morkis and Michael Poulin. Also judging were Pan Am gold medalist Pierre St. Jacques and his coach and wife, Pam Goodrich, and the Olympic short-listed rider and USDF vice president, George Williams - just to name a few. There were over 200 sponsors, including Hermes, Bates and Ariat, who supplied great prizes - over 15 saddles were awarded to gold medalists!

I plan on going back to CT next summer to train with Katja Eilers, who invited me to be a working student. What a great opportunity! Special thanks to Debbie Erickson who sponsored me, to my family, and to Lisa - who helped me so much at the show and continues to help me every week! It was the experience of a lifetime and I hope that more Alaskan young riders will attend the festival in the future.



Emily on Sammy at the competition

Advertisements

Looking for incredible potential/bloodlines at an incredible price? Willing to do ground work for a couple of years? Registered Oldenburg Verband 6 month old filly for sale.

Espresso colored, out of Routiner (ixpres.com/gwranch) and mother out of Rampal (ironspringfarm.com). Picture of Nostoglia (mother) and full sister at (starchaseranch.com)
Also see ad at northernhorsesource.com \$7500.345-9945

Certificate of Pedigree Oldenburg Verband 5 month old colt out of 1/2 Arab mare (Velvet Hammer) and Coromino (ixpres.com/gwranch) Very light on his feet and thinks he is really cool. Also see ad at northernhorsesource.com. \$5000.345-9945

Alaska Dressage Association invites you to its annual awards banquet!

Date: Saturday, October 30th, 2004

Time: 6:30 drinks, 7:00 dinner

Place: O'Malley On the Green, Anchorage

Cost: \$35 members and non-members, pay at the door

There will be a buffet style dinner served with a choice of seafood or meat entrée.

Awards will follow dinner. As there was last year there will also be a silent auction. The newly elected 2005 ADA board will be announced at the end of the evening.

Please have reservations to Sue Mues by Saturday the 23rd of October.

Reservations can be made via e-mail:

jmues@alaska.com

Or telephone:

346-2209 (Leave a message)

We hope to see as many of you as possible there, it should be an enjoyable evening as it was last year!

