

--- AGM & Banquet ---

will be held @ Freddie's in Sapulpa on
21 January 2012!

Come join ODS for great food, comaraderie,
and lots of fun!
(Form included in this newsletter!)

--- Member BIO's ---

Changes have been made to board member
bio's & absentee ballot since December
newsletter! it is time for some board member
elections (Bio's and absentee ballot included in
this newsletter).

--- Judge's Survey ---

Form on Page 4 of this newsletter.

January Calendar of Events:

- 13th-15th** U Dressage Boot Camp
Valley View Equestrian Center
Stillwater, OK
- 21st** U AGM & Banquet
Freddie's BBQ
Sapulpa, OK
- 27th-28th** U Tom Poulin Clinic
22700 N. MacArthur
Edmond, OK
Contact Judy: judiebnd@aol.com
- 28th-29th** U Region 9 Jr/YR Clinic
Featuring Jeremy Steinberg
Wylie, TX
jryoungridersclinics@usdf.org

Detailed calendar & forms
available on the ODS website:

www.dressageoklahoma.org

President's Column

By Sherry Guess

The final session of the USDF "L" Program was held October 22 and 23, 2011 at Freddie's in Sapulpa and at Lily Pond Estates in Kellyville.

The first day was strictly classroom and the second day was held in the arena, with horses and riders riding the USEF tests from Training through Second Level. The focus of this session was the collective marks at the end of the test. While each brave rider rode the test assigned to them, 21 participants judged each movement. After their ride, presenter Debbie Rhiel-Rodriguez led them in a discussion of the scores they gave and the reasons for their choices.

Demonstration riders were Frankie Chessman, Amanda Howard, Marta Koenig, Jane Mysock, and Sharon O'Banion for the rider group. Training level demonstrators were Nicole Burriss, Kathy Burrow, and Louise Waring. First level included Brady Carlson, Kay Kamish and Suzy Smith. Second level was Beth Circle, Roberta Clark, Lyn Francik and Kristin Knutson.

ODS had five individuals who were participants: Rainee Boyd, Judith Brown, Jennifer Hankins-Brown, Carolyn Hoekstra, and Mikelle Roeder.

ODS auditors who attended all three were Marilyn Bassett, Kathy Burrows, Pamela Byers, Patty Couch, Laura Custer, Amanda Edwards, Lyn Francik, Sherry Guess, Rebecca Hill, Kay Kamish, Anne Kuhns, Susan Lang, Carol Miller, Veronica Moody, Sharon O'Banion, Sue Twitty, and Clydette Womack.

Bee Pape Scholarship Fund

In honor of Bee Pape - a foundation stone for dressage in Region 9. A wonderful, kind, and generous lady, always there to help. She gave countless hours to all of us, and to this sport we love. Bee's daughter - Susan Peacock and her family asked that memorial donations to be made to the "Bee Pape Scholarship Fund" for use in Region 9. Bee was a great supporter of grass roots dressage, and Susan asked that a fund be set up to help our grass root members. Specifics of the fund will be released later. We are thrilled about this opportunity for our regional members. And truly appreciate the generosity of Susan, and her family, and your donations, to a much needed scholarship. To make donations: Please make check made out to "Bee Pape Scholarship Fund - Region 9".

***Mail to:
Allison Bailey
1172 Hwy 334
Oxford, Miss. 38655***



The new 1/2 points have gone into effect as of Dec 1, 2011. These half points can be very useful for: (1) some movements that include two elements such as the two 10 meter circles in First Level Test 3 and one is a 7 and one is a 6, or (2) when a judge/L Grad is really between two scores or a big modifier such as a down transition in First 3 from the canter lengthen would warrant a half point. The Judges' Committee panel indicated that half points should be used sparingly.

VERY IMPORTANT: Your scribe must write .0 after every whole number you give, so it would be helpful for your scribe if you say 7.0 and 6.0, etc. If the .0 is not on the test, scorers are supposed to send it back to you to complete.

USDF Information

Steffen Peters has been nominated for the Equestrian of the Year. You must be a current member of USEF or have been a member of USEF in 2011 to vote. Simply visit http://www.usef.org/_IFrames/eoty/Default.aspx and type in your USEF membership number to access the voting portal. Voting will end at Midnight [ET] on Monday, Jan 2, 2012.

Gary Rockwell is the new Chair of the USDF Judges' Committee. Lois Yukins, former Chair, will become Chair of the L Education Committee.

February Continuing Education

Seminar Info: The link to the Judges/L Grads Continuing Education Seminar with Hilda Gurney is <http://www.austindressageunlimited.org/news.html#judge>. There are also some hotels for \$55-60 per night on Expedia.

FARM VET / USDF ADULT CLINIC SERIES WITH LILO FORE, MARCH 3-4, 2012, COLLEGE STATION, TX. Rider applications now being accepted thru Jan 4. Or register to audit. <http://www.usdf.org/education/clinics/adult/dates-locations.asp>. Contact: Katherine Robertson--USDF krobertson@usdf.org.

BIOGRAPHIES FOR ODS 2012 BOARD ELECTIONS

Sharon O'Banion

Like many young girls growing up was totally horse crazy. Unfortunately, when young, riding lessons were sporadic at best. Then life and career happened. But learning to ride and having a horse was the number one item on my "bucket list". Four and a half years ago, at age 52 I started taking riding lessons, after not being on a horse for nearly 35 years! One thing led to another, a horse at the barn was for sale, and I thought "not now, someday when I retire, I can own a horse, etc". My husband intervened saying the most Romantic words: "Honey, you have to do it now! If not this horse, then another one." So four plus years later, with patient instructors, a great boarding facility, wonderful horse friends, improved physical condition on my part and a very supportive husband: the majority of rides on my horse are so fulfilling, and I just love being with him and fussing on him (the horse, well the husband too!). I have been so impressed that Oklahoma Dressage Society has so many quality educational events every year. I have audited several educational events, done behind the scenes paperwork, put myself in the spot-light as a demo-rider (!), attended Dressage camp (fun!), and have helped with show arena set-up and take down (setting some new speed records). The career pursuits that delayed my horse dream included being a computer programmer, college instructor in a university engineering department, business owner, and most recently 14 years as administrator of multi-physician medical practice. Currently I am semi-retired. I would like to assist ODS in continuing its legacy of promoting quality dressage education in Oklahoma.

Marta Koenig

I am a CPA and ODS member. I have served as ODS treasurer for the last three years. I would be privileged to continue in that capacity for another term if the membership feels that is in the club's best interest.

Sherry Guess

I have served on the ODS Board for the past three years, and as President for the past year. I would like to see our club continue to grow in educational activities, membership, and financial security. I am an enthusiastic supporter of all aspects of dressage, including volunteering. Being involved in dressage for more than 30 years, I have volunteered in many capacities on the chapter, state, and national levels. Over the years I have been a show manager, newsletter editor (back when it was type, cut & paste -- for real!), president of my local chapter in CA, Education Chair for CDS, and Chair of the USDF GMO Council for 12 years.

Kalea Maxwell

I have been riding and showing for 17 years, primarily in Hunter/Jumpers and now Dressage. I have been working as a professional, teaching lessons and training for the past seven years. I am currently the trainer for RNR Farms in Bixby. While the majority of my experience in the show ring has been in jumping, I have always used dressage as a basis for the training of our young prospects. Besides riding, I also enjoy sporthorse breeding competitions and young horse classes. This summer, I competed in the WBFSH Young Breeders World Championship in Chazey sur Ain, France. I would like to use my experience as a rider and handler to further promote dressage and dressage breeders here in Oklahoma.

Absentee Ballot on Page 6 of this newsletter!



Recognized Show Judge Survey

ODS is conducting a survey of our riders who show in recognized shows. Both shows hire two judges with a minimum rating of "S". Please remember that we typically hire judges 12-18 months before the shows and also have to consider the other Region 9 or Region 4 shows for which they've been hired so as to not have too much duplication.

Please list below either names of judges that you would like to see come to Oklahoma or names of judges you would rather we not hire. Feel free to add your reasoning to your choices.

Judges you would like to see at our shows.

Judges you would rather we not hire.

Please respond by January 21, 2012. You may e-mail your responses to Debbie Nutt at denutt@windstream.net or Anne Kuhns at akuhns@atlasok.com or you may fill out paper copy at the AGM on January 21, 2012.



**AGM and Awards Banquet Reservation Form
Saturday, January 21, 2012
Freddies BBQ & Steakhouse Banquet Facility
1425 New Sapulpa Road, Sapulpa, OK 74131**

\$25/person

- 9:30 Registration and set up silent auction**
- 10:00 Annual meeting**
- Noon dinner (buffet with both chicken and beef choices)**
- 1:00 continuation of meeting and Year End Award Presentation**

Name _____

Number in party x \$25 each = total enclosed \$ _____

Please make reservations by Tuesday, January 17th, 2012.

Make checks payable to ODS and send reservation form and payment to: Beth Circle, 5433 Oak Leaf Drive, Tulsa, OK 74131

Reservations can also be made via PayPal on the ODS website:

www.dressageoklahoma.org

Help us raise money for the ODS Endowed Educational Fund by donating an item(s) for the SILENT AUCTION. *We appreciate your support!*



Absentee Ballot for January 21, 2012 AGM
Revised 12-13-2011

*You must have renewed your membership for 2012 in order to vote.
 The membership year begins on December 1, 2011.*

We have four positions open. There are three 3-year terms and one 1-year term. In making your selections, please put a one(1) or a three(3) to indicate the length of term you wish each nominee to serve.

Nominees:

Sherry Guess _____

Kalea Maxwell _____

Marta Koenig _____

Sharon O'Banion _____

(Please make sure any write-ins are willing to serve)

Write-in _____

Write-in _____

PLEASE MAIL YOUR BALLOT TO:

Beth Circle
 5433 Oak Leaf Drive
 Tulsa, OK 74131

Ballots must be received no later than January 14, 2012 to be counted. Please place your ballot in a blank sealed envelope. Please place the blank envelope within the mailing envelope. Your name will need to be on the mailing envelope so we can verify membership. The sealed envelope will be separated from the mailing envelope and will remain sealed until the day of the meeting.

Absentee ballots will be opened and counted with the votes submitted at the meeting.

OKLAHOMA DRESSAGE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ODS is a Group member organization (GMO) of the United States Dressage Federation (USDF), and belongs to Region 9. See also www.usdf.org and www.usdfregion9.org and www.dressageoklahoma.org

New Membership Renewing Membership Information Change only

Paypal Transaction # _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____ USDF ID# _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Business Phone _____ Home _____ Cell _____

Email _____ Spouse's Name (for Invitation Use) _____

USDF membership year is December 1 through November 30. Apply this membership to year 20 ____

ODS Membership – Select One Category. For family memberships consisting of more than two family members, please check both boxes for that section.

\$45 Senior, Adult, Vintage Open Amateur Vintage

\$20 Charter / Life

\$35 Junior, under 18 as of Dec 1 of the current membership year _____ Birthdate
(For example, must be under 18 Dec. 1 of 2012 for 2012 membership, even though membership year begins in 2011.)

\$55 Family (for two family members) Name of second family member _____

\$10 Add third family member Name of third family member _____
Please include birthdates for junior family members.

Chapter Membership – Check which chapter you would like to join. Chapter membership is not required, but is required to participate in the Chapter awards programs. Chapter membership cost is the same for an individual or a family.

\$10 Green Country Chapter (GCC)

\$10 North Central Chapter (NCC)

\$10 New Stillwater/Central Oklahoma Area Chapter (Final name still under consideration by members)

_____ Total amount enclosed

ODS membership is an opportunity to promote Dressage in your community. The club is ONLY as good as it's most ACTIVE members. We need your help! What are your skill sets?

Scribing Scoring Organization/Management Accounting Spreadsheets
 Website Photography Fund Raising Other _____

I hereby release the Oklahoma Dressage Society, it's officers, members, employees and agents from any liability and all claims of every kind, including costs, expenses, or attorney fees that might result from damages, injuries, or losses resulting directly or indirectly from the negligent act or omissions of the officers, members, employees or agents of the Oklahoma Dressage Society Club. I agree and sign below:

Signed: _____ Date _____
(If Junior Rider, this form must be signed by parent or guardian)

Mail this form, with appropriate check payable to "Oklahoma Dressage Society" to:
Beth Circle, 5433 Oak Leaf Drive, Tulsa, OK 74131 bcircle@rentechboilers.com
Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for processing.

ODS ADVERTISING RATES & OPPORTUNITIES:

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING BASIC AD RATES:

Full page: **\$40**
Half page: **\$20** | Quarter page: **\$10**
Business Card Ad: **\$7.50**

Schooling Show or Clinic
Announcements | News & Web:
\$20 for the first insertion
\$15 per month thereafter

***Deadline is the 15th
of the preceding month.***

Calendar listing: Free
Depends on space allowed.

Non-commercial classified ads:
Members: **Free** | Non-members: **\$5**
*Classified ad length may be
modified by the editor if space is limited.*

WEBSITE BANNER ADS:

Placement at the discretion of the
webmaster & include a link to their site.
3 Months: **\$30** | 6 months: **\$60**
1 year: **\$120.00**

Links on the calendar are free as space allows.

BOARD MEMBERS:

PRESIDENT:

Sherry Guess
guessdrsg@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENT:

Rainee Boyd
raineeboyd@gmail.com

SECRETARY:

Lisa Jewell
jewell1957@hotmail.com

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Rita Stegeman
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