



# The Centerline

OCTOBER 2008

## President's Passage

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The dressage show season is a wrap for 2008. For the first time in many years the ASF Dressage Show was actually held during the state fair! With the entire Valley Circuit in question for 2009 and beyond, I am pleased that the dressage competitors had this opportunity, which would not have been possible without the support of horse show managers Joe and Madeline Kornegay and show secretary Jodee Jones. This management team has been a pleasure to work with over the last couple of years. Thank you also to Cherrie Ruesch and her ring crew for setting and maintaining the dressage ring for these competitions. I would also like to convey a sincere thank you to the dressage judge, Karen Adams, and the dressage technical delegate, Sarah Jane Martin, for

professional feedback during the show and their scheduling flexibility prior to the show which allowed for some late in the season date changes requested by competitors and facilitated by show management. Additionally, I cannot say enough about all the wonderful volunteers who willingly gave of their time, energy, efforts, and resources that enabled the ASF dressage show to be a success. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Team work is a great thing.

On to the 2009 show season. Currently there are four confirmed recognized dressage shows on tap for 2009: ADA Spring Festival, June 6-7, two days of dressage with Natalie Lamping (S) as the judge and two clinic days following the show; a "new for 2009" two-day dressage show on June 27-28 (cont.)

## *President's Passage (cont.)*

sponsored by WCCEC/AHC; the WCCEC Annual Horse Show with two days of dressage for 2009, July 18-19, and Sue Kolstad (R) judging; and the ADA Biggest Event Ever with two days of dressage on August 8-9 and Charlotte Trentelman (S) judging the show.

Additionally there is the possibility of a fifth dressage show in our great state if the former Valley Circuit shows are revived in some form. Dana Eaton has formed a steering committee to help organize the details for putting on two of the three former Valley Circuit horse shows. She has requested that a member of ADA, who is familiar with organizing dressage shows, be on the steering committee. Dana notes that most of the organizing done by the steering committee will be accomplished via internet/phone and that show managers and secretaries will be hired for the actual show dates. If you are willing to be the ADA contact for the steering

committee, please contact myself or Dana directly.

As another successful Alaska horse show season is complete and the upcoming award banquets take place, I truly hope that every competitor receiving an award takes some time to appreciate all the dedicated folks who have put in countless hours over the past year to make the horse shows happen in our state and thus make it possible for them to receive their awards.



I look forward to seeing everyone at the Alaska Dressage Association Banquet/Fall Meeting/Silent Auction on Saturday, November 22, 2008. Your invitation is on p. 6 of this newsletter, or just go to [www.alaskadressage.org](http://www.alaskadressage.org).

Happy Hoof Beats -  
Linda Kelley



## *Time to check your scores!*

The deadline is **October 15** to check your scores from all five of this summer's shows on USDF's official online data base. USDF gets those scores straight from show managers' reports, then uses them for its many award categories. ADA also relies on USDF's data base in computing our own year-end awards. But errors can occur during posting: a score might be omitted, or a stellar 75.357% might get entered as 57.357%. To ensure against errors, it's your responsibility to look up your reported scores. (To find out how to do this, go to <http://www.alaskadressage.org/scores.html>.) Compare them to your test sheets, which you should keep in a safe place—nobody else has a copy! If you find a mistake, contact USDF immediately ([scorecorrections@usdf.org](mailto:scorecorrections@usdf.org)) to get it corrected. USDF warns, "The owner is responsible for contacting the rider (if different from the owner) and checking and verifying all

information presented on this score check. All corrections MUST be received at the USDF office by 5:00 pm, EST on **October 15**. No changes to year end awards will be made after that date."

ASH will also soon post its tentative listing for 2008 dressage awards. Check these scores, too, via ASH's website, [www.alaskastatehorseshow.com](http://www.alaskastatehorseshow.com). [Note this new address for ASH; the old ones won't get you there.] ASH rules call for any errors to be brought to ASH's attention within 30 days.

## **2008 Board Elections (for Terms to Begin January 2009)**

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Your 2008 ADA nominating committee (Carolyn Schultz and Susie Merritt) has found four ADA members to run for two-year terms on the senior board: Charlene Cohen, Linda Kelley, Susan Ritter, and Mary Kaye Hession. Two candidates will run for one-year terms as junior board members, Shelbie Fredenhagen and Aimee Ritter. Their biographies appear below. Carolyn Schultz plans to mail your ballot to you the week of October 20<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to return your ballot by November 15, a week before the annual meeting and ADA awards banquet (see page 6 of this issue). Carolyn and Susie will announce the new slate of ADA board members at the meeting.

### **Candidates' Biographies, Senior Board**

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#### **Charlene Cohen:**

My name is Charlene Cohen and I am running for the Alaska Dressage Association board. I have served on the board this past year after I was appointed to fill a position that was vacated early. I have been involved with dressage and ADA since my daughter Sarah started riding 10 years ago. Horses have been an incredible part of our life and given us many wonderful experiences. Being a member of ADA has provided us with many learning opportunities and has helped support Sarah in reaching her goals. We have attended clinics, shows, and work sessions and thoroughly enjoyed the benefits the association has provided over the years. I have been a volunteer for Rainbow Connection, a 4-H horse leader and PTA board member. As an ADA board member I would continue to support the goals of the association for its members.

#### **Linda Kelley:**

I am a life-long dedicated horse enthusiast and have served on several equine organizations' boards in the past. Presently, I enjoy being a part of the Alaskan equine community. I actively participate in the local recognized shows with my riding partner TVR Dunny Chip. He is a unique individual with lots of challenges but, most of all, lots of heart. We also participate in the schooling shows and bring our little donkey friend, Log Cabin Little Fellow, along for the driving and costume classes. There is plenty of fun and comradery all the way around. Having fun and supporting your chosen equine discipline is what it is all about. I believe that dressage is beneficial 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 have a diversified base of support in the local community. Bringing dressage back to the valley over the past couple of years has been a good step in this direction. I sincerely hope the ADA board continues to have diversified options for dressage in Alaska. I have taken pleasure in helping to accomplish ADA's goals over the past four years and hope to continue in this position if re-elected to the ADA board.

### **Susan Ritter:**

I have been involved with the Anchorage horse community for the past six years ever since my daughter Aimee started taking riding lessons. From the beginning of Aimee's involvement in horseback riding, both my husband Jeff and I have made sure that we also participated. My own interest in riding returned as well. I enjoy riding with Aimee and have found that I have been given an unexpected gift: I get to share in my daughter's passion for horses.

It is the enthusiasm, friendliness and commitment to provide opportunities for the dressage riding community which the ADA group offers that I find quite refreshing. I jumped at the opportunity to serve during this past summer as show manager for ADA's dressage shows. Working for the ADA has been a positive experience for me. The ADA Board members are hard-working, forward-thinking individuals who are also quite fun to be around. It would be a great pleasure to join this group of volunteers.

I have volunteered with the following groups over the years: past-president of Kincaid Elementary School PTA for two years, venue manager for the 2006 National Wheelchair Games held in Anchorage, and a current Midnite Run Pony Club member.

### **Mary Kaye Hession:**

I have been a member of the ADA board since 2003, serving as its secretary and managing our website at [www.alaskadressage.org](http://www.alaskadressage.org). I am also a sponsor and volunteer for the Midnite Run Pony Club in Anchorage and am active in trail work at Ruth Arcand Park, home of the William Clark Chamberlin Equestrian Center. I just finished a four-year term as chair of Zone 12, the USHJA/USEF affiliate for hunter-jumper competition, for which I am also webmaster. I compete as an amateur rider, boarding my horse Natural Law at Diamond H.

Despite its small size, ADA manages to offer a full slate of training clinics, schooling shows, licensed shows, an awards banquet, and other components essential to the art and sport of dressage. This requires a great deal of behind-the-scenes work in which I am happy to share. I would be honored to continue serving on ADA's board.

## **Candidates' Biographies, Junior Board**

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### **Shelbie Fredenhagen:**

My name is Shelbie Fredenhagen and I have been on the ADA board as a junior board member for the past two years. I have learned many things, from putting a show together to organizing clinics. I have also enjoyed learning more about dressage and the great dressage community Alaska has to offer. Watching myself and others grow, learn, and have fun

through the art of dressage has also been very special. I would love to once again be a part of this board and the great people associated with it and be re-elected.

### **Aimee Ritter:**

My name is Aimee Ritter. I am thirteen years old and I am currently an eighth grader at Central Middle School. This will be my first time running for the position of ADA junior board member. This will be a great experience for my future riding career.

I started riding with Lisa Plummer, currently Lisa Smith, on Goldie. After three years of jumping I wanted to try dressage. I started riding dressage with Lisa O'Dell and have continued lessons with her for three years now on a few different horses. This was my first year of showing dressage on my pony Winchester and it has been a wonderful experience. It has been difficult switching between dressage and jumping but it has helped me to learn how to manage my time and riding schedule accurately. I also am an active member of Midnite Run Pony Club as a C-2. Next year I am hoping to become an H-B C-3 pony clubber.

I have met some wonderful people through the ADA and I hope to be able to get to know them even better.

### ***Not too late to shop for ADA's silent auction!***



Coordinators Nancy Farris and Ardene Eaton are still looking for baskets, services, individual items, or other tax-deductible donations for this year's silent auction, which will be held November 22 along with the ADA awards banquet (see p. 6). Nancy and Ardene encourage everyone to contribute. If you have something to offer, please let Nancy (345-5409) or Ardene (345-0281) know. Also, Nancy has contacted companies for items that donors could purchase at a reduced price and then offer at the auction. If you would like to contribute to the auction but don't have time to shop in person, tell Nancy how much you want to spend so that ADA can take advantage of this opportunity. It's never too late to go shopping!

### ***Speak up for dressage rule changes at ASH Forum***

This year the ADA board has proposed changes in Alaska State Horseshow's dressage award rules. Among other things, these changes would simplify computation of median scores, remove obsolete references, and raise the minimum score required to earn an award. The proposal will be considered at the ASH Forum on Saturday, Nov. 8. ASH will announce the Forum site soon at its new website, [www.alaskastatehorseshows.com](http://www.alaskastatehorseshows.com) (the Forum will not be at the Bella Vista). It's important for dressage riders to attend this event and speak up about the rules that affect us. If you want to take another look at the proposal first, see the draft in the May *Centerline* (past newsletter issues are always available on ADA's website) or contact Carolyn Schultz (345-4076; cell 360-8241, [carolynjohn@acsalaska.net](mailto:carolynjohn@acsalaska.net)).

## **Alaska Dressage Association invites you to our annual awards banquet, annual meeting, and silent auction!**



**Date:** *Saturday, November 22, 2008*

**Time:** *6:30 p.m. drinks, 7:00 p.m. dinner*

**Place:** *O'Malley's On the Green, Anchorage*

**Cost:** *\$40 members and non-members, pay at the door*

*There will be a buffet-style dinner served with your choice of seafood or chicken entree.*

*Awards for the 2008 show season will follow dinner. The event will also feature our traditional silent auction and the opportunity to renew your membership or donate for 2009. The newly elected 2009 ADA board will be announced at the end of the evening.*

***Please have reservations to Mary Kaye Hession by Monday the 17th of November.***

*Reservations can be made via [e-mail](mailto:banquet@alaskadressage.org) to:*

***[banquet@alaskadressage.org](mailto:banquet@alaskadressage.org)***

*Or by telephone:*

***345-1090*** *(Leave a message)*

*We hope to see as many of you as possible at the banquet. It will be an enjoyable evening and the easiest way to renew your membership for 2009!*