



Newsletter February 2005

Remember These Ohio Dressage Society Dates!!



Saturday, Feb. 5th at 4pm - Waterford United Methodist Church: Year end Awards Banquet Pot Luck

Sunday, March 6th at 5pm - Meeting in Pataskala at Betsy Hyde's time to be announced. The topic will be horse massage therapy.

Sometime in April: a FREE youth Ohio Dressage Society Members clinic /ride a test with Lynn Hamler and Amy Rothe-Hietter as clinicians. Both are USDF "L" Graduates and have judged schooling shows.

Sunday, May 22 - Ohio Dressage Society Schooling Show at North Star Stables

Weekend of June 11 & 12th Ohio Dressage Society's DownCenterline Dressage Show 1 & 2. Joan Humphrey (S) and General Jonathan Burton (S)!

Current Ohio Dressage Society Officers

President – Amy Rothe-Heitter,
<Amy_rothe@yahoo.com>

Vice President – Ann Miltimore,
<jmiltimore@alltel.net>

Secretary – Devon Whittaker,
<bonardev@earthlink.net>

Treasurer/New Membership – Chris Gemmel-Gnidovec,
<cgemmel@sprynet.com>



Saturday, Feb. 5th at 4pm

**Year end Awards Banquet
Pot Luck**

Waterford United Methodist Church

Directions:

Directions to Waterford Church from the south:
Take 13 north out of Mt Vernon, turn left on Waterford Road (Kokosing Construction Company is there) Follow that road as it curves and goes through Batemantown, keep going another few miles and Waterford Church will be on your left.

Or Take Rt. 71 north to the Rt. 95 exit. Turn right at the end of the exit ramp. Travel east a few miles to Chesterville and turn left at the light onto Rt. 314. Go north on 314 until you see Waterford Rd. on your right (several miles). Turn right and proceed to Waterford Church on your right as you go into the very small town of Waterford.

From the north take Rt. 13 or Rt. 71 south and - turn right from Rt. 13 onto Waterford Rd. or turn left from Rt. 314 onto Waterford Rd. Continue with the direction listed above.

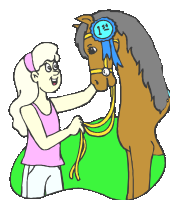
ODS Again Sponsors Recognized Shows

The Ohio Dressage Society will again be sponsoring two show weekends this show season.

Held at the Delaware Fairgrounds in Delaware, OH the ODS DownCenterline Dressage shows will be in their 4th year! ODS DownCenterline 1 & 2 will be the weekend of June 11 & 12, 2005 and ODS DownCenterline 3 & 4 will be the weekend of October 8 & 9, 2005. Both show weekends are recognized and approved by USDF and USEF.

The show committee has announced the judges that will be at the ODS shows this year. In June Joan Humphrey (S) and General Jonathan Burton (S) will be coming. Elizabeth Madlener (S) and Tom Poulin (S) will be judging for us in October. All four are excellent judges and the show committee is very excited that we were able to get them for our shows!

Make plans now to bring your horse to show. What a wonderful goal to work toward on these cold, snowy days. Not only do the shows need you and your horse coming to compete, we also need you to think about volunteering. Remember running recognized shows takes a lot of work and a lot of people helping with the various jobs. So... be sure to mark you calendar!



The Ohio Dressage Society Youth Scholarship

The Ohio Dressage Society Youth Scholarship was initiated in 2004. Laura Hamler was the first recipient. Members voted unanimously to establish this Youth Scholarship Fund. The purpose of this fund is to encourage any Junior Rider or Young Rider in Ohio that is a member of ODS to pursue a career devoted to the art of dressage.

Any Junior Rider or Young Rider in Ohio who is a member of ODS may apply to the Scholarship Committee for monetary assistance to further their knowledge of and skills in dressage. The funds may be used for a national or international sponsored opportunity, a horse related course at an approved university or college, or a USDF or USEF clinic, symposium, or NAYR Qualifier.

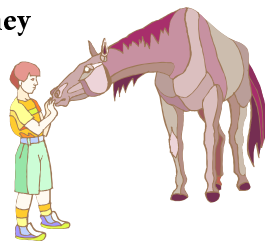
Up to \$1,000 a year may be awarded, depending on the availability of funds. It may be given entirely to one person or divided among those youth applying, if all are deemed worthy of receiving monetary assistance. The Scholarship does not have to be awarded if none of the applicants or their intended uses are considered appropriate.

Any Junior or Young Rider may contact any member of the Scholarship Committee for more information and an application. The deadline to apply is January 15th of the year the scholarship is to be awarded.

The Scholarship Committee has three members:

Ann Miltimore, 2005 ODS Vice-President and
Committee Chair
Mary Jo Weingart, Youth Committee
Sherrie Ridenour, ODS Member

**This is to the kids who think they want a horse...
from Ann Miltimore**



So you want a horse? Do you really know what that means? Are you willing to work for it? So you're too young and can't get a job, but I bet you can clean stalls. Parents say "we can't afford one" and "it is too expensive to board a horse." I say how bad do you want it? Now here is the point, I did it just this way: I was 12, I got a paper route, and I saved for 2 years, but I still needed a place to keep a horse before I could have my own. Any chance I got to ride a horse I was on one.

I always wanted a Morgan, just like the big beautiful black mare, "Lady", who pranced in the field down the road. I saw a Morgan mare in the paper; Black Bay 6 yrs old \$250.00. I knew she was for me so I begged my parents and they said yes, but I had to find a place to keep her. There were two old barns in my neighborhood, both run-down, owned by what I thought were mean old men. Well I was wrong! One was owned by a Judge Winston C. Allen, a retired Calvary Officer in WW2. He had a deep love for horses. The other was owned by A.B. Crawford, yes, the Crawford barn currently at Longaberger Homestead.

What I didn't know then was that these two men were boyhood friends and both loved horses and recognized my love of horses, and it was my persistence that got me where I am today. I asked Judge Allen to keep a horse in his barn and he said Crawford's was better. So I asked Crawford and he said NO! What I didn't know then was that Mr. Crawford had witnessed a child and horse hit by a car several years earlier and he had to put the horse down himself and couldn't bear to do it again. So, there would be no more horses in the grand old barn. I went back to Judge Allen and he said, "I'll have lunch with Bert tomorrow and will speak with him; don't worry about it."

The next day as I delivered Judge Allen's paper, I knocked on the door and he slowly opened it. I couldn't speak and the Judge said:
"What are you waiting for? Go get that horse - Bert said ok! But, one thing; he'll tell you just 2 weeks, he always says that, don't leave. Take the best care of that horse, ride it, love it, and learn all you can - he will never ask you to leave."

Well that was over 25 years ago! The horse was Cleo and she lived there over 15 years, along with her foal Squirt, Blues Princess, Diamond, Cracklin Rosie, and Joey. I tried. I paid \$10 a month board for all of them, never a dime more. Cleo is gone now and so is the barn and Bert Crawford, but I will never forget what Mr. Crawford & Judge Allen taught me and gave me; a work ethic and a true love of horses. The barn has been restored and is located at the Longaberger Homestead. Judge Allen died in 1982 and the day before he died he called me to the fence and said "I have something for you" - it was his Government Issue Calvary Saddle. I was 18 and why he gave it to me I'll never know, but I have it and my love of horses always.



2004 Youth Scholarship Recipient Gives Clinic

Laura Hamler, first recipient of the ODS Youth Scholarship, gave a clinic for ODS members while home from Germany for the holidays.

January 1, 2005 saw ODS members converging at Hobby Horse Farm to participate in a free clinic for ODS members only. In an effort to thank the Ohio Dressage Society for awarding her the scholarship, Laura willingly gave her time to ODS members and their horses. She worked to impart some of the knowledge she had gained from her time in Germany with any horse and rider combination that participated.

Laura has been in Germany at the farm of Conrad Schumacher for the last 6 months. She is a working student which means she does barn chores (including mucking 7 stalls a day 7 days a week!), cleans 20 bridles and grooms 5 horses a day, and rides 3 horses every day. Not only does she care for the horses in her charge, she also takes six lessons a week from Conrad Schumacher and gets additional coaching from his barn manager, Ellen Bontje.

Laura took her horse Kuer's Light to Germany. Kurly is now schooling Grand Prix. To gain as much knowledge and experience as possible during her stay, Laura will now be riding and showing another horse, a Danish Warmblood gelding trained to Grand Prix. Several backers purchased the horse for Laura to train and show. What a wonderful opportunity for Laura!