Vol. 26 ISSUE 3 MARCH 2026

ARIZONA DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION
THECENTERLINE

You Spoke — We're Listening

Earlier this year, many of you took the time to complete our member survey about educational programming. That feedback has become the foundation for everything the Education Committee is planning, and we want you to see how your input is shaping what comes next.

The message was clear. Eighty percent of respondents want programming focused on dressage tests, movements, and technique. Seventy-eight percent want to hear a judge's perspective on what they're looking for. And 57% expressed interest in sports psychology and mental preparation. You also told us that in-person events remain your strong preference (59%), but that online options offering a mix of in-person and virtual formats would help increase accessibility (35%). On timing, winter came out on top at 73%, followed by fall at 61%, with spring and summer close behind.

We heard all of it, and we're building a programming calendar that reflects those priorities while being mindful of the demands on our volunteer base. Over the next two years, our educational programming will include one major clinic, at least two educational webinars, and one specialized "niche" clinic annually. This structure provides a variety of learning opportunities while maintaining thoughtful fiscal oversight.

Building on Momentum

We are building on what was already a strong year. The Peters/Foy Symposium was the most mentioned event in the survey, and the Mike Osinski Clinic followed and was described by attendees as one of the best symposiums they had attended. The Janet Jones presentation on *Horse Brain, Human Brain* drew multiple requests for a return visit. The Wine and Scribe evening with Bev Rogers also earned praise for giving members a behind-the-scenes look at judging.

More recently, our first webinar of the year, *Social License to Operate*, presented by David O'Connor, drew nearly 100 registrations with close to 50 live attendees and our reach was from the east coast of Virginia to the west coast of Washington and California and 7 states between. The recording has continued to receive views on YouTube, and multiple members reached out personally to share how much they valued the content. That kind of engagement tells us we're on the right track.

What's Coming in 2026

David O'Connor: Stoplight Guidance. David O'Connor will be back for a second webinar, this time focused on the FEI's Stoplight Guidance framework. There is a great deal of detail behind this topic, and the timing would serve as a valuable refresher heading into the summer show season. We have confirmed Monday June 8 at 5:00pm. Look for registration information on our website under education or the calendar of events.

Judges' Panel Series. We are also exploring a new concept this year: a

Continued on page 3

ADA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ann Damiano – President, Fundraising Chair, Interim Show Committee Chair

Leslie Sherlin, PhD - Vice President & JR/YR Chair

Rebecca Lindy - Treasurer/ Finance Chair

Rebecca Bruening – Secretary/ Education Committee Chair

Karen McGee - Nominating & Governance Chair/ Scholarship Chair

Michell Combs – Membership Chair

Erin McHenry - Communications Chair

Susan Skripac - Futurity Chair, Schooling Show Co-Chair

Jaime Pollack - Awards Chair

Tracy Case - Volunteer Committee Chair

Christa Severns - Schooling Show Co-Chair

COMMITTEES

Centerline Editor – Beth Martinec

Webmaster/Score Compilation – Sue Leutwyler

Vendor Relations - Alanna Almgren
ADA Board Attorney – Wendy Riddell

The Centerline is the official monthly newsletter of the Arizona Dressage Association (ADA), a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit organization. Material in the newsletter may not be reproduced, with the exception of forms, without the written consent and credit of the editor and/or author. The Centerline welcomes your articles, barn news, artwork, and especially, your photographs. Submissions, news, and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the ADA. Acceptance does not constitute an endorsement. Accuracy of materials submitted is the sole responsibility of the author. The Editor reserves the right to accept, reject and edit submitted material. The deadline for submission is the 20th of the month. Email: centerline@azdressage.org

ARIZONA DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION
100 Easy St., Box 2855
Carefree, AZ 85377



Your Voice Matters—

Earn Volunteer Hours by Contributing to *THE CENTERLINE!*

Are you passionate about dressage, love to write, or have barn news to share? *The Centerline* newsletter is looking for AZ dressage community members—riders, trainers, and horse lovers alike—to contribute articles, opinions, updates, and tips.

SUBMIT TO: centerline@azdressage.org

**The deadline for submission is the 20th of the month.*

Ideas for Submissions

Letters to the Editor: Submit your comments, suggestions, or opinions relating to the sport of dressage. The Centerline Editor reserves the right to edit submitted content for clarity, tone, and space.

Barn News: Trainers would you like to let us know about the recent accomplishments of your clients or introduce new clients and horses? Would you like to update readers about barn improvements, or talk about any other news of interest to the membership.

Member Submissions: Submit an article and photo of you and your horse on a topic of interest, a clinic or show experience. Submit your favorite barn and horse care tips, or review clinics. We'd love to hear from you! NOTE: *If the photo is a riding photo, a helmet is required.*

***Product Endorsements/Advertising** In most cases, products and services are considered paid advertising. Articles that are negative in nature concerning a particular product will not be considered for publication.*

Continued from page 1

Judges' Panel Series. We will assemble a panel of three judges at different levels of the judging pathway, ('L' graduate, an 'r' or 'R' judge, and a senior judge 'S'), and have them watch and score real dressage movements together in real time. The movements would be curated from a combination of member-submitted tests/ movements and footage from other publicized events, giving the panel a range of levels and challenges to discuss. After watching each set of movements, the judges would share how they would score it, what they noticed, and what the rider could do to improve. This format gives members a rare window into how different judges think and what they prioritize, and hearing those perspectives side by side makes the learning especially rich. We envision one to two of these events this year, timed to the edges of the season when it is too hot to do much else! The format lends itself well to virtual delivery, making it accessible to members across the state both real time as a webinar and a recorded event for later viewing.

Sports Psychology Webinar Series. Sports psychology was the third most requested topic in the survey, and it's one we're excited about. Dr. Leslie Sherlin, a licensed professional counselor and certified sport psychology consultant who also happens to be one of our own ADA board members, will lead a two-part virtual series. The first session is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13 at 6:00 PM, with the second on Wednesday, July 22 at 6:00 PM. Topics will include goal setting and reaching goals at a healthy pace and performance anxiety and how to manage it in the ring. These sessions will address requested topics such as recovering from mistakes and techniques for competition preparation. These topics came directly from conversations with both seasoned competitors and our junior and young riders. Each session will run approximately one hour with time for questions, and the virtual format means members who travel to more tolerable climates for the summer can still participate!

Bit and Bridle Clinic. Bit education and fitting was one of the additional topics suggested by members in the survey, and we're making it happen. Christian Klevens will present an educational event focused on bit fitting and understanding the horse's mouth. Christian brings a deeply educational approach that goes well beyond recommending a specific bit. She helps riders understand why a particular bit works for a particular horse, and members of our community who have worked with her speak very highly of what they learned in just a single session. Date and format details are in development.



Janet Jones Returns. Multiple survey respondents asked us to bring Janet Jones back, and we're happy to say it's in the works. Dr. Jones will be releasing a new book this summer, and we are planning a return engagement around that release with a presentation and book signing. We are looking at October dates for this event, which aligns with the fall timing that 61% of you said works well. We have also secured access to a classroom-style venue in North Scottsdale that seats approximately 50, giving us a consistent and convenient space for lecture-format events like this one.

Looking Ahead: 2027 and Beyond

We are in conversations with several clinicians suggested in the survey for our 2027 and 2028 planning. Reaching out early allows us to get on busy calendars well in advance, and we want to make sure we're thoughtfully spacing events so that each one feels special and well attended rather than competing for your time and attention.

A Note on Junior and Young Rider Programming

The survey highlighted an unmet need for programming geared specifically toward junior and young riders, including topics like mental preparation, show pressure, and fitness. We are fortunate to have two young riders on the Education Committee, Nicola

Continued on page 6


Dressage
Schooling Show
Classical & Western
April 18, 2026
NORTHERN ARIZONA CHAPTER
ARIZONA DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION
April 18th
REGISTER NOW!!
www.nacofada.com
CONTACT:BETH MULCAHY
EMAIL: SECRETARY@NACOFADA.COM
Classical & Western
JUDGE: MICHELL COMBS
"r" CLASSICAL "R" WESTERN
FREEMAN FARMS
1096 EAST ROAD 3 SOUTH
CHINO VALLEY, AZ 86323

2025 YEAR-END AWARDS

Luncheon

ARIZONA DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

Honoring Our Recognized & Schooling Show Award Winners.

Sunday, April 26, 2026
12:30 pm

Please RSVP by Monday, April 20th
azdressage.org

Winners are free
Guests pay $35

Maggiano's Little Italy

16405 N. Scottsdale Rd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85254
480.333.4110

Family Style Lunch

Served with Freshly Baked Bread
Regular and Decaffeinated Coffee, Hot Tea,
Iced Tea, and Assorted Sodas.

First Course

Italian Chopped Salad

Second Course

Mushroom Ravioli
Chicken Piccata
Baked Ziti - sausage served on the side

Dessert

Tiramisu
Gigi's Butter Cake

**Vegan/GF Options available upon request*

Continued from page 3

Valentine and Mariska Sherlin, who are helping us think about what the next generation of ADA members needs most. Their input has already helped shape our upcoming events, and we expect their perspective to continue influencing our programming as we grow.

Meet the Education Committee

The new Education Committee includes Rebecca Bruening (Chair), Leslie Sherlin, Rebecca Lindy, Nicola Valentine, and Mariska Sherlin. This group brings a wonderful range of perspectives. We are energized by the work ahead and deeply appreciate the foundation built by last year's education committee members, whose efforts brought exceptional clinicians and presenters to our membership. That momentum gives us a strong starting point, and we are committed to building on it thoughtfully with your recent feedback guiding our direction.

With outstanding presenters, exciting programming in development, and enthusiastic member involvement, the future of education within our organization is bright. We are committed to offering events that are meaningful without being overwhelming, and we will continue to let your feedback guide our planning. We look forward to seeing you at these upcoming events.



Rebecca Bruening (Chair)



Leslie Sherlin

2026 Schooling Show Horse Nominations

Date Nominated	Horse	Horse USDF	Owner - Last, First
10/27/25	Abby Road	1153192	House, Sandra
10/16/25	Africano LA	1141070	Hope-Reese, Theresa
11/9/25	Amazing Grace	1171920	Houck, Lorie
2/24/26	B Rosalinde	1153266	CLARY, JEANINE
10/19/25	Bailando	1101444	McHenry, Erin
11/3/25	Beniciano BG	1159475	Barngrover, Alyssa
10/21/25	Bohemian Rhapsody R	1166962	Damiano, Ann
10/12/25	Bohemio XCVII	1157462	Eikel-Baughman, Nathalie
1/22/26	Bright Feet	1143353	Sherwood, Catalina
9/30/25	Card Counter LD	1149198	Nelson, Paula
10/15/25	CBC Ryal	1156494	Kauffman, Laura
10/16/25	CC's Rubin	1153213	Cahill, Courtney
10/12/25	Corazòn Valeroso	1162888	Lloyd, Tristan Jade
11/15/25	D'Eleganz	1116642	Putty, Dee
9/22/25	Dartmouth	1158183	Clarity, Equine Nutrition .
2/4/26	De Niro's Black Shadow	1166230	Mulcahy, Beth
10/20/25	Delta GSF	1161254	Pribble, Kim
11/4/25	Diestro XII	1165357	Taylor, Shelene
9/19/25	DP Hesa Shameless Bo	1129860	Trollope, Cynthia
9/19/25	DP Hesa Shamless Bo	1129860	Trollope, Cynthia
11/17/25	Enjoy Jazz D	1137848	Norman, Joanna
2/6/26	Falet	1112695	Barcus, Debbie
11/13/25	Fanfare HSR	1157211	Brusnighan, Christopher
10/17/25	Fenix EAS	1148478	Swanson, Julie
10/29/25	Fiesta de Mayo	1157551	Carden, Alana
11/7/25	Fiorella N	1158646	Terrill, Julia
9/30/25	First Date	1157737	Nelson, Paula
10/21/25	Florisson	1123137	Damiano, Ann
10/14/25	For Hope	1144857	Pribble, Kimberly
9/21/25	Formally Cooper	1071211	McLaughlin, Erica
10/20/25	Frenchmans Keeper	1162057	Berry, Bobbi
10/21/25	Fritz De Borrey	1161593	Lindy, Rebecca
9/29/25	Galante Da Prata	1130706	Lent, Stacey
1/15/26	Gallant Gentleman	1172572	L'Heureux, Laura
12/5/25	Golden's Ray	1168027	Golden, Joy
10/23/25	Handsome	1157190	Collins, Natalie
11/20/25	Heros Quest	1159356	Keyser, Anastasia
11/20/25	I.M. Electric	1122708	Surrett, Danielle
10/20/25	I've Gotta Secret CB	1171699	Hoffman, Shea
11/1/25	Iadro	1110252	Helton, Heidi
10/22/25	Icaro Cal	1148550	Wheeler-Raheb, Katherine
11/17/25	Ima Hot Ducati	1158897	Abazarnia, Diane
10/3/25	Imperio Do Castanheiro	1127378	Radda, Tania
10/21/25	In D'Aire	1104314	Ward, Jaime
10/11/25	Indiano De JJ	1158898	Indiano LLC
10/10/25	Ixtapa	1157305	Gross, Michele
10/21/25	Jeitoso XIV	1155634	Lindy, Rebecca

2026 Schooling Show Horse Nominations cont.

10/21/25	Jetsetter EDI	1149849	Damiano, Ann
12/1/25	Kasch is King	1168366	McGee, Karen
2/8/26	Krystof	1168409	Montierth, Heather
1/16/26	L'Aqiedo	1144845	Venkatesh, Debra
10/8/25	Lancero TG	1170779	Zavod, Sharon
2/13/26	Last Chapter	1123082	Taylor, Karrin
10/21/25	Los Angeles	1152991	Ward, Jaime
10/21/25	Made You Look	1134157	Murphy, Christine
11/21/25	Malikah	1165023	Byrne-Cowan, Cody
10/14/25	Mi Amor	1146880	Novakowski, Patricia
1/16/26	MW Patriot	1171713	Wilson, Alexandra
12/27/25	My Girl	1163514	Scott, Elizabeth
11/7/25	My-T	1090684	Peabody, Meredith
2/23/26	Nesquik	1167226	Smith, Shawn
11/17/25	Newman	1164706	Wilson, Ann
11/4/25	Nicodemus	1151234	Evans, Shepherd Allison
10/25/25	Odín De Querencias	1157520	Kalchik, Allen
11/24/25	Ojeador De Ruiz	1171936	Black, Debra
1/5/26	Olle Van Hilberalti	1172460	Williams, Jane
10/20/25	Online H	1169130	Bruening, Rebecca
9/23/25	Oxford B	1155240	Buchanan, Anne
10/2/25	Patuco PG	1150576	Lindley, Deborah
1/20/26	Polarflocke	1169430	Sjoberg, Nissa
1/8/26	Primrose DF	1168421	Mucha, Susan
10/9/25	Quill GHA	1132596	Lindley, Deborah
9/19/25	R U 4 Me	1132508	Martin, Molly
11/24/25	Reata Rose MGE	1171736	Wolfe, Ashley
9/21/25	Romano Larios	1144639	Apicella, Kimberly
10/17/25	Ronja	1115900	Levine, Carly
10/20/25	Rose Rhapsodie	1145287	Paglia, Paula
12/19/25	Rubiana MSF	1117994	Hitchcock, Cindy
2/13/26	San Laurino H	1145270	Taylor, Karrin
1/16/26	Sczarina	1108001	Venkatesh, Debra
10/20/25	Slipstream	1107169	Paglia, Paula
10/19/25	Solbjerggaard's Anakin	1167093	Burton, Ashley
10/20/25	Stellar JCA	1169443	Hoffman, Shea
10/18/25	Summer Solstice	1122785	Lloyd, Tristan Jade
11/10/25	Sun Prince	1123929	Case, Tracy
10/20/25	Talisman	1157953	Boice, Lynn
2/27/26	Thistle Glen's Desperado	1167220	Smith, Sarah
10/21/25	Trinidad	1143481	Erickson, Sophie
11/18/25	Vinoce	1155666	Callahan, Tammy
12/5/25	Wallace G	1134394	Skripac, Susan
10/9/25	Wynn Royalty Wins	1155722	Sherlin, Leslie
11/13/25	Zahon AB	1167479	Reed, Melissa

Board of Directors
Regular Meeting

January 20, 2026
Minutes

Arizona Dressage Association
Board Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2026 | 6:00 PM

Call to Order and Attendance
President Ann Damiano called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM.
Present: Ann Damiano, Rebecca Lindy, Leslie Sherlin, Rebecca Bruening, Michell Combs, Susan Skripac, Erin McHenry, Karen McGee, Christa Severns, Tracy Case
Absent: Jaime Pollack
Guests: Lynne Trenary (NAC Representative), Beth Rosekrans (NAC President), Sue Leutwyler

Officer Reports
President: Ann noted that her comprehensive written report was distributed in advance and invited questions.
Secretary: Rebecca Bruening confirmed that the January meeting minutes were submitted to Beth Martinec for The Centerline.
Treasurer: Rebecca Lindy reported that 2025 financials are essentially locked down, pending NAC information. Highlighted key activities: 1099s were completed; general liability insurance was renewed; and CDs mature on February 19th. Ann Damiano raised the question of equipment and property insurance for ADA assets and Rebecca Lindy will investigate options and cost-benefit considerations.

EOM Cash Balance Trend

	2025		2026	
	Jan	Dec	Jan	Notes
xx1521	$ 8,011	$ 42,526	$ 32,068	General checking
xx6796	$ 5,215	$ 2,977	$ 2,491	Debit card & Paypal link
xx9563	$ 66,622	$ 26,742	$ 26,743	Savings
CDs	$ 23,580	$ 40,233	$ 40,233	Added $20k more from savings to CDs
Petty Cash	$ 400	$ 400	$ 400	
Total	$ 103,828	$ 112,879	$ 101,935	

Inflows include

Expenses include

Osinski Clinic	$ 15,000

Interest earned on 5-month CDs as of 2/14/26 is $535.92

Committee Reports
Scholarship: Karen McGee reported a record 17 scholarship applications received this year. The committee developed a scoring matrix based on application requirements and vetted applicants for volunteerism, active membership, and prior scholarship receipt. The committee recommended six scholarship recipients.

Motion: To approve the scholarship recipients as recommended by the Scholarship Committee: Missy Gilliland, Kim Pribble, Rebecca Lindy, Tristan Lloyd, Mariska Sherlin, and Nicola Valentine. Passed unanimously.

Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of increasing the travel grant amount from $500 to match the scholarship amount. The board agreed to table the travel grant decision pending development of clearer criteria and guidelines.

NAC: NAC is planning three schooling shows and clinics for 2026, with a clinic scheduled for the following weekend. Discussion addressed D&O insurance coverage, with Rebecca Lindy confirming that Markel's policy covers chapters and sub-chapters by role rather than by named individuals. Beth raised NAC's funding request, seeking increased support from ADA. Rebecca Lindy emphasized the need for pro forma budgets showing projected revenues and expenses before funding requests can be evaluated, consistent with ADA's approach to all committees and events. The request was tabled pending more information and development of proformas for the proposed events.

Communications: Erin McHenry presented results from the member survey. Key findings: members prefer in-person events but are open to hybrid formats; virtual-only events are not preferred; virtual shows received limited interest, and numerous clinician names and topics were suggested, which will inform education planning.

Education: Rebecca Bruening outlined her approach as new Education Committee chair, focusing on delivering member value while managing costs and avoiding volunteer burnout. Baseline goals include one major clinic per year, two major webinars, and one or two niche events. Rebecca will leverage survey results in planning.

JR/YR: Leslie Sherlin reported that a new rider spotlight article featuring Sammy McDonald was submitted to Beth Martinec for The Centerline.

Show Committee: Ann Damiano, interim chair, reported that the committee held a kickoff meeting to validate dates and discuss plans. The Fall Fiesta / State Championships will be held on November 7 & 8 this year with efforts to enhance the experience for competitors.

Schooling Shows: Christa Severns reported continued success with schooling shows aided significantly by Sherlin Consulting Group's sponsorship and strong volunteer support. The next schooling show is March 15th at Carefree Farms, with a Queen Creek venue planned for later in the year to serve the east valley.

Awards: Ann Damiano presented Jaime Pollack's report. Year-end award winners have been finalized. Ann and Jaime are developing a proposal to expand award divisions, potentially separating Grand Prix from other FEI levels, with a proposal expected next month.

Volunteer: Tracy Case developed a preliminary framework for volunteer awards and will present a formal proposal at the March meeting for implementation in future years.

Futurity: No update.

Membership: Michell Combs reported membership is tracking ahead of previous years, with approximately five additional members since the last report. A committee meeting is planned to discuss outreach strategies.

Nominating & Governance: Karen McGee reported no updates.

Fundraising: Ann Damiano reported ongoing efforts to organize a meeting to discuss individual sponsor recognition on the website. The Spear Cross logo was added to the website as a new sponsor.

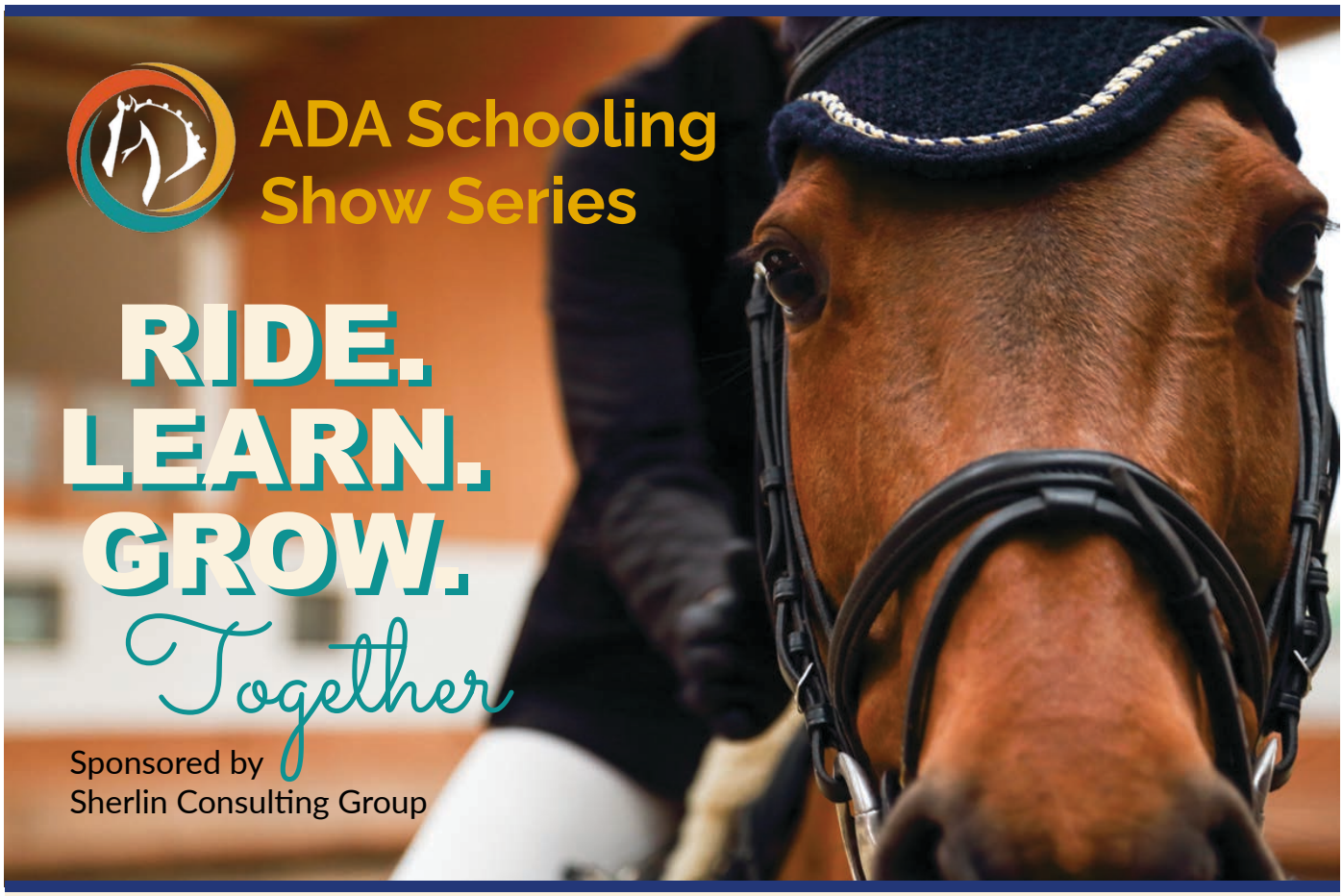
Old Business
The annual member meeting was discussed and board considered options including a virtual presentation with Q&A, potentially scheduled for July rather than rushing to hold it in April. Rebecca Lindy requested that all committee leads submit capital budget ideas by March 15th.

New Business
Susan Skripac inquired about the history of the Northern Arizona Chapter. Michell Combs noted that membership rates with NAC have remained unchanged since 2007 and that NAC has operated independently. The new bylaws have prompted closer examination of the chapter structure and compliance requirements.

Next Meeting
The next board meeting will be held March 16, 2026, at 6:00 PM via Zoom.
Adjournment
The regular meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Bruening
Secretary

Flying Fox Farm, LLC
Horse Boarding, Training & Lessons
Shelley Ebel
9836 N. 110th Street
Scottsdale, AZ 85259
480-391-1035
flyingfoxfarm1@cox.net



The Arizona Dressage Association is proud to partner with **Sherlin Consulting Group**, the official sponsor of our **Schooling Show Series.**

Their support helps create accessible, educational opportunities where riders of all levels can gain experience, receive constructive feedback, and build confidence in the show arena.

With a shared commitment to personal growth, peak performance, and lifelong learning, Sherlin Consulting Group and ADA are united in supporting the development of our dressage community.

2026 Events

JAN 17	Dale Creek Equestrian Center, West Valley
FEB 15	Carefree Farms, North Valley
MAR 15	Carefree Farms, North Valley
APR 12	Central Arizona Riding Academy, Queen Creek

Please note updated dates; Queen Creek was unavailable earlier in April.

Join Us for the Fun & Experience! azdressage.org

Strengthening ADA's Financial Foundation: Treasurer's Update for Q1

As we transitioned to QuickBooks Online and implemented stronger financial controls, coordinated contract management, and the use of an external bookkeeper, the ADA gained far greater visibility into our financial position and the true performance of our programs for our 2025 Calendar Year. These improvements have allowed us to manage expenses more effectively, accelerate the timeliness of financial transactions, and make more informed decisions about how to invest in our members and our mission.

2025 Financial Highlights

Despite hosting fewer Recognized shows in 2025, ADA delivered one of its strongest financial years in recent history. Key drivers included:

- **Increased membership**, reflecting renewed engagement across the state
- **Higher interest income**, made possible by investing more capital during downtimes in higher-yield vehicles
- **Growth in donations**, demonstrating strong community support
- Significant expansion of our education program revenue, driven by new offerings and high-value content

In 2024, ADA benefited from three Recognized show weekends, including the Region 5 Championships, which attracted a large number of out-of-state competitors. While 2025 included only two Recognized shows, the introduction of the **CORE Education Series**—featuring Janet Foy, Steffen Peters, Beverly Rogers, Janet Jones and Hilda Gurney—combined with an expanded schooling show series, generated nearly the same revenue as 2024.

This shift demonstrates the strength of ADA's diversified programming and the value our members place on high-quality educational opportunities.

Improved Financial Management leads to Clearer Insights

With improved expense management and more timely financial processing, we were able to more accurately assess the financial impact of each program throughout the year. This clarity allows us to:

- Evaluate which programs deliver the strongest member value and engagement
- Allocate resources more strategically
- Strengthen long-term planning and budgeting
- Reinforce ADA's financial sustainability

Here Are Some Key Statistics Comparing 2025 to 2024 (These are unaudited numbers, which will not match the filed IRS 990; they are a representation of the impact of our Programs in the Calendar Year):

Summary Statement of Program Activities (unaudited)

	2025	2024
Income		
Membership	$ 16,414	$ 12,835
Recognized Shows	$100,732	$228,255
Schooling Shows	$ 10,116	$ 289
Education	$ 80,455	$ 5,155
Interest	$ 1,113	$ 7
Other*	$ 16,834	$ 6,713
Total Revenue	$225,664	$253,254

Continued on page 15

David Gilpin
Independent
Custom Saddle Work

435.881.2364

Fittings in Arizona
Monthly - Fall to Spring

David Gilpin Custom Saddle Work
DavidGilpinCustomSaddleFitting@yahoo.com

Your horse wants to stay here.






Ride • Relax • Repeat

DIAMOND SPIRIT
RANCH
GUEST HOUSE

- guest house w/ 2 queen beds
- 2 stalls, 2 turnouts
- RV hook up
- lighted arena
- just outside Payson, AZ
- across from Patterson Training

www.DiamondSpiritRanch.com

Continued from page 13

Improved expense management and faster, more accurate financial processing gave us a clearer understanding of the true financial impact of our programs throughout 2025, demonstrating improved cost efficiency. Below is an overview of our strengthened program cost ratios:

Cost Ratio
(Program Expenditures/Program Revenue)

	2025	2024
Membership	41.1%	38.8%
Recognized Shows	103.1%	100.7%
Schooling Shows	41.1%	81.0%
Education	83.3%	119.1%

Additionally, we granted more scholarships and awards in 2025 than in 2024: $5,500 vs $1,500, respectively.

Excluding the Northern Arizona Chapter's impact and tax entries, 2025 activities resulted in an increase in Net Assets of $12,000 as compared to the prior year's Net Deficit of $30,000. With our 2025 year-end surplus, we have already begun reinvesting in programs that directly support our members. This includes underwriting the Mike Osinski clinic held earlier in January and expanding our scholarship offerings—from a total of $2,500 to a potential $4,500! We are also reviewing our Travel Grant Scholarship to increase the award amount and clarify the eligibility criteria so that more members can benefit.

In addition, we are evaluating several capital investments, such as a new dressage court and smaller equipment upgrades, to further enhance the show experience for our competitors and judges.

We look forward to building on this momentum and are excited for another successful year with the Arizona Dressage Association.

Best,

Rebecca M. Lindy

Treasurer, Arizona Dressage Association



"Sun-Kissed Salute"
-photo by Mariska Sherlin

Second Place Winner
USDF Photography Contest, 16-21 age group

USDF Photography Contest Winner

The photo is called "Sun-Kissed Salute" and it won Second Place in the USDF Photography Contest for the 16-21 age group.

I took the photo a couple of years ago at an IEA show. I was drawn to the angle and the way the late afternoon light was hitting, and I was trying to capture a small piece of a much bigger picture: a horse and rider quiet with connection during the constant motion of a dressage test.

This is actually my second year placing in the USDF contests. In 2024, I won First Place in the art contest (seen below), so it's been really fun to place in both categories. I've also entered the 2026 contest with a photo of Molly and Teddy taken at the Peters/Foy clinic.

USDF opens the contests each year to members of all ages. I'd love to see more ADA junior and young riders give it a try. It's a great way to celebrate the sport beyond just competing.

~ Mariska Sherlin



USDF REGION FIVE

USDF Region 5 Update – March 2026

I hope everyone has been having a good winter. The weather has been way too warm and dry in Colorado but we're praying for snow in March! Florida has also been very temperate this year as well and they are very dry and also praying for rain. Show season is well underway or just around the corner for many of you and I hope you're making strides with your training and/or showing goals!

If you have an educational activity that your barn, group or organization is doing, please let me know so I can add it to the Region 5 educational activity calendar that is sent out with the monthly Regional updates by USDF. We would love to keep everyone as informed as possible. We can also post events on the Region 5 website and/or Facebook page. Please feel free to send me an email reminder for anything you'd like to see posted.

The Rocky Mountain Dressage Society reminds you that you should try and join them!

- Train the Trainer with Sarah Geikie – March 7-8, Franktown, Colorado - kaimana_co@hotmail.com
- RMDS TD/Show Management Clinic – March 9 – Zoom – office@rmds.org
- George Williams and Janet Foy Symposium – April 25-26, Sedalia, Colorado - ktknight60@gmail.com

Utah Dressage Society has the USDF L Program Session C on April 11-12 in Lehi, Utah - secretary@utahdressagesociety.com for more information.

If you intend to qualify for Region 5 teams to the North American Youth Championships in the Childrens, Junior or Young Rider divisions, then please make sure you take note of the application structure for 2026. The application and fee should be turned in to the USDF office by March 9, 2026 in order to avoid stiffer fees. If you apply by March 9th, the fee is only $75 per application. Applications submitted between March 10th and April 20th are $150 and the final application deadline is May 4th, but it will cost you $300 to apply between April 21st and May 4th. At this point in time, absolutely no applications will be accepted after May 4th. If you plan to compete for NAYC, please also be sure to contact Joan Clay, our Region Coordinator for the FEI Juniors and Young Riders and let her know your intent. Her email address is jnclay@comcast.net and her phone number is 970.420.0887. The 2026 NAYC will be held at the Great Lakes Equestrian Festival, Flintfields Horse Park, Traverse City, Michigan – July 27 - August 2, 2026.

If you are interested in being a delegate to the Board of Governors meeting, please contact our Nominating Council representative Ann Damiano at adamiano@cox.net and have your name added to the ballot for Participating Delegate. Also please feel free to contact Ann and let her know your interest and she can provide you with more details on the potential responsibilities. PM Delegate nominations are due in to the USDF office no later than April 15th.

Till next month!

Heather Petersen

Region 5 Director



MEMBER VOICES

We want to hear from you! Please share your stories and build real connections with our community.

SUBMIT TO: centerline@azdressage.org

USA DRESSAGE

DRESSAGE RIDING STANDARDS GUIDELINES

Anatomy of a Successful Experience: Determining If You Are Ready to Move Up a Level

Basic questions to ask yourself as a guideline on whether you're ready to compete at the next level.

- If you practice a movement that is new to the next level, are you able to consistently meet the requirements of the movement directives as stated on the test?
- On average, are you and your horse reasonably confirmed at the current level you are competing with a final score reflecting competency such as a 63% or higher?
- Does your horse willingly cooperate in the performance of the movements required for the level at which you are considering competing?
- Are you familiar with all the new movements asked for at the next level up and the characteristics that define them? Consequently, are you and your horse proficient and confident in performing the movements as they are required in the test?

Strategies for a Successful Experience

- As a general rule, follow the adage of competing at the level below which you are training.
- Read the test directives to ensure you know what factors the judge(s) will be taking into consideration when determining a score for each movement.
- As you move up the Levels, it can feel like the movements come very quickly - one after another. Before competing at a higher level, practice the test at home enough times so that you feel you have time to prepare for each movement.
- Know what core movements "define a level." These may be underlying what is described in the Purpose. For instance, at First Level Test 3, the 10m circles and broken lines test acceptance of the aids used for bending and turning. Second level introduces collection and the movements that help to develop it, such as shoulder-in and turn on the haunches.
- At the end of your show season, first make sure you can answer yes to all of the questions posed above. Then make a thoughtful evaluation of your success. Consider both your strengths and areas in need of improvement. The next level will not only have new test movements, but also a heightened expectation of your horse's balance, engagement and self-carriage which requires time and strength building. Make a training plan that takes advantage of educational and observational opportunities such as ride-a-tests and schooling shows. When you feel your horse is confirmed in the daily work and believe they fulfill the Purposes defined on the next level's dressage test, you can be confident that you are ready to begin competitions at the new level.

Are both you and your horse ready to move up?

ARIZONA DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

NOW ACCEPTING 2026 MEMBERSHIPS!

The 2026 membership year runs from December 1, 2025 through November 30, 2026.

azdressage.org

Join the community that supports your goals with education, scholarships, competition & more - ONE RIDE AT A TIME.

Member Benefits Include:

USDF GMO Membership
Discounted rate at ADA events/clinics
USDF Store – 10% discount
Year End Awards Program
Members Only Priority for Education Events
Member Spotlights and Features
Centerline Newsletter
Networking and Mentorship
And More!

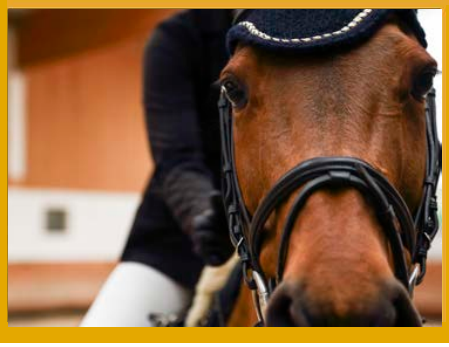
Members Eligible To:

Participate in ADA Year End Awards
Participate in AZ State Championships
Compete at USEF/USDF Competitions
Participate in the USDF Rider Award Program
Eligible for ADA Scholarships
Earn USDF University Program Credit
Attend "L" Education Program
Access to Members Only USDF Website





JOIN OUR CLUB TODAY!



Scan to Join or Renew NOW!



ARIZONA DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

2026 Membership Application December 1, 2025 - November 30, 2026

PRIMARY / INDIVIDUAL MEMBER INFORMATION

Check Membership Type: ☐ Renewal ☐ New Membership ☐ NAC (Must Select to be NAC)

Current USDF # _____ (If Applicable)

Use this Form for Payment by Check ONLY - For Payment by Credit Card, Join Online at *www.azdressage.org.*

Name (print clearly) _____ Date of Birth (_____/_____/_____)

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Work Phone _____

OPT-IN to receive important ADA information by providing your Email address: _____

Centerline newsletter, Show, Clinic and Membership information are delivered electronically. **We respect your privacy. ADA does NOT share your personal information with ANY third parties! See Full Privacy Policy on ADA Website.**

Signature (required) _____ Date _____

JUNIOR /YOUNG RIDER MEMBERSHIP: (one vote) Date of Birth (____/_____/_____) (under age 22 by December 1, 2026)

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: Only the PRIMARY / INDIVIDUAL MEMBER gets one ADA vote. All memberships eligible for ADA Awards. Every ADA FAMILY MEMBER gets a USDF Group Membership with the additional fee. Some USDF Restrictions May Apply. **Per USDF, Supporting Members MUST reside at the Primary Family member's address.**

Primary Family Member Name (if different than above) _____ Date of Birth (____/____/____)

Supporting Family Member #1 Name _____ Date of Birth (____/____/____)

Supporting Family Member #2 Name _____ Date of Birth (____/____/____)

Individual Membership..... $66.00
☐ AA ☐ JR/YR ☐ Open

Primary Family Membership..... $66.00
☐ AA ☐ JR/YR ☐ Open

Each Supporting Family member $35.00
#1 ☐ AA ☐ JR/YR ☐ Open
#2 ☐ AA ☐ JR/YR ☐ Open

☐ ADA donation (optional) .....$ 10.00
(for rider education programs)

☐ USDF Region 5 donation (optional) ..... $ 1.00

☐ Region 5 JR/YR donation (optional) ..... $ 5.00

ADA is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit Organization
Your generous donations help fund ADA Scholarships and Travel Grants for educational opportunities!

TOTAL enclosed $ _____

Make checks payable to: "**ADA**"

*Mail to: **Michell Combs**
8877 N 107th Ave, Suite 302-238
Peoria, AZ 85345

Or Scan/Email to: Membership@azdressage.org

**** Envelope must have Michell's name on it***

***** ADA strives to keep membership fees as low as possible.**

HELP WANTED

ADA is a Volunteer Organization.

****** Volunteering your Time or Expertise is required for Year End Awards, Scholarships, and Grants ******

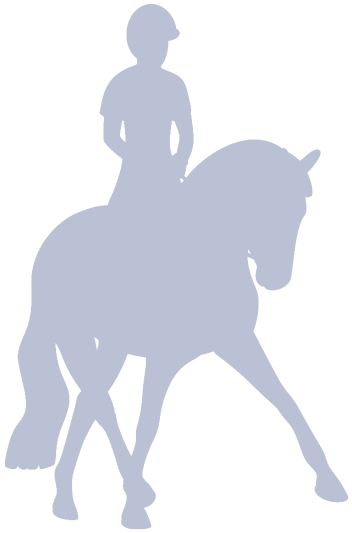
Visit *www.azdressage.org/volunteer/* for details.
Contact volunteer@azdressage.org
if you can help us out!
or
☐ Volunteer Donation (optional).....$ 50.00
or
These are some areas we can use your help!

Horse Shows	Newsletter
Clinic Activities	Membership
Board Member	Annual Awards
Selection Committees	Provide Arena
Fundraising	Provide Event Venue
Public Relations	Hospitality (home)

GMO GROUP MEMBER ORGANIZATION USDF

ONE RIDE AT A TIME

Full Mission Statement at *www.azdressage.org*



Board Meetings:

January 19
February 16
March 16
April 20
May 18
June 15
August 17
September 21
October 19
November 16
(All meetings are virtual)

If you would like to attend, please contact Ann Damiano
a.damiano@azdressage.org



The **Northern Arizona Chapter of the Arizona Dressage Association, NAC of ADA**, is a 501c3 Nonprofit Organization comprised of members in the quad-city areas of **Prescott, Chino Valley, Verde Valley, Prescott Valley, Dewey-Humboldt and beyond!**

2026 Schooling Show & Clinic Dates

April 18th - Schooling Show, Michell Combs 'L' (Freeman Farms)

May 30-31st - Clinic, Dolly Hannon

July 18th - Schooling Show, Dori Vlatten Schmitz 'S' (Imperio Acres)

Sept 5th - Schooling Show, Ellie Stine Masek 'S' (Freeman Farms)

NAC of ADA Officers/Board 2025

Beth Mulcahy, President
E: beth.rosekrans@gmail.com

Lynne Trenery, Vice President
E: Lynne@freemansaddlebreds.com

Annie Kuchler, Secretary
E: annie.kuchler@gmail.com

Sue Crampton, Treasurer, Show Manager
E: susancrampton1@gmail.com

Lisa Darling, Education and Clinic Committee Chair

Theresa Reese, Director

Tristan Lloyd, Director

Kate Goshorn, Director

Sabine Preisinger, Director

Kay Turner, Director

2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JAN	9: ADA Clinic - Refine Core Skills with Mike Osinski	17: ADA Schooling Show, Dale Creek Equestrian Center, West Valley	
FEB	15: ADA Schooling Show, Carefree Farms, North Valley	21-22: Dressage @ Spear-Cross Equine Center Show	21-22: NAC Biomechanics Clinic with Heike Barrett
MAR	7-8: TDC March Madness, Pima County Fairgrounds	15: ADA Schooling Show, Carefree Farms, North Valley	27-29: CARA Champagne Show
APR	4-5: Dressage @ Spear-Cross Equine Center Show	12: ADA Schooling Show, Central Arizona Riding Academy, Queen Creek	18: NAC Schooling Show, Freeman Farms, Michell Combs 'L'
MAY	30-31: NAC Clinic - Dolly Hannon		
JUNE	13-14: ADA Summer Heat, Westworld Scottsdale		
JULY	18: NAC Schooling Show, Imperio Acres, Dorie Vlatten Schmitz 'S'		
AUG			
SEPT	5: NAC Schooling Show, Freeman Farms, Ellie Stine Masek 'S'		
OCT			
NOV	Nov 7-8: ADA Fall Fiesta I & II & State Championships, Westworld Scottsdale	14-15: TDC Fall Festival at Circle D Ranch, Tucson	
DEC		12-13: Dressage @ Spear-Cross Equine Center Show	



ARIZONA DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION
100 EASY ST., BOX 2855
CAREFREE, AZ 85377