



Alaska Dressage Assoc. Inc.



The Centerline

October 2011

Greetings everyone! The time has come that we will be voting for our new board members as well as partaking in the fine Annual Banquet, where we get to see the awards and prizes for the top horse and riders who competed this summer. Be sure to look out for the voting ballots that are coming your way soon – we will need those mailed back no later than October 23rd.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the banquet on the 28th of October. The invitation is attached to this newsletter. Feel free to invite your friends, spouses, significant others and really anyone else who would enjoy hanging out with fellow equestrians to the banquet!

We also want to send a quick Shout Out **thanking** all the sponsors and volunteers who helped ADA this summer. We truly appreciate all your efforts!

Cheers and Happy Riding ☺



Check your dressage scores!

Important to check the scores you earn at this summer's dressage shows. Show managers' report all dressage scores to USDF for publishing in its official online data base. ADA uses USDF's data base in computing our own year-end awards, and of course USDF itself relies on its posted scores for its many award categories. But mistakes can happen: a score might be omitted, or a stellar 75.357% might get entered as 57.357%. To ensure against errors, check your reported scores (they'll be on USDF's website four to six weeks after each show). 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 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



2011 Board Elections (terms to begin Jan. 2012)



Below are the biographies of the candidates for ADA's four senior board seats (two-year terms) and two junior seats (one-year term). Everyone should receive the ballot in the mail this week— please vote and return the ballot as soon as possible. Ballots need to be submitted by October 23rd!! Results will be announced at the ADA's annual Award Banquet and Silent Auction on October 28th at O'Malley's on the Green. Mark the date on your calendars now. The Banquet Invitation is on the last page of this issue of The Centerline. We are looking forward to seeing everyone there!

Candidates Biographies, Senior Board

Marti Miller:

I have served on the ADA Board since 2003 and would be happy to continue helping the dressage community in this way. Back in 2002, when I rode in my first dressage show, I was impressed by how supportive, helpful, and encouraging the Alaska dressage community was. I continue to appreciate that help and support in my quest to "ride better" on my energetic horse Z Syzygy (who occasionally throws some rodeo into dressage). Serving on the Board is one way for me to give back to this great group.

Charlene Cohen:

My name is Charlene Cohen and I am running for the Alaska Dressage Association board. I have served on the board the past three years 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 12 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 groups 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.

Thank you,
Charlene Cohen

Sharon Sadlon:

ADA is a wonderfully supportive organization. Many of the outside judges that I've spoken to comment on how the Alaskan competitors support each other. We should all feel good about the showing atmosphere we've created. I plan to work hard to maintain this positive showing atmosphere in Alaska for current and future dressage enthusiasts.

I have been a member of ADA since 2000. My horse (Harley) and I were lucky enough to win ADA Horse of the Year and Rider of the Year in 2000. As a consequence, many people remember the blond Belgian (draft), Harley, who shows dressage. I have been continuing my Dressage education through reading, trainers, judges, and a new warmblood, Fortune. Fortune won ADA Horse of the Year in 2010. I believe the horse is the real teacher, but it always helps to have educated eyes on the ground and to listen to the voices of experience. ADA is a wonderful resource for Alaskans who are looking to tap into dressage experience and eyes on the ground.

I believe in giving back to the community and was an active Alaska State Horseshows (ASH) board member for several years. I organized the ASH banquets and awards for the last few years. I also managed the first ASH horse show. ASH horse show that I managed won a USHJA award, so although I don't have much experience organizing shows, I do have successful experience. Also, I have organized multiple (primarily dressage) clinics- bringing up judges from the lower 48 to provide instruction to Alaskans.

I plan to continue supporting ADA, local clinics, and shows. I'd like to offer my organizational skills and experience to ADA as a Senior Board Member. I hope you'll vote for me. Thank you.

Erin Downey:

Erin who was born and raised in Anchorage started her love of horses almost immediately. When she was three a family friend offered for Erin to come "ride" around and from there she was hooked. Erin rode in her first trot barrel class when she was five and started formal weekly English lessons when she was six, which turned into Dressage lessons when she was eight. Erin was an active member of the Hillside Highriders 4-H club and Rainbow Connection volunteer for over ten years. Erin has won numerous Sportsmanship awards both in the 4-H and local horse organizations. When Erin was a sophomore in college she drove her horse Macy down the Alcan to go to school at the University of Wyoming. While attending school she rode for the College Equestrian team and made it all the way to Nationals for Huntseat Equitation. Although Erin has ridden various disciplines she always comes back to her foundation, Dressage. Erin is lucky enough to have two very special horses, Macy who is an 11 year old quarter horse and Westley, a four year old Azteca. Both seem to be polar opposites but are continuously teaching Erin how to be a better and smarter horsewoman.

Allison Suozzo:

I have loved horses as long as I can remember. The first horse I ever owned was a moose packing pony out of Homer in 1972. She was one of a kind! On her, I rode hunter, jumper, western and was involved with 4-H. Since her, I have owned and ridden many different horses in jumping and trail riding. I recently started into dressage. I can't imagine never truly understanding my horse like I have since I started this wonderful partnership with Seth. He is such an amazing horse! I started riding dressage about four years ago, I have had the opportunity to ride with some top ranked clinicians and have worked with some great trainers up here, as a team we have come so far! (Though, I am sure Seth knows more than I!) I haven't been in this club long, but the people in it have been so wonderful to work with. I would really love the chance to work more with the ADA to enrich myself and my knowledge of this horse community. I have a lot of enthusiasm and would really like the chance to help make a difference! I hope for your support in this endeavor, I will do my best to help make this next year the best!

Candidates Biographies, Junior Board

Kari Hancock:

I'm Kari Hancock and I'm a junior at South Anchorage High School and have been an ADA Junior Board Member for the past year. I started riding when I was 9 years old. We got Nick, aka "Save the Date" when I was 10 and I started showing a year later. I currently train hunters/equitation with Jamie Thurman of Forever Young Farm. I began taking dressage lessons from Lisa O'Dell three years ago.

In 2010, I showed in Open and Junior Hunters, 3' Equitation, 1st Level Dressage and was the ASH Medal winner. In 2011, I was fortunate to travel to California and show at HITS Thermal for two weeks, riding two different horses with John Turner of Thumbs Up Farm. This past summer, I showed mainly in Equitation due to Nick being injured. My ambitions are to participate at the collegiate level.

I started dressage lesson to help Nick develop better, both physically and mentally. Dressage challenges him and he doesn't always want to work as hard as he needs to, but there are days when he does something amazing and it's rewarding to see the work pay off. Dressage is hard for him because of the way he is built, but dressage has helped with his flexibility and balance and has made him a better jumper. It has also helped me grow as a rider.

I am interested in continuing on the ADA board as a junior member because I think dressage is a great tool for both horse and rider and I would like to see more young people participate in the sport. The participation has decreased at all of the shows in the Anchorage area and I would like to help find ways to encourage more people to attend the shows and increase our community of riders.

Taylor Stewart:

My name is Taylor Stewart and I am a senior at Colony High School in Palmer. I have been riding for seven years now and am an avid dressage lover and participant. I am an athlete, a strong Christian, and of course a horse nut. For the last three years I have successfully juggled sports, school, and horses. I started showing dressage two years ago with my thoroughbred, Lucky Joe. I trained my horse from hunters to first level dressage and I am continuing in his training throughout this winter. I love dressage, both the precision and the technical aspects of it. Dressage is something that I enjoy because you can always better yourself or your horse. My love of horses has driven me to want to know and experience more. If I was granted the opportunity to join the Junior Board, I believe that I would gain a lot of knowledge and exposure to how the shows are set up, put on, and the processes of choosing judges. This is a chance that I won't have again as I am a senior and will be traveling out of state for college in the coming years. Dressage Junior Board would benefit by choosing a passionate, reliable, and educated member if you voted for me to receive a position on the panel.

Sincerely,
Taylor Stewart

Gabby Susich:

13 years old

8th grader at Romig Middle School enrolled in the highly gifted program

Gabby has been around horses all of her life. Her first experience with horses was at Ornie Clifford's barn, where her mother boarded her Arabian mare, Perfeksion. Struck with the horse bug, she entered her first horse show at 3 years old. After Perfeksion came Desi, another Arabian mare and a whole list of wonderful ponies. Finally ending with One of a Kind, barn name, Solo. Frustrated with his lack of training, Gabby started riding dressage. Once she saw the change in the pony, she was hooked!

In February of 2010, Gabby became the owner of her Zweibrucker mare, Hera. Dressage has been the foundation for riding her young mare both on the flat and over fences. She has had many successes with her throughout 2011. Gabby and Hera are currently working towards riding first level in 2012, after a very successful year riding training level.

There's still time to contribute to this year's silent auction!!

ADA's biggest fundraiser is the Silent Auction at the Annual Awards Banquet! As mentioned earlier, the banquet will be held at O'Malley's on the Green on October 28th. Our auction coordinator, Lisa Susich would like to challenge each trainer and/or barn to put together a basket of goodies for the auction. If you have something you would like to contribute to the silent auction, please contact Lisa! This is a great excuse to go shopping and donations are tax-deductible!! So, bring out some items to bid on and let's make some money for ADA!

Lisa Susich: lisa@scanhome.com 907-242-3045





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

Date: Friday October 28th

Time: 6:30pm drinks, 7:00pm dinner

Place: O'Malley's on the Green

Cost: \$45 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 2011 show season will follow dinner. The event will also feature our traditional silent auction and the opportunity to renew your membership or donate for 2012. The newly elected 2012 ADA board will be announced at the end of the evening.

Please have reservations to Linda Kelley by Sunday the 23rd of October



Reservations can be made via **e-mail** to:

kelleykritters@gci.net

Or by telephone:

746-5994 (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 2012!





Alaska Dressage Association

Announcements: June 2011!

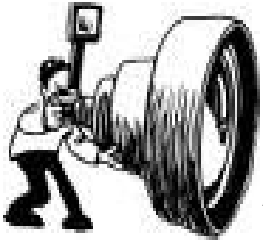
The ADA Spring Festival is almost here! Sue Madden-Mandas will be the judge and she is also available for clinics on June 6th. If you are interested in participating in the clinic please contact Linda Kelley at kellykriters@gci.net or by phone prior to the show at 746-5994. \$110 per 45 minute session.



We are always looking for volunteers to help out at the shows if you are available or would like to volunteer your loved ones to help out please do – we will take all the help we can get!
Contact Anne Hancock @ 907-440-2513



REMINDER! THE ENTRIES FOR THE WCCEC DRESSAGE I SHOW ON JUNE 25TH SHOW ARE DUE BY JUNE 17TH! BE SURE TO GET YOUR ENTRIES TO KERRI GEPPERT ON TIME SO YOU CAN SHOW OFF YOUR HORSES!



SHOW PHOTOGRAPHER

Anna Tileston

Anna can photograph you and your equine partner during the *ADA Spring Festival and/or the ADA Biggest Event Ever* for \$10 per test (pay fees directly to Anna).

She will take between ten and twenty photos per ride.

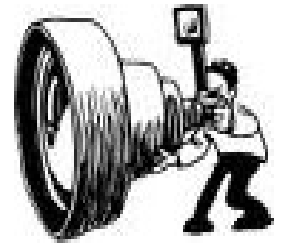
Please make appointments with

Anna at 561-0540 or 227-7518

prior to show day for scheduling purposes.

Photos will be posted and available for purchase via
<http://annatilestonphotos.smugmug.com/>

Anna will donate a percentage of each ride session fee to the Alaska Dressage Association and William Clark Chamberlin Equestrian Center.

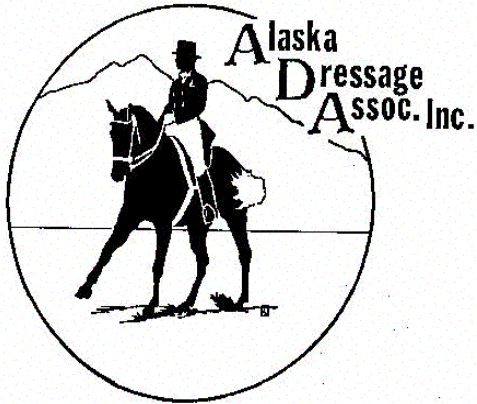


The Saddle fitters from Albion will be back in Alaska either the end of June or the first part of July - be sure to let them know if you are interested in having your saddle re-flocked or if you are looking at upgrading your current saddle.

They will look at all saddles! Contact Nancy at Contact Saddles at 707-575-8637 for details!



Happy Riding From ADA!



THE CENTERLINE SPRING 2011

PRESIDENTS PASSAGE

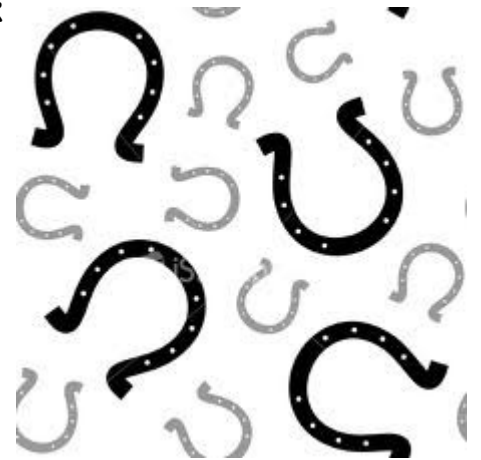
Are you ready? Here comes the compact 2011 Alaskan dressage show and clinic season. As you all know the dressage shows do not happen on their own. Some volunteers have already been hard at work making advance preparations, more volunteers will be needed at each and every show to scribe, score, bit check and take officials to dinner, and at the end of the show season more volunteers will be needed to help with annual ADA awards banquet. So as you can see, even if you cannot volunteer on a "show day", then there are still many different ways you can contribute as a volunteer to help make your dressage show season a success. Contact any ADA Board member to ask how you can help. And please do not forget to thank the volunteers that make it all happen!

Clinics and shows galore. ADA starts the show season off with the Margaret Adams Memorial Schooling show on May 7.

Mr. Jeremy Beale will be our judge and clinician this year. Thank you Deana for bringing Mr. Jeremy back to AK!!! There will be a total of three schooling shows this year, the afore mentioned in Anchorage and two in the Valley. Schooling shows are great low-key places to get started. We are fortunate to have four recognized dressage shows again this year and very fortunate to have 5 judges for all of the recognized shows. ADA will be organizing clinics with most of the judges: June 6 Sue Madden-Mandas, July 25 Jacquie Lindberg, and August 8 Natalie Lamping. Clinics with judges are super educational opportunities, do not pass them up. Look for more information and clinic coordinator contact information on the ADA website calendar of events.

I hope you are looking forward to another dressage show season with your equine partner in AK - I know I am.

Happy Hoof Beats
- Linda Kelley



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SHOW DATES AND JUDGES

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June 4-5: ADA Spring Festival – Judge: Sue Madden Mandas (S)
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July 23-24: WCCEC Dressage Show 2 – Judge: Jackie Lindberg (S)
August 6-7: Biggest Event Ever – Judge: Natalie Lamping (S)

CLINIC DATES

May 5th, 6th, and 8th: Jeremy Beale
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August 8th: Natalie Lamping

DISH OR DONATION POTLUCK

This year we are changing up the Spring Meeting a little. We are hosting a potluck on May 7th 2011 during the lunch break of the Schooling Show. We are fortunate enough to have Jeremy Beale speak to all of us at the potluck. The theme this year is Dish or Donation. Meaning that if you have the option to bring a dish to share with the others otherwise you will be bring a donation. In addition to accepting cash donations we are also looking for those who are willing to donate their airline miles and hotel points so that we can save on costs to bring the judges up in the summer. Of course we are more then willing to accept all three forms of donations if you are so inclined. Please contact Raena Schraer 830-9882 about donating miles and points to ADA – remember your donations to ADA could be used as deductions when tax time comes around!



SOMETHING TO CHECK OUT

Check out this website <http://thedigitalhorse.com/>. It has some great information about what is looked at in the Dressage tests. It is also updated with the 2011 test changes.

PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR RULES FOR DRESSAGE

Effective March 1, 2011, the following rules apply to Dressage Competitions and Regular Competitions holding Dressage classes:

1. Riders under age 18 must wear protective headgear, as defined by DR120.5 and in compliance with GR801, at all times while mounted on the competition grounds. This includes non-competing riders as well as those competing at any level.

2. While on horses competing in national level tests (Fourth Level and below), riders must wear protective headgear as defined by DR120.5 and in compliance with GR801, at all times while mounted on the competition grounds. This includes non-competing riders on horses competing in national level tests.

3. While on horses competing in USEF or FEI Young Horse Tests, and FEI Junior Tests, riders must wear protective headgear as defined by DR120.5 and in compliance with GR801, at all times while mounted on the competition grounds.

4. All riders competing in Para-Equestrian tests must wear protective headgear at all times while mounted on the competition grounds. Riders who compete in PE tests must wear protective headgear on every horse they ride, no matter the level or test.

5. All riders of any age while on non-competing horses must wear protective headgear at all times while mounted on the competition grounds.

6. All riders under age 18 and all riders while on horses competing in national level tests, who choose to wear Armed Services or police uniform, must wear protective headgear as defined in DR120.5 and in compliance with GR801 at all times while mounted on the competition grounds. Riders age 18 and over who wear Armed Services or police uniform on horses that are competing only in FEI levels and tests at the Prix St. Georges level and above must wear either protective headgear or the appropriate military/police cap or hat for their branch of service.

7. When a horse is competing in both national and FEI levels or tests (e.g. Fourth Level and PSG), the rider must wear protective headgear at all times when mounted on that horse on the competition grounds and during all tests.

8. While on horses that are competing only in FEI levels and tests at the Prix St. Georges level and above (including FEI Young Rider Tests, the USEF Developing Prix St. Georges Test and the USEF Brentina Cup Test), riders age 18 and over are not required to wear protective



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headgear in warm up or during competition. However, these riders may wear protective headgear without penalty from the judge.

9. In FEI-recognized (CDI, CDI-Y, CDI-J, CDI-P, etc.) classes, FEI rules take precedence and protective headgear is permitted but not required.

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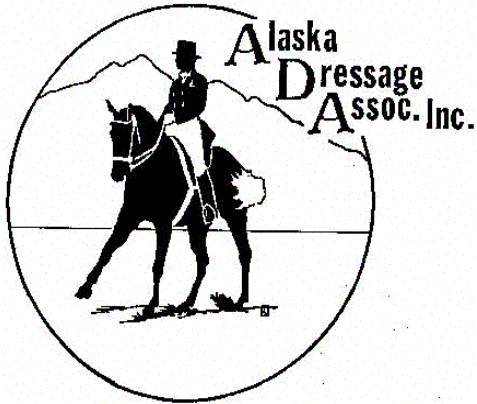


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Well folks... the time has come that membership fees will be increasing. USDF is charging ADA more, therefore we need to charge the members a little more. The membership fee is now \$40



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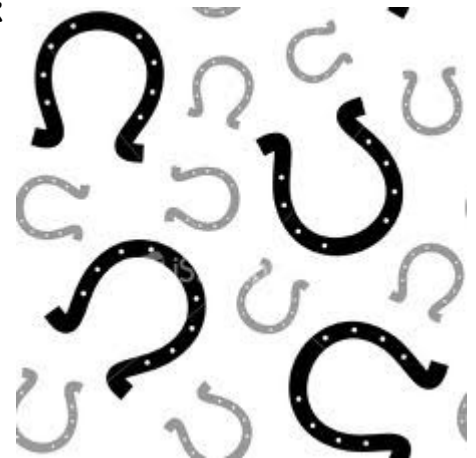
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