



# CENTERLINE



Sept/Oct 2021

Connecticut Dressage Association



## Message from our President, Liz Doering

Dear Members,

Welcome to the fall CDA newsletter. For this edition, we have a wonderful story from a youth member, Lily Koorejian. Lily shares her quest to achieve the US Pony Club C3 B Certification. Lily's story is inspiring and confirms that practice, preparation, and perseverance does reap successful outcomes. Read and

The arrival of fall has brought cool temperatures and less humidity which is a welcomed by all. The months during the fall season are also a time to renew memberships and one of the most important one to renew is your CDA membership.

So, where do your membership dollars go? Your dollars go towards organizing educational clinics, running schooling shows, coordinating the production, printing, and distribution of the Omnibus and supporting other non-profit organizations.

Encourage a friend to join and plan your spring clinic and show season with the CDA.

Stay well,  
Liz Doering, CDA President

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Lily Koorejian on Winston

## Quote of the Month

*All equestrians, if they last long enough, learn that riding in whatever form is a lifelong sport and art, an endeavor that is both familiar and new every time you take the horse out of his stall or pasture.*

Jane Smiley

## Youth Recognition

CDA member, Lily Koorejian, has achieved US Pony Clubs (USPC) dressage specialty rating in 2020. The rating of C-3 Dressage is supported on a national basis. The rating requires a greater depth of knowledge and proficiency and successful candidates are competent, all-around horsewomen/men. These same individuals are active, contributing members of USPC, and participate in a variety of Pony Club activities. They are recognized as thoughtful leaders who set an example for all.

Congratulations to Lily!

Lily shares her experience in the following article. Read and be inspired to persevere and achieve your goal!

### My Road to USPC National B Dressage Certification

By

Lily Koorejian

CDA Youth Representative

Last summer I achieved my USPC (United States Pony Club) National C3 Dressage certification on the lovely event horse "Winston" owned by Dr. Cheryl Sackler. The testing was held at Sperry View Farm (SVF) in Bethany Connecticut, my home base. I was so ecstatic about our accomplishment. I never thought Winston would be the one to bring me to my B certification the following year. It was a bit of a winding road to get there, but we did it!

One of the benefits of being a high school senior during Covid was, I got out of school early and that allowed me a lot of ride time on a variety of horses of various levels at SVF from young event horses to experienced FEI horses. I thought this was the time to try and go for my B certification. I am grateful to my trainer, Liz Doering, for putting the time in with me to achieve this goal. I am also thankful for all the boarders at SVF who trusted me, allowing me to ride their wonderful mounts. I learned something different from each of them. The experience was invaluable.

For my senior internship, I went to Iron Horse Dressage, a full-service dressage training and boarding facility in Massachusetts run by Sharon

and Grant Schneidman. Due to Covid, I was able to be away and still complete my coursework and take my exams virtually. I learned so much about the management of a barn of this caliber.

Although my ride time was limited to warming up these talented athletes, I learned so much from watching riders and listening to their trainers instruct. This was a wonderful learning opportunity!



Lily with Winston

For the B dressage certification, the rider must successfully ride either Second Level Test 3 or any Third Level Test, present a stable wrap, tail wrap, poultice bandage, lunge their mount and do a switch ride. The question became which horse could I accomplish this on? I started to ride one of the school horses, a wonderful Second Level mare named Stella Luna. Unfortunately, Stella had an injury and

needed rest. To complicate matters, I soon found out the testing had been cancelled at SVF because no one else had signed up. If I truly wanted to go for my B, myself and my mount would need to travel.

The closest testing was offered by the Eastern Pennsylvania region to be held at Fair Hill International in Elkton, MD. This also meant I had to convince my mom she could drive the trailer for that long of a trip! I felt I had put so much into preparing for this certification, I didn't want to give up, I just needed to find the right horse who could make the trip with me. Dr. Sackler kindly offered Winston and Liz offered her horse Ronni. I started to ride both, so I could have a back-up plan. Ronni was so fun to ride. She had great movement but had funky warm up which could be a challenge during my testing. For her I would need to ride in a double bridle and do a Third Level test. With Winston, we would do Second Level Test 3 in his Micklem bridle.

Ultimately, I felt the most comfortable with Winston and I knew he was a good traveler. So off we went!

The Dressage Specialty was a one day test in mid-August. I was the only B candidate along with two A candidates. Luckily my two National Examiners (NE, Terri Rocovich and Kathy Hines), didn't require me to bring my own switch horse but that meant I would be put on one of the A candidate's horses. This was a little intimidating.

We arrived the day before to get Winston settled into his stall. The first part of the test was my presentation and discussion of my bandages. The riding portion started with our warmup and discussion. Next each candidate got to ride their test and evaluate their ride. In the afternoon, we rode and talked about our cavaletti exercise. After that we had our switch ride followed by riding in the open on our own horse and discussion of each. The final part of my test was lungeing both with and without side reins and evaluation of Winston. As you can imagine this testing involved a lot of discussions of my riding and my horse's performance with the NEs.

My advice to help prepare for this rating is to discuss each horse you ride (ride as many as you can) with your trainer. The ability to verbalize what you are feeling when riding is key. Learn the training scale and have a true understanding of the terms and how they relate to each ride. Practice, practice, practice your bandages and lungeing! Feel comfortable riding your horse in the open, many dressage horses are not used to riding outside the ring.

On the road to my B certification, we hit a couple of bumps but got around a few detours and Winston was able to help me achieve my goals. Special thanks to Dr. Cheryl Sackler, Liz Doering, the boarders and trainers at SVF, Iron Horse Dressage, Eastern PA region for hosting, my national examiners who guided me through this certification and most importantly to my parents for their support in preparing for this rating and for traveling to Fair Hill with me. It was an AMAZING ride!

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## General Announcements

**There is a need for volunteers! If you are interested in one of these roles, please reach out to the contact name listed.**

### **Omnibus Coordinator**

**Contact: Liz Doering**

[ewdoering@yahoo.com](mailto:ewdoering@yahoo.com)

### **Assistant Show Secretary**

**Contact: Hanna Calgani**

[hanna@nantucketblonde.com](mailto:hanna@nantucketblonde.com)

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## *Letters to the Board*

*Please share your thoughts and ideas!*

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## USDF Region 8 News

### **Region 8 News - September**

The past month of shows winds up the qualifying period for the GAIG/USDF Regional Championships. Some shows had great weather and others dealt with Henri!

The NAYC happened August 11-15. Our Chef, Bobbi Carleton, said they had their challenges with things, mainly the weather when tornados were in the area and competition had to be postponed. However, it was a wonderful experience for riders, parents, trainers, and chefs.

Region 8 by far had the best team in spirit! They all played together, helped each other, cheered for each other, help wipe tears away when needed.

As most of you know I entered 'NEDA Jail' on August 2nd, as the show secretary. Sadly, (LOL!!) I ONLY received just over 200 entries on opening day for NEDA Fall Festival aka Region 8 Championships.

The opening week we finished up with 320 entries and the front barns were basically full of several open classes on the waitlist. The show closed August 30th, and as I need to write this newsletter before that date, I cannot give you any final numbers. It will be a huge

success thanks to NEDA and all their tireless hours of planning and work.

As you are aware (or not) there is no CDI and of course the breed show left NEDA Fall Festival in 2019. NEDA has been lucky these past few years, so I want everyone do the anti-rain dance!!!

Are you competing in the Championships??? If so, did YOU all declare for the Nationals? If not, you have still have time, and it does not cost you anything to declare! We want a HUGE, HUGE Region 8 presence!

You must declare by midnight on September 22nd. Remember we will hold our next regional meeting in October 5th at 7pm. It will be a Zoom Call and I will get more information to you. Besides the GMO contacts and PM Delegates, let me know if you want to join us so I don't miss sending the Zoom info. That's it for now.

See you on the Centerline,  
Debra Reinhardt, USDF Region 8 Director

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## CDA Scholarships

### CDA Scholarships for Youth & Amateurs Vista Vintage Educational Scholarship

CDA offers one or more scholarships per year, per category for CDA members. Check out the details for 2021 on the [CDA Scholarship Web page](#).

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## The Vista Vintage Educational Scholarship



Through the continued generosity of Vista Vintage Award founder, Ted Plaut, CDA is excited to announce the formation of the Vista Vintage Educational Scholarship.

The Vista Vintage Award was started in 2008, to honor Ted's long-time equine companion, Vista GeeWiz, a Morgan/Trakehner gelding. It is Ted's philosophy that because horses are living longer, healthier lives, often working and competing well into their late teens and early twenties.

The Vista Vintage Award acknowledges the accomplishment of competing later in life. Following along the same line of thought, the Vista Vintage Educational Scholarship will be given to further the education of horse and rider. It is Ted's feeling that better training at any age leads to a happier, healthier horse.

The Vista Vintage Fund also supports Dressage4Kids at its Weekend Educational Program.

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## The Dressage Foundation Century Club Scholarship Opportunities



The Century Club recognizes Dressage riders and horses whose combined age totals 100 years or more. The Century Club was formed at The Dressage Foundation in 1996, at the suggestion of Max Gahwyler (CT). To learn more, go to the Dressage Foundation Web page – [About the Century Club](#).

Browse the [Website](#) to learn more about the programs, grants and ways to support the dressage community.

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## Gifted Memorial Fund for Adult Amateurs

This Scholarship enables Adult Amateurs to set aside quality-time, in concentrated training away from the daily pressures of job and family, with a horse the recipient owns or formally leases (as documented by USDF or USEF paperwork).



Up to nine \$1,000 grants are available each year (one in each USDF Region), plus two additional \$1,000 wild card grants (which can be awarded in any Region). Follow the below link for details and guidelines.  
[http://www.dressagefoundation.org/grants-and-programs/apply/adult\\_amateurs/gifted.html](http://www.dressagefoundation.org/grants-and-programs/apply/adult_amateurs/gifted.html)

## Schooling Show Competitions Awards Criteria for 2021

The following CDA members are eligible to receive: Youth, Adult Amateur and Open competitors who compete between November 1, 2020 and October 31, 2021 in:

- 1) CDA-sponsored schooling shows.
- 2) Schooling shows whose prize lists appear in the 2021 CDA OMNIBUS.
- 3) Schooling show prize lists that are published in the CDA Newsletter and website.

Full details and requirements are outlined on the [CDA Competition](#) Web page.



**Follow CDA on FaceBook**  
**CDA Facebook Page**

**CDA Facebook Pictures Needed**  
**Please submit pictures for the CDA Facebook.**  
**Send to [president@ctdressage.org](mailto:president@ctdressage.org)**

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**CDA Membership for 2021!**

[Click here](#) to see all the fantastic benefits of membership!

**Sponsorship Opportunities**  
**2021 Connecticut Dressage Association Omnibus and Website**

The CDA Omnibus is an annual publication distributed to our 175+ members, as well as to other USDF group member organizations nationally. Our membership is represented by active dressage enthusiasts, residing and competing in the northeast. The Omnibus is an invaluable reference used throughout the year by our members, to get information not only on schooling show in the region, but professional goods and services related to their equine needs!

Please consider sponsoring the Omnibus and sharing this with anyone who might benefit or want to support the CDA. We are a not-for-profit organization, and the Sponsorship revenue significantly helps to defray the costs of producing the Omnibus.

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**2021 Connecticut Dressage Association Omnibus**

The CDA Omnibus is an annual publication distributed to our 150+ members. Our membership is represented by active dressage enthusiasts, residing and competing in Connecticut and surrounding states. The Omnibus is an invaluable reference used throughout the year by our members to get information not only on schooling shows in the region, but professional goods and services related to their equine needs.

Please consider placing an ad and sharing this with anyone who might benefit or want to support the CDA.

We are a not-for-profit organization, and the advertising revenue significantly helps to defray the costs of producing the Omnibus.

AD SIZES AVAILABLE (please see attached for ad sizing)

Full Page: 4.5" W x 7.25" H  
Half Page: 4.5" W x 3.5" H  
Business Card: 3.5" W x 2" H

EARLY BIRD SPECIALS – Before 12/15/2021

Artwork submitted with payment before December 15, 2021 as follows:

Full Page: \$90  
Half Page: \$45  
Business Card: \$22

AFTER 12/15/2020

Full Page: \$100  
Half Page: \$50  
Business Card: \$25

DEADLINE FOR ALL ARTWORK AND PAYMENT:  
December 30, 2021

SUBMISSION FORMAT:

All ads must be submitted in the following format please: B&W camera ready PDF  
Emailed to [ewdoering@yahoo.com](mailto:ewdoering@yahoo.com) as an attachment

We can also accept artwork saved to a flash drive and mailed to:

Liz Doering - 184 Sperry Road, Bethany CT 06524

(Inquiries regarding advertising in the Omnibus can also be sent to the above email.)

**Important!**

Please note: Your artwork MUST fit the ad size. You can use the full space; we have accounted for margins. Changes at our end can result in distortion of your art. Any artwork not submitted in the requested format may be subject to additional fees.

PAYMENT: Please send payment to: Liz Doering  
184 Sperry Road, Bethany CT 06524

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**Calendar of Events**

**Please check the Website regularly for the status of events.**

**Next CDA Board Meeting**

Monday, October 25, 2021 – 6:00 PM  
At Fern Feldman's house OR

Zoom Meeting will start at 7:00 pm  
Contact Fern Feldman | [fernfeldman@gmail.com](mailto:fernfeldman@gmail.com)

### **CDA Sponsored Schooling Shows Eligible for 2021 Year-End Awards**

#### **Sperry View Farm**

91 Bethway Rd.  
Bethany, CT  
**See you in 2022**

#### **Carbery Fields Farm**

[hanna@nantucketblonde.com](mailto:hanna@nantucketblonde.com)  
859 Beaumont Hwy.  
Lebanon, CT  
**See you in 2022**

#### **Weatogue Stables**

33 Weatogue Rd.  
Salisbury, CT  
**See you in 2022!**

#### **BelleFree Farm**

86 Hennequin Rd.  
Columbia, CT  
Secretary Contact Hanna Calgani;  
[hanna@nantucketblonde.com](mailto:hanna@nantucketblonde.com)  
**See you in 2022**

2021 CDA Sponsored Schooling shows will meet all requirements for USDF Regional Schooling Awards Programs

### **Schooling Shows Eligible for 2021 Year-End Awards**

#### **Fox Ledge Farm**

**See you in 2022**

29-A DANIELS RD • EAST HADDAM, CT 06423  
860-873-8108 email: [eqarts@snet.net](mailto:eqarts@snet.net)

#### **Westbrook Hunt Club Schooling Dressage Shows**

**See you in 2022**

319 Pond Meadow Road  
Westbrook, CT 06498

Visit our Facebook Page for updated information

#### **CDCTA @ Treasure Hill Farm**

**See you in 2022**

<https://www.cdctaonline.com/2021-horse-shows.html>  
Judges will be posted on CDCTA Website.

#### **Connecticut Equestrian Center**

**See you in 2022**

### **USDF/USEF Recognized Shows**

#### **Carbery Fields Farm**

859 Beaumont Hwy.  
Lebanon, CT

**See you in 2022**

Refer to CDA Website for Prize List

#### **Sperry View Farm**

**See you in 2022**

SVF Recognized Show Series IV & Champs

[www.sperryviewfarm.com](http://www.sperryviewfarm.com)

#### **The Baroque Equestrian Games NE Schooling Show**

Westbrook Hunt Club  
319 Pond Meadow Rd,  
Westbrook, CT 06498

Secretary: Genie Dethloff email for Entry and full Prize List.  
[geniede@comcast.net](mailto:geniede@comcast.net)

E-MAIL: [centerline@ctdressage.org](mailto:centerline@ctdressage.org)  
We're on the Web!

*See us at:* **[www.ctdressage.org](http://www.ctdressage.org)**

A Not-for-Profit Organization Promoting Dressage in the Northeast through Education  
and Opportunity.