



Alpha Dressage News

October, 2021

Suzi's Scoop

Who feels Fall in the air? I know I do, and I'm very grateful for it!

It's nearly time for our Halloween Show and that includes our costume and Freaky Free-for-all Freestyle classes – do you have your costume ready?

The FFFAF is a ton of fun so please come and have a go. Remember, if you need help putting your music or choreography together, give me call, I can help. Anything goes in the freestyle, as long as you have a halt on the center line at the beginning and the end, and what you do in between stays under 5 minutes! You can go solo, or do a pas de deux, pas de trois, quadrille or more, you can even be on a leadline. It's a really wonderful opportunity to ride a freestyle if you've never done one before because there are no restrictions on your movements so you can design your test around your horse's best movements, whether they are in an official test or not. Remember to think outside the box when designing your test!

So did you all know that it's Alpha Dressage's 50th Anniversary next year? We are one of the oldest GMO's with USDF. To commemorate this we will be making an adjustment to our logo and ordering polo shirts with this logo that will be available to purchase at the banquet.

Over the next few newsletters and meetings I will be hiding some Easter eggs. Anyone who can find them all will be put into a lottery for a free shirt!

We have a busy time coming up and I'm looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our functions. Check out the calendar to make sure you have them all in your diary!

At our last show we were thrilled to have two of our riders earn their gold and bronze WDAA medals. A huge congratulations to Sue Slaubaugh for her Bronze and Lauren Merchant for her Gold. Also, Best of Luck to many of our riders who are in Oklahoma competing at the WDAA World Championships – we're proud of you all!

We are still looking for two more members to join the ADA board as members at large. To do this you must have been a member of ADA for at least a year. As a member at large you are not given a specific role and where possible we encourage you to be involved with the sub committees that are of most interest to you. We have monthly meetings to discuss and plan our events and occasional extra meetings when necessary. If you would like to take a more active role in the club please contact Donna Sloben to let her know!

That's all for now, don't forget to hunt the Easter Eggs!

Suzi

Alpha Dressage Officers

President

Suzi Jennings

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adaentries@gmail.com

Vice President Robin Segó

(941) 322-0494

sego1@juno.com

General Secretary

Linda Roberts

(941) 773-4936

lindalroberts816@gmail.com

Treasurer / Membership Secretary

Martha Koehnlein

(941) 320-7673

Koeh2337@gmail.com

Social Media and Events Co-chair

Danielle Ammeson

(941) 321-2469

spitfirelover22@hotmail.com

Members At Large

Betty Brown

Deb Herbert

Sue Slaubaugh

Donna Sloben

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.alphadressage.org

Upcoming Events...

October 12, 2021: General Membership meeting at Triple J cantina at 7:00 pm

October 16, 2021: Matt McLaughlin clinic – Sarasota Ranch club

October 31, 2021: Halloween Schooling show at Triple J – Judge Debbie S. Hill (L with distinction)

November 9, 2021: General Meeting – Triple J cantina at 7:00 pm

December 11, 2021: Annual Awards Banquet at Palm Aire Country Club

January 16, 2022: Schooling Show at Triple J

March 13 or 20, 2022: Schooling Show at Triple J

April 1, 2022: Schooling Show at Triple J

June 26, 2022: Schooling Show at Triple J

October 30, 2022: Schooling Show at Triple J

October 12th Membership meeting – Venue change!

We will now be holding the majority of our membership meetings at the Cantina at Triple J at 7:00 PM. There is a screened-in eating area, lights, restrooms, and plenty of parking. Your board made this change because the library was booked solid and we could never extend our meeting hours due to library rules. We'll be starting at 7:00 pm, which hopefully will give everyone time to get home from work, grab a bite to eat, or get essential barn chores done. Hope everyone will give this new meeting location a chance, but please share your feedback with any board member. Extra chairs are a good idea until we get a sense of attendance.

December 11th Awards Banquet & Club Celebration

Save the date! Our awards banquet will be held here, but we are also planning other fun activities for our members and volunteers. More details to follow. For now, please reserve this day, from 6:00 – 9:00 pm on your calendars. Spouses, significant others, and all family members are welcome.

Volunteer Hours Reminder

As a reminder if you are interested in participating in our ADA Year end awards program you must volunteer at least six (6) hours that are approved by Donna, our Volunteer Coordinator. If you have questions, please contact Donna directly at dsloben@aol.com or (941) 704-8280

Membership Renewal Time!

Our membership year starts December 1st! Help us get an early start to get our roster in to USDF. The form can be found at the end of the newsletter. You can bring your form and cash or check to the next meeting if you find it convenient. Martha's mailing address is on the form also.

The Event at TerraNova

Terra Nova is hosting its first CCI4*-S event October 22 - 24. This event will bring top level competitors from around the country. If you are not familiar with eventing, this is a very big deal and they are working very hard to make it successful. They are fairly new to the area and it takes a lot of people to run an event like this. They are asking Alpha Dressage to help get the word out that they still need volunteers. Volunteers are needed not only during the weekend of the competition, but also the week running up to the event, beginning the 15th.

TerraNova has graciously offered to put up a sponsorship sign for Alpha Dressage and are hoping to get some more volunteers to help them out. I know some of you have already signed up to volunteer, and they are very grateful for that! It would be a feather in our cap if we could fill even more of those spots for them.

This is a great opportunity for the local equestrian community to come together and be involved in putting on a national event! It will also give you a chance to see this beautiful facility first-hand and be a part of what will hopefully become a yearly event!

I think it's exciting to have an event of this magnitude in our backyard. What a chance to see riders and horses of this caliber perform at their best. Can't wait to see what the future holds for this facility and our community! Please sign up by clicking the link below

<https://www.eventingvolunteers.com/events/1710>

Please contact Katy Rosen if you have any questions or need help signing up. She can be reached at 941-928-3203 or kjrosen1@yahoo.com

Volunteer Job Descriptions –Scribe by Donna Sloben

Hello everyone. This will be the last article in my Volunteer series. This month we're going to talk about being a scribe.

Being a scribe is an essential job, in fact we can't have a show without one. The scribe keeps the judge and the tests organized as well as making sure both you and the judge have the tools necessary to keep the day running smoothly, so the judge can concentrate on the tests and you as the scribe can focus on getting the scores and comments recorded.

Scribing requires some dressage knowledge and the ability to follow along as the judge calls the scores and the comments. The scribe helps to verify the judge has the correct test in front of them for the horse and rider that is in the arena ready to show, also making sure that the number on the horse matches the number on the test. The scribe needs to be able to accurately record the judges' comments while writing quickly and legibly. Being able to read and understand the comments is vital to the competitor, it can be very frustrating if a rider can't make out a comment. The competitor is there to compete, but also learn what they need to improve so the comments are very important to each rider. There are many abbreviations and symbols that can be used which can be found on the USDF website as well as helpful tips and tricks. Many big shows now use electronic systems, but most schooling shows will be using the handwritten method for a long time to come.

Being a scribe is a challenging but rewarding position. Many people enjoy doing it and learning from it. There are even professional scribes who get paid to travel to national and international competitions and as a result, have the opportunity to go to events like the World Equestrian Games and national championships.

If you think you might be interested in learning to scribe but have never done it before, a schooling show is the perfect place to start. An experienced competitor will most likely be able to jump right in and give it a try, but if you are not that experienced, the best way may be to request that you be able to shadow a scribe to see what is involved and even do a few practice tests.

Most judges will tell you that they prefer to have the same scribe all day or even all weekend at the bigger shows. It is easier if they don't have to explain their process (each judge will have their individual preferences regarding how they like to do things) more than once a day. That being said, we will take scribes for half the day if that is all we can get, but out of respect to the judge, we will usually give preference to someone who can scribe for the entire day.

We are always looking for scribes, as are many other show venues. Last year we ran a scribe workshop and would consider doing it again. If this is something you may be interested in, please reach out to me at dsloben@aol.com. If there is enough interest, we can move forward with planning another one.

As I complete this series, I am reminded that it takes many people to put on a show and keep it running smoothly. It also occurs to me that there is no such thing as a small or unimportant job. Some jobs are easier than others, some require more physical labor, some require attention to detail and a laser focus or the ability to keep riders organized and keep things running on time or even just a good speaking voice, but they are all necessary and important. All of them should require the ability to have a little fun, a sense of humor, an enjoyment of the people and horses we all love, but most of all a willingness to give back to the sport we have embraced! I look forward to seeing you all at the next show. Until then, spend as much time as you can with your beasties, whatever flavor they may be and remember to ENJOY THE JOURNEY!!

ALPHA DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

PRESENTS

A DRESSAGE CLINIC WITH

MATT MCLAUGHLIN

Dates: October 16 & 17, 2021

Closing Date: October 10, 2021

**Location: 2679 Ranch Club Blvd
Myakka City, FL 34251**

Contact: Robin Segó

2679 Ranch Club Blvd

Myakka City, Fl 34251

941-735-1136

Sego1@juno.com

Fees: The cost of the clinic is \$100/ride for members and \$120/ride for non members. Auditing is free. Lunch will be provided. The registration fee is non-refundable – you will be responsible for finding a replacement for your time slot or forfeit the fee.

Payment: Pay by Venmo or send a check payable to Alpha Dressage Association to: Robin Segó, 2679 Ranch Club Blvd, Myakka City, FL 34251

Negative Coggins: Copy of current negative Coggins is required with registration.

Approved helmets MUST be worn by all riders while mounted.

Riders under the age of 18 years must be accompanied by an adult while on the clinic grounds.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Numbers: _____

E-Mail: _____

Horse (s): _____

Preferred Ride Time(s): _____

Fees: First Ride : \$ _____

 Second Ride: \$ _____

 Total: \$ _____

RELEASE OF LIABILITY

ALPHA DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

I, the undersigned, wish to participate in the Alpha Dressage Association event on October 16, 2021 at 2679 Ranch Club Blvd, Myakka City FL, a property owned by Robin and John Segó. I understand that during portions of this event I will be in close proximity to one or more horses under circumstances which may expose me to some risk of injury, because of the nature of horses, the facility, and the activities in which I will be engaged.

In consideration of the Alpha Dressage Association and Robin and John Segó allowing my participation in this event, I, on behalf of myself, and my heirs, administrators, personal representatives, assigns and children and spouse, if any, do hereby agree to hold harmless, release and discharge Alpha Dressage Association and Robin and John Segó, which includes its officers, directors, members, agents, representatives, affiliates and insurers, of and from all claims, demands, causes of action and legal liability whether known or unknown, anticipated or unanticipated, due to the ordinary negligence of Alpha Dressage Association. I shall not bring any claims, demands, legal actions or causes of action against Alpha Dressage Association or Robin and John Segó for any damage or loss due to bodily injury, death or property damage arising out of my participation in this event.

WARNING

Under Florida law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for an injury to, or the death of, a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities.

Signature of Participant

Date

Signature of Parent of Guardian

Date

(If participant is a minor)



Alpha Dressage Association

Membership application for 2022

Membership runs from Dec. 1, 2021– Nov. 30, 2022

NAME: _____
Adult _____ Junior (18 & under) _____ Date of birth for juniors _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PREFERRED PHONE: _____

ANNUAL DUES

Adult: \$40.00 \$ _____

Junior \$30.00 \$ _____

Please enclose \$10.00 for a group subscription to HORSE & PONY \$ _____

(If wanted) TOTAL \$ _____

Please make checks payable to *Alpha Dressage Association*.

Alpha Dressage Association is a USDF Group Member Organization; its members are automatically USDF Group Members.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

GUARDIAN SIGNATURE OF JUNIOR APPLICANT _____

Mail to:

Martha Koehnlein
490 Percheron Circle
Nokomis, FL 34275
941-320-7673

Koeh2337@gmail.com