

MarApr 2023



CENTERLINE



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President's Message

Happy Spring! With a relatively mild winter behind us, we hope everyone is getting an early start this year with riding outdoors! Certainly, at my barn, we have been taking advantage of every warm day and perfect footing - thanks to minimal snow and ice.

We have many things to look forward to this spring! First up is the always popular **Ride/Critique/Ride clinic with Bobbi Carleton** at the end of April. We are thrilled to share that the clinic is full. However, there is always the opportunity to audit.

Mid-May brings our **Biomechanics clinic with Virginia Leary**. Virginia has been working with Andy Thomas (former symmetry coach for the US and British Olympic teams) for years and is in the process of completing her coach's certification for biomechanics. This is a wonderful opportunity to work on your position to help your horse be his or her very best.

June features a **Stephen Hayes clinic**. Stephen is known for his patient, encouraging style and works well with all levels of riders. Check out <https://www.ctdressage.org/> for details and the application form.

Of course, we have our usual line up of schooling shows from May through October – including the introduction of a virtual show in June. Once again, dates, locations and further details can be found on our website.

We are always looking for volunteers to help with shows. If you are interested in scribing or helping as a ring steward, please reach out to Carol Mohyde at carolmohyde@icloud.com and let her know.

As most things these days, our costs have increased and with that the non-member fees have increased from \$5 to \$15 to attend events. The hope is that this will encourage more people to join CDA and take advantage of member pricing. If your friends are on the fence – please encourage them to join for preferred pricing and year-end award eligibility.

Just a reminder, that we do not issue membership numbers. Membership in CDA includes a group membership to USDF and you will receive a membership number from USDF. A list of current members is available on our website including the date joined or renewed. Should you have any question about your status check the [membership list](#).

We are looking forward to a great season of CDA sponsored events and looking forward to seeing everyone!

Warmly, Hanna

2023 CDA Sponsored Clinics

Ride Critique Ride (RCR)

Clinic is Full – Come as an Auditor

April 22nd and 23rd 2023

With Judge Bobbi Carleton

Hosted by Sperry View Farm

Each rider will have a 45-minute session with the judge. Warm up will be available in the outdoor ring or the lower indoor in the event of inclement weather. First, you will ride your test which the judge will score.

Then, the judge will review your test with you and suggest improvements. You will be able to ride your test a second time or you may choose to work on specific aspects for improvement.

\$115 for CDA Members \$130 for non-Members

[RCR Entry Form](#)

BIOMECHANICS clinic

May 13th 2023 with Virginia Leary

Hosted by Lost Run Farm, Litchfield CT

Virginia is a former international level eventer who now specializes in dressage, is a USDF bronze, silver and gold medalist (riding two horses she trained up the levels), and has students successfully competing at the FEI levels.

Virginia is working to complete her coach's certification for biomechanics under Andy Thomas, former symmetry coach for the US and British Olympic teams.

This work enables riders and their horses to become straighter and more comfortable. Virginia has been teaching this method for several years in Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut, South Carolina and Florida and she credits the program with her ability to walk and ride properly after a hip fracture in the Spring of 2022.

One hour sessions.

NO auditors (just coach or travel buddy).

Limited to 8 rides.

No food available

\$175 for CDA Members \$190 for non-Members

[Biomechanics Entry Form](#)

STEPHEN HAYES Clinic

June 24th 2023

Hosted by Belle Free Farm, Columbia CT

British dressage rider Stephen Hayes is based at Perfect Harmony Dressage through the year in NY and FL. He has been head rider for Beatrice Ferrer Salat (Team Rider for Spain in many Olympics including, Sydney, Athens, London and Rio).

Stephen has also ridden and competed for GB Olympic team rider Vicki Thompson Winfield. He is currently competing in Wellington FL on Kunzo, a 10 year old PRE at Intermediate 1, and aims to compete Remember Me, a 15 year old Oldenburg at Grand Prix.

Stephen conducts clinics throughout the world using very effective and positive training methods - particularly for the piaffe and passage. His lessons have been described as 'addictive' and

Stephen's character is described as 'humble' and 'down to earth' which invites riders of all levels of experience to feel comfortable and at ease yet motivated during a training session.

45 minutes sessions.

Limited to 10 rides.

No food available

\$185 for CDA Members

\$200 for non-Members

\$40 Audit

Member News

2022 Awards Banquet Wrap-up & Pictures

In January, CDA recognized riders and their 2022 accomplishments at CDA sponsored shows. A variety of delicious food was laid out by Kari Bradshaw and Denise Clark. A beautiful array of raffle prizes were organized by Carol Di Carlo and the [Cheshire Equestrian Center](#). We are grateful to the CDA board members who make it all come together. Of course, none of this could happen without the participation and support of our general members.

Enjoy pictures from the event!

USDF Region 8 News

USDF Group Member Organizations Volunteer Incentive Program

A Message from our Regional Director - January 2023

Greetings Region 8!

Well, the weather continues to be strange. For those stuck in the Northeast for winter, we've been able to spend more time than usual in our outdoor arenas - except for all the rain. I compared the average Boston January 2022 temperature to January 2023, and it was 10 degrees warmer this year – 31 vs. 42 degrees!

In an exciting piece of news, our own Region 8 Champion and National First Level Junior Champion Caroline Colby was profiled on WMUR TV. You can see the link here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fbB8qcW1mP8>

As promised in an earlier newsletter, I will highlight a few educational opportunities.

The USDF Instructor/Trainer Program consists of two parts – educational workshops and Instructor Certification testing – and it is designed to educate amateurs and professionals who wish to further their education in the classical system of dressage. This program is broken down into two groups: Training through Fourth Levels and FEI Levels. For more information, click on the links below.

Training through Fourth Level:

<https://www.usdf.org/education/instructor-trainer/t4.asp>

FEI:

<https://www.usdf.org/education/instructor-trainer/fei.asp>

A program is available to GMOs to help them create and if eligible, receive grants for educational programs. The primary objective of the GMO Education Initiative (formerly known as the National Education Initiative) is to create and support new and affordable programs to engage members. GMOs hosting these programs can be confident they are delivering high caliber instruction and educational content consistent with classical principles of dressage and the Pyramid of Training. Events are USDF University accredited and members who attend automatically earn education credits.

Participation in this program demonstrates commitment to providing quality educational



Ella Taranovich – CDA Member & D4K Participant



Ellie Johnson - CDA Youth Board Member



Matthew Beasley CDA Member & USDF “L” Judge Graduate with Distinction



Fern Feldman - 2022 Philla & Charlie Osborne Volunteer of the Year

General Announcements

Earn USDF Volunteer Recognition – See more at [GMO Volunteer Incentive Program Hour Log](#)

Volunteer Information -

There is a need for volunteers! If you are interested in one of these roles, Email Carol Mohyde carolmohyde@icloud.com or Amy Ravitz amy.ravitz@yahoo.com.

- **Opportunity to 'Shadow' a Volunteer –** ask Carol or Amy

ISO CDA Newsletter Coordinator – individual needed to coordinate monthly CDA newsletter using MailChimp (experience not necessary). [Contact Pam Wilhelm.](#)

opportunities and the promotion of classically correct dressage training at all levels and in all locales. GMOs hosting approved programs are eligible to apply for a USDF GMO Education Initiative Grant. More info

here: <https://www.usdf.org/education/gmoei.asp>
And finally, don't forget our partner The Dressage Foundation. It has grants available for almost anything and they are always happy to direct you to the appropriate application. There is an extensive list here: <https://www.dressagefoundation.org/grants-and-programs/apply/index.html>

In addition, The Dressage Foundation is asking for your help by completing a brief 10-question survey. Contribute to a stronger, more vibrant future for U.S. dressage by taking part! Your feedback will be instrumental as TDF plans for 2023 and beyond, bringing our community unique opportunities for growth and development. Survey link: <https://bit.ly/3YdSsvm>

Some other dates to look forward to include:
4/4/2023-4/8/2023 FEI World Cup in Omaha NE
9/21/2023-9/24/2023 Region 8 GAIG/USDF Championships in Saugerties NY
11/9/2023-11/12/2023 USDF Dressage Finals
11/29/2023-12/2/2023 2023 Adequan/USDF Annual Convention in Omaha NE

Please let me know if you plan to attend the World Cup in April – I will be there and it would be fun to get together!

All the best!
Helen van der Voort
vandeh13@gmail.com

Dressage 4 Kids – D4K Dates for 2023 to Come

- D4K Festival
- WEP – Weekend Equestrian Program

Renew Today! CDA Membership for 2023!

To check your 2023 membership status, click here [Members-as-of-Feb-2023.pdf \(ctdressage.org\)](#)

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

CDA Sponsorship Opportunity in the 2024 Omnibus

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.

CDA Sponsors – Connecticut Dressage Association (ctdressage.org)

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 2023 on the [CDA Scholarship Web](#) page.

The Vista Vintage Educational Scholarship



Through the continued generosity of Vista Vintage Award founder, Ted Plaut, CDA stewards the Vista Vintage Educational Scholarship.

The Vista Vintage Award singles out the best performances by our special senior horses. These are the equine partners who demonstrate that age is no barrier to competing and earning scores to make any rider proud.

The Vista Vintage Award program focuses on the success of 'senior horses. It consists of a \$300 cash prize and an elegant special award. For more information contact Kari Bradshaw at rkhotoshoe@aol.com.

Philla and Charlie Osborne Volunteer Award

Each year, CDA has the option to give a Volunteer of the Year Award for special service to CDA.

History: The award is named in honor of Philla and Charlie Osborne who donated hours and hours of service to CDA in the 80's and 90's. They were always found at the practice ring at shows (recognized and schooling) checking numbers and entries and letting riders know when they were "on deck". Philla and Charlie also rode for many years with Vicki Hammers-O'Neil and today, Philla owns a horse that is being trained and competed by Vicki.

CDA Rider Achievement Awards

A new annual CDA Rider Recognition Program focusing on Juniors and AA's. Qualifying rides must be completed within the current competition year and can be achieved at either schooling or recognized shows.

Scores can be achieved on multiple horses. Training through 4th level. 3 scores, minimum 62% for schooling and 60% for recognized.

Follow CDA on FaceBook



CDA Facebook Page

CDA Facebook Pictures Needed

Please submit pictures for the CDA Facebook.

(Submitter needs to own the picture or copyright of the submission.)

Send to president@ctdressage.org

Schooling Show Competitions Awards Criteria for 2023

Active CDA members are eligible to submit scores for the following: Youth, Adult Amateur and Open competitors who compete between November 1, 2022 and October 31, 2023 at the following:

1) CDA-sponsored schooling shows.

- 2) Schooling shows whose prize lists appear in the 2022 CDA OMNIBUS.
- 3) Schooling show listings that are published in the CDA website.
- 4) Rider must be a paid member at the time of showing for scores to count for year-end awards.

Online submissions can be done starting November 1, 2023 and will end on December 1, 2023.

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

2023 Calendar of Events

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

Next CDA Board Meeting

Monday, April 17, 2023 – 5:30 PM

At Fern Feldman's house **OR**

Zoom Meeting will start at 6:30 pm

Contact Fern Feldman | fernfeldman@gmail.com

CDA Sponsored Schooling Shows

Please check the hosting farm's website for more details.

Location: Sperry View Farm

91 Bethway Rd.

Bethany, CT

Dates: **Saturday 5/6/23** (opening date: 4/15/23 - closing date 4/29/23)

Judge: Judy Dannemann (r)

Sunday 9/10/23 (opening date: 8/20/23 - closing date 9/3/23)

Judge: Corinna Fleming (L Graduate with Distinction)

Location Virtual (Spotlight Horse Shows)

Enter an online show — Spotlight Horse Shows

Date: **Saturday 6/17** (Please refer to Spotlight Horse Shows website for details)

Location: Weatogue Stables

33 Weatogue Rd.

Salisbury, CT

Date: **Sunday 7/23/2022** (Please refer to Weatogue Stable prize list for details)

Location: R Folly Farm

380 W. Morris Rd.

Morris, CT

Date: Sunday 8/13/23 (opening date: 7/23/23 -
closing date: 8/6/23)

Judge: Matthew Beasley (L Graduate with
Distinction)

Location: Belle Free Farm

86 Hennequin Rd.

Columbia, CT

Date: *Saturday 10/7/2023 (opening date
9/16/2023 – closing date 9/30/2023)

Judge: Liana Antanovich (L Graduate with
Distinction)

***Please refer to CDA Schooling Show master
prize list for details**

2023 CDA Sponsored Schooling shows will meet
all requirements for USDF Regional Schooling
show Awards program