



Curly Sporthorse International NEWSLETTER DOWN THE CENTERLINE

*Dedicated to the training, recognition,
improvement and promotion of curly sport horses*

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2016 Crazy Daze Summer Series Champions



Liz Mattke & *Timbuktu

Champion at Beginner Novice Level- Combined Training



Luna Mattke & *Timbuktu

Champion at Intro Level- Combined Training



Liz Mattke & *DCC Traveler

Champion at Novice Level- Combined Training

2016 CSI "Horse of the Year" awards



Liz Mattke & *Timbuktu

Champion at Beginner Novice Level-Combined Training



Blaine Hendrickson & *OYY Chasing Jane's Addiction

Reserve Champion at Beginner Novice Level - Combined Training



Luna Mattke & *Timbuktu

Champion at Intro Level - Combined Training



Liz Mattke & *DCC Traveler

Champion at Novice Level- Combined Training



Luann Urban & Draco - Champion

Third Level Dressage



Alyssa Buenting & *Bold Adventure

Champion- First Level Dressage

2016 CSI/USDF All Breeds Awards



Bella Zdolshek and *Spar Trek

Champion - Jr rider and Open division- Prix St. George



Luann Urban and Draco

Champion -AA and Open division- Third Level Dressage



No Photo Submitted

Cheryl Becker and *Mikato

Champion- AA and Open division- Training Level Dressage



Alyssa Buenting and *Bold Adventure

Champion- Jr rider and Open division- First Level Dressage

From the editor

Good news!!! the CSI calendar is back. Your CSI calendar will be produced locally and it is good news as the prices are lower. To order your calendar (1 - 100) just email the CSI office at creeksidecurlies@gmail.com. Prices for the calendar are \$16.95 (USD) plus shipping. You will be advised of shipping costs when you place an order.

WOW! 2016 has flown by for me as Director of Curly Sporthorse International, and I find myself 5 years in this position. CSI is now in its teenage years (13), and still going strong. Each year brings us new members and CSI sees members advancing their riding skills and moving up the levels in competition. It is rewarding to see members living out their dreams.

Many of us dream of worldwide travel. The fact of most of our lives is, there is no worldwide travel, as we are happily tied to our farms here at home. Last summer, my Sister and her Hubby traveled to Europe. Though she currently does not have horses in her life, she has never lost the love of horses. Read her account of walking the hallowed halls of the Spanish Riding School in Vienna, Austria, and meeting the famous Lippizaner stallions. Though they were unable to attend a live performance, her account of the trip through the stables is filled with information most of us don't have access to. Enjoy a first hand look at the Stallions in Vienna.

Not to be missed in this issue is an "overcoming the odds" article. Liz Mattke writes about the serious accident that she and Traveler suffered in 2014. I had planned on photographing Liz and Traveler in August of 2014 at a nearby Combined Training Event. When Liz sent news that they would not be competing it was not until much later in the year that I found out how seriously they had both been hurt. Her story is one of inspiration and of guts and facing fear...read on!

The 2016 CSI coloring contest was a great success. Entries came from all over the US. Check out the "Director's Choice" winner on the back of this newsletter.

An article on the dreaded subject of Insurance is included, this time, instead of information about insuring your horse, we learn about liability being involved in the horse world. The need for liability insurance while being around horses is often overlooked but can certainly make or break a farm, and friendships along the way.

Our next rung of the Dressage Training scale is "Contact." In doing research for my comments about contact, I found many training scales to also include "communication" in their description of the task. Communication is something we all can improve upon. Whether it be you and your horse, you and your family, friends or work partners, we can all relate to communicate and to strive for a better relationship.

You will notice that we had good participation in the CSI award programs. I am still working on to earn my own CSI Rider Performance Gold Medal. One of the best parts of the CSI Rider Performance Medal quest is the medal can be earned over as much time as you need. My year was a little askew, dealing with job changes, family obligations and oddities uncommon to my average year. I look forward to finishing up the requirements to earn my RPM Gold Medal in 2017.

2017 will see some changes in fees for CSI. Some fees have increased, many fees have decreased, in order to improve member service. The CSI website has been updated and is worth a look to see what has changed. Also, there will be a 2017 calendar available. The old method of Cafe Press producing our calendar has become problematic. 2017 calendars will be available directly through the CSI office. Good news! prices for the calendar have come down, This year calendars are offered at \$16.95 USD. Postage is not included in that price. Please contact me and I can give you a "total" price based on how many copies you want and your address.

I continue to enjoy creating and editing this annual newsletter. These newsletters go out in the mail to current CSI members, and also are sent when transfers are done for CSI registered horses. Brochures were again sent to the USDF for their annual convention. As always, member ideas and comments are welcome...If you have an idea of how to improve CSI, I would love to hear it. For now...grab a seat and read the 2016 CSI Newsletter. Enjoy....

Linda VavRosky



Go behind the scenes at the Spanish Riding School with Sally Lewin

"You are the most beautiful horse I've ever seen!". I know he probably gets comments like that all the time, but I was absolutely mesmerized by the tall white stallion in front of me. A real Lipizzaner right in front of me!

When I first met my husband, Stan, he had just returned from a trip to Europe. One of the sights he could not get over was the program with the Lipizzaner horses of the Spanish Riding School which is located in the heart of Vienna, Austria. This was 37 years ago. We had long dreamed of going to Vienna together and of visiting these horses. Now, we were actually here! We walked down the cobblestone streets, past many posh shopping stores and found that one of the large beautiful white buildings was where the horses live. While we weren't able to see a performance by the stallions, we were able to take a stable tour. A young man started by telling us about the Spanish Riding School and pointing out the treadmill around the grounds. He said that there are 72 stallions who take turns on the treadmill. The stallions learn to know when to stop and go the other direction at 15 minute intervals.

The large building has two stories. It was built in the 1560's. There are apartments and second floor offices for rent. After taking us through the open walkways, we came to the tack room. It was filled with saddles - performance and everyday saddles and many bridles. Each piece was labelled according to the stallion it belonged to. Our guide said that the horses wear a lot of gold and red for the performances and we could tell right away which were for those special programs.

As we walked through the pathway into the stables he told us more about the horses. He said we could not take pictures of the horses. We were allowed to sketch them quickly if we'd like, but absolutely no pictures allowed. We were allowed to talk to the horses and look to our heart's content. The bright white stallions were busy eating or were standing watching us as we went past. As I talked to one stallion, he looked at me and seemed to be giving me a chance to communicate, but he only understood German!

The horses were fed 6 - 8 kilos of hay. Oats are considered to be like caffeine, so only the older horses get to eat oats. Carrots and apples are part of their day and each stallion has their own food plan. The horses have one main veterinarian. The horses have many privileges; vacations, a certain number of performances, set retirement age (24). Someone in our tour group asked why mares weren't trained to do the jumps and other performance feats. Our tour guide said that when a mare is asked to learn one of the skills, she says "Who me? Why are we doing this? Are you sure we need to do this?" When they ask a stallion to learn one of the skills, he seems to say "I thought you'd never ask!"

"Let's do this!"

Another question was why there were some brown stallions in the barn. The answer was that the horses are born dark colored and their coat changes as they age. It is a traditional thought that good luck comes to a barn that always keeps at least one brown horse. This barn had three if I remember right. They also had two chubby cats but there didn't seem to be any traditions about them bringing good luck.

The winter arena is where the performances are held. It seats 1,000. 450 of those are standing places. When we were sitting, viewing the arena with its huge chandeliers and beautiful red seats, our guide told us about the riders. The last time they opened for applications, they had 360 applicants. Only 3 or 4 were accepted. The requirements to be a rider are that you are 172 cm. tall, have long legs, a working permit and speak German. It takes 15 years to train a rider. The first year, you ride for 30 minutes while someone leads the horse and you muck a lot of stalls. When you pass a test after 8 years you are assigned to your own 4 year old stallion. Most riders start at age 16 - 22. A rider's day starts at 6:00 a.m. and ends at 2:00 p.m. Right now there are 12 riders, and one female assistant rider. Riders retire at age 65. The oldest stallion at the SRS is 41 years old.

The horses stand at 15 - 16 hands. They are fairly round. (The tour guide calls them "Baroque" after the Baroque art where "skinny" isn't expected or seen as most beautiful.) They are absolutely beautiful! It's funny, but when you have loved horses for a long time, there is nothing quite like a close up conversation with a famous, beautiful horse. You never really forget the look in his eye.



Treasures brought to me from the Spanish Riding School.



Quoteable
from RAM

Quotes

This quote was passed down from my Great Grandfather, who worked for Henry Ford as a mechanic.

“Whether you think you can, or you think you can’t, you are probably right!”
Henry Ford.

Horses & Friends: On Wheels! Liability with carriage driving

Something I love about driving is how we can share it with our friends. Just hop on to join a fellow driver, help each other out at events, or even offer a ride to a friend who has never been around horses. Either way, it's fun to share the experience. But how often do we think about the liability involved? (Let's face it—we usually don't! That's just no fun)

If you are a driver, then you know how dangerous it can be. No matter how careful you are, horses will be horses and situations are not always in your control. We all know the possibility is there, so what have you done to protect yourself from the “what if's”?

You may think your Homeowners liability insurance is enough, but I caution you not to assume. Coverage depends on several variables: Who, What, When, Where. Equine liability is a very specialized type of coverage. (Some agents hear “horse” & go running for the hills!) If you're involved in competitions, drive in parades, or train a friend's horse, for example - it may change the situation. I can't say this enough: KNOW your coverage.

There's also a fine line between Commercial and Personal horse owner activities, whether you consider yourself a professional or not. Have a conversation with your agent and explain ALL of your activities, so they can provide the appropriate insurance coverage. Both Personal & Commercial equine liability policies are available on an individual basis if you need to get coverage in place. [Boarders: your boarding barn's policy protects THEM, but won't protect you as the horse owner]

With driving in particular, the liability circumstances are not always black and white. If you have a liability policy, make sure you ask questions and understand your coverage. Third party liability is meant to protect you against the claims of a non-participating person, like the general public. So, a groom (hired or not) is not technically a third party.

(Disclaimer: Every policy and situation is different, so I am not speaking in absolutes)

Just be aware that a friend who hops on your carriage to help is willingly participating in the activity, which is not what the coverage is meant to protect against. The same goes for someone who is taking lessons or trying a horse before purchasing; they are a willing participant in the equine activity. That being said, liability policies are still there to protect YOU; so if a participant (or their health insurance company) sues you for negligence, most policies would respond to help you defend the case - as long as your agent was aware that you were involved with horses.

To avoid these types of legal situations, it's a good idea for ANYONE that gets on your carriage or walks into your barn to sign your liability waiver. It may be an awkward conversation to have, but trust me it is MUCH more awkward after an accident. It's smart to take a moment and acknowledge that there is a risk involved with horses.

Now that I've scared you silly, don't let it stop you from enjoying your horses! That's exactly why the insurance policies are available. Get out there & drive! Invite your friends! Just be sure you're prepared and educated about the coverage you purchase.

Danielle Aamodt has been an avid driver for 12 years, but caught the ‘horse bug’ long before that. Her morgan mare, Indigo, is happily retired at age 21; Danielle grooms / navigates at horse shows or participates in event organizing to stay involved with driving. Her “real” job is at Dietrich & Company in Kentucky as an Equine Insurance Agent, specializing in Horse, Farm, Tack, Liability and Equine Event coverage.

Danielle@Dietrich-insurance.com / (267) 972-1491



New For 2017... the CSI "Foil Brag Book"

This page will feature CSI members new arrivals. Members that would like to show off their foals need to provide to the CSI office the following information. Please provide your highest quality foal photo, as one photo per foal is allowed. Everyone loves seeing those cute faces! This page is for the 2017 foal crop and beyond. Foal pics will be left on site as space allows. Each new foal will have one photo on the site, photos are not allowed to be changed after posting, so please send your best.

Name of foal and date of birth

Sire and Dam

Breeder

Farm name and website



CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGED?

If you have moved/changed phone or email, please contact the CSI office so we can update you in the database! We like to keep our records current, in case we need to reach you.



**1st place Super Senior 70 plus,
Betty Jo Wedgewood Terrace
Assisted Living, Lewiston, ID
2nd place Jean E.**



**1st place ages 15-70 years
Christine B. Nampa, Idaho**



**1st place ages 0-5 years Larrisa
F. Hudson, South Dakota**



**1st place 6-11 years Luna M.
Otis Orchards, Washington**



THE 3 P'S OF SUCCESS.....

- Passion
- Patience
- Perseverance

DCC Traveler and Liz Matthe came back from a serious accident in 2014, read her inspirational account here.

Two years ago Traveler and I had a fall. It was a really, really bad fall. The incident occurred over a fence we had just jumped the week prior during a competition. In fact, we had sailed over it and landed in 2nd place in the Open Training Division. We were back to clinic on the same course to get ready for another competition.

We met the fence correctly and everything felt right. I have ridden many a "funky" jump, but this one gave me no clue as to what was about to happen. I think that is what made it worse for me – as far as I could tell it was just "one of those things". A leg hanging down a little too low perhaps, or a slight slip upon take off? I will never know.



As far as I recall we launched over the trakehner and the next thing I knew was that Traveler and I were flipping over the rest of the fence. I flipped over with him, staying in the saddle and hit the ground on my right side under Traveler's right shoulder. At some point my air vest deployed and saved me from internal injuries. I hit my head hard (thank goodness for helmets) and crushed my shoulder. Traveler crushed his right shoulder, as well.

From the accident, I lost and then regained the ability to see shapes in my right eye. I could see colors, but nothing had a definite shape. I still have visual acuity problems. I suffered a head injury resulting in short term memory problems and horrible, horrible headaches. Thankfully, the headaches are much more infrequent now. Traveler did not break any bones, suffered deep tissue injuries and was given over a year off to recover. I underwent surgery where they picked fragments of bone out of my shoulder and replaced part of it with titanium.

It took me over a year to even consider competing again. This year, I decided Traveler and I would try it again – taking "baby steps". At the first clinic of the year, I took Traveler out on the cross-country course and almost couldn't breathe when we started jumping. We jumped small logs, then medium logs and little houses. At the end of the clinic Traveler and I ran the whole beginner novice course, and it was starting to be fun again!

Linda V. kindly came to my first competition back on Traveler this year in Deary, ID at a schooling show. We ran the beginner novice course and after a few jumps, I started to remember to ride again and we made it through cross-country. Stadium was even more fun. Now that I had beginner novice conquered, I decided to try novice.

We ran novice at the Stanton Farm Horse Trials and Traveler remembered his "job". We had an absolute blast and sailed over every fence and landed in 2nd place – which qualified us for Area VII Championships. Then Traveler and I headed over to a DX Eventing competition and took 4th – having another perfect jumping round.

For championships we headed to Yelm, WA to ride against some of the best horse/riders in the area. We had a satisfactory dressage round and an excellent cross-country ride. Some of the jumps were so intimidating that I rode them over and over again my sleep, the night before. He never hesitated and I cheered us over every fence. I am sure that some people thought we were crazy. At stadium, Traveler proved himself by beating several other riders and we placed 10th in the division and were in the ribbons. Another perfect jumping score.

It took a lot of determination and courage to get back on Traveler and face the fences again, but we did it! And to my utter surprise and amazement we were one of the top ten horse/riders for the Novice division in Area VII. We seem to have jumping down, now to work on dressage.....

Liz Matthe



Member News

Luann Urban and Draco competed in Third Level Dressage and were Champions for the CSI USDF All Breeds Award and the CSI "Horse of the Year" They also received two qualifying scores at Third Level for the USDF Bronze Medal. They qualified for the Masters Challenge award for Third Level. Draco and Luann qualified for and attended the Oregon Dressage Society Championship show which was held at DevonWood Equestrian Center, Sherwood, OR Luann and Draco placed fourth out of the top ten in the state.

Liz Mattke and *DCC Traveler competed in Novice Combined Training in 2016. They are the CSI Crazy Daze Summer Series Champions and the CSI "Horse of the Year" Champions. Liz and DCC Traveler qualified for, and competed at the Area VII Championships held at Aspen Farms in Yelm, WA.

Liz Mattke and *Timbuktu (a *DCC Traveler son) competed at Beginner Novice in 2016 and were the CSI Crazy Daze Summer Series Champions and also the CSI "Horse of the Year" Champions. Liz and Timbuktu have qualified for the 2017 Area VII Championship to be held in Fall of 2017.

Luna Mattke began her competition career competing *Timbuktu at Intro Combined Training. Luna and *Timbuktu garnered wins in the 2016 Crazy Daze Summer Series and the CSI "Horse of the Year"

Alyssa Buenting and *Bold Adventure competed in First Level Dressage and won the 2016 USDF All Breeds Champion award, and the CSI "Horse of the Year" Champion.

Blaine Hendrickson and *OYY Chasing Jane's Addiction competed in Beginner Novice and Novice Combined Training. Blaine and Jane earned the 2016 CSI "Horse of the Year" Reserve Champion at Beginner Novice.

Bella and *Spar Trek earned the 2016 USDF All Breed Award Champion at Prix St. Georges.

Cheryl Becker competed *Mikato in the 2016 CSI USDF All Breeds Awards, CSI is thrilled to see them in the competition and they earned the Champion All Breeds award in Training Level Dressage.

Other competitors and just fun news

Shelly White donated horse power and time to the "Great Train Robbery" when she and friends played the role of Train Bandit for this great Charity event.

Linda VavRosky competed *OYY Classy Lady in Driving

CSI's 2017 CRAZY DAZE SUMMER SERIES

The Crazy Daze Summer Series is a competition that was created with beginners or folks who have limited time and resources to compete. This program offers competitors to compete in just one month, or each month included in the competition. The competition runs from April 1st to October 31st of each year. You can show in April, May and more, or in any single month in this time span. Scores are required to be sent to the CSI office within 5 days of the end of the month you compete in. Jr. riders can participate in the "Jr. Jumper" part of the competition. Other divisions are Combined Driving, Driven Dressage, Combined Training and Dressage. If you participate in a minimum of 3 of the eligible months, you qualify for the Championship round. CSI has changed the fee schedule for CDSS so please check the website before the 2017 season starts. There will be a one time fee in 2017, instead of a monthly, plus championship fee, to make it easier to participate. You can read more details on the CSI website. This is a fun way to enter the show world and earn some super prizes.

Handy Tip. Use a mason jar to carry your horse show lunch items. Salads, fruit, even apple slices or chips can be put into their own personal Mason Jar, then add a lid and you get your lunch to the horse show without it being crushed. You can eat directly out of the jar, saving that dreaded "oops" when you drop something in the dirt! (like I always seem to do)



2016 Coloring Contest...

Curly Sporthorse International's 2016 coloring contest was a huge success! With the addition of an adult category, there were lots of entries and some amazing artwork. Here is the 2016 Director's Choice winner. This colored pencil entry was created by Julia S. of Kapolei Hawaii. Julia is 13 years old. What a talented young lady she is! Congratulations to all our 2016 winners and looking forward to 2017.

