



The Northern Ohio
Dressage Association
is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit

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Greetings from the President



Dee Liebenthal and Rens

ear Noda Members,
My letter this month is entirely about our 2014 Award Banquet and Celebration. There were raffles, a photo slide show, a silent auction, awards and dancing. Sounds pretty ordinary right? It was anything but ordinary, and I think everyone had a memorable time.

It takes more than a village to put on the NODA Banquet every year. It takes many members from multiple committees coming together in harmony to plan and then produce a successful event. Not only do we call on many individuals to help the night of the banquet, but there is planning that starts soon after the banquet ends. Things are pretty quiet until August when things slowly begin to ramp up getting ready for the final event. It's very much like a long distance run, steady for most of the race and a sprint to the finish line. Believe me, the last six weeks before the banquet are CRAZY!

NODA is lucky to always have a great group of people put on this very special annual event. This year many were new to the entire process. I want to thank everyone responsible for this very successful event. I also want to thank everyone who came and enjoyed the fun. There were 138 members, friends and family members in attendance. We

continued the recent trend of attracting more husbands, boyfriends, brothers and fathers. In other words, there were lots of guys there. This party is not just for the award winners. It's for everyone.

Shannon O'Hara, first-time chair of the banquet committee, put her talent for event planning and organizing to good, effective use. As always on the night of the banquet there is a lot going on, and we got through a huge agenda in record time. Shannon tried something new by continuing the program and awards ceremony during dinner. This helped the program zip along. It was so successful that members were on the dance floor by about 8:30 p.m. We wondered if having a DJ and dancing would bring the crowd to its feet? It did! Many danced the rest of the night away.

Janeen Langowski Grava, Awards
Committee Chair, along with Marcia Doyle
and Anne McClintock calculated, checked,
and then double checked the results.
They set up and handed out awards in 29
categories, plus 23 trophies successfully.
There were two surprise awards this
year: One for the "Volunteer of the Year",
and the best filled out Competition Report
Form award application. Plus the first
NODA Amateur Scholarship Winners were
announced and presented with their 2015
scholarships.

Now we come to one of the most exciting parts of the banquet this year. Kirsten Thomas single-handedly organized one of the most spectacular and successful Silent Auctions in my memory with NODA (15 years). She organized and created 17 beautiful themed baskets filled with expensive and desirable items. These baskets appealed to everyone, and not just horse lovers. There was even a basket just for the family dog. This year's silent auction was simply wonderful, and Kirsten did a fabulous job. Each basket was valued between \$150 to \$600+. If you managed to win one, you got a great bargain. All the items were generously

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NODA's Board welcomes all comments and opinions regarding NODA activities, shows and policies. Please contact member liaison Kathy Kirchner.

Monthly board meetings are held the second Monday of each month from 7 to 9 pm at Panera Bread, 6130 Kruse Drive in Solon.

Members are welcome to attend. See meeting page at www.nodarider.org for details as on occasion the location of the meeting may change.

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donated by a vast list of donors and sponsors. Thank you Kirsten. I can't wait to see what you have in store for us next year.

This issue will bring 2014 to an end for NODA. We look forward to 2015 and all the wonderful plans we have already in the works.

Happy Holidays to all. Dee Liebenthal, President If something happens
to you,
who will take care of
your animals?

Save The Date!

NODA New Dressage Test Clinic Saturday, February 21st Crowne Plaza Cleveland South—Independence, Ohio 9:00 AM

Registration and additional information will be available on the NODA website soon!

Laura J. Gorretta

ATTORNEY AT LAW

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Experiencing the 2014 United States Dressage Finals Live on USEF Network by Mosie Welch

arly November found me hit hard with a respiratory infection. Sofa bound and missing out on plans I had looked forward to for months, I

turned to my computer for entertainment. While

browsing Facebook, a **United States Dressage Federation Official Page** message popped up in my news feed saying "catch the live stream from the US Dressage Finals this weekend! The USEF Network will broadcast from the Alltech Arena Friday, Saturday, and Sunday." OK, this could be a good way to rest. So my husband set up the live feed into our TV set and surrounded by hot tea, tissues, puppies, and



Coming right into my living room, Nancy Lewis Stanton preparing for her freestyle championship ride on the 2007 Oldenburg gelding, Rhigatoni at the 2014 US Dressage Finals

thoughts of dressage I went online to check out the schedule for the US Dressage Finals and found a page with links to the Schedule of Events, Day Sheets, Show Results, and other show information. I was going to spectate at the US Dressage Finals.

As I settled in to watch the competition, it occurred to me that I was getting to see America's Regional Champions from Training Level to Grand Prix compete on the national stage in the Alltech Arena at the Kentucky Horse Park. Finals classes are by invitation only, riders attend based on their placing or wild card scores at the regional championships. So this competition set the national level champions for the United States of America. The USEF Network live feed of the competition began with the distinctive voice of British born announcer, Nicho Meredith, bringing in the familiar tone of a the bigger US dressage shows right into my living room as he introduced horse and rider and boomed out the scores after each ride. Meredith also took time when there was a lull to thank the many volunteers who worked long hours to make the Finals a reality. If I missed a score, I went online and looked it up in real-time to keep up with the action. One point Meredith made several times was that there were over one hundred more horses in in the finals in 2014 than in the first year of the US Dressage Finals in 2013. The real surprise is what a learning experience watching the US Dressage Finals turned out to be. It was NOT like watching grass grow.

First of all, I was amazed and impressed by competitors from all over the USA who travelled so far to compete in the Dressage Finals with horses of all kinds. The quality of competitors, both open and adult amateur was a treat.

> Where else can a dressage enthusiast watch America's finest dressage riders at all levels in one place and get a glimpse into how far dressage has come in the USA. By now, we're all familiar with Heart B Dyna, the mule owned and trained by Laura Hermanson, the first mule to qualify and show at the US Dressage Finals. Anyone following Facebook knows there was (and remains) a lot of chatter and support for "Dyna" and her introduction to the

national scene. I think it set the tone for a Dressage Final that clearly rewarded quality riding and partnership demonstrated in the ride before the judges. For those who say "off breeds" don't have a chance in dressage, there were plenty of examples of quality rides on a variety of breeds including Friesians Drafts, PRE's, and a particular Welch Cobb stallion, North Forks Cardi with owner/rider Jessica Wisdom, who took the Championship Grand Prix Open Freestyle with energy, artistry, and correctness.

A highlight of the weekend was the educational commentary by Kathy Connelly. She did a fabulous job of explaining the dressage test, how it is scored, and the collective marks. With a positive tone she pointed out strengths and weaknesses. Connelly explained how tension affects a ride, how the atmosphere can change the performance of a horse, and tactfully and empathetically provided viewers with insight into what can go wrong during a dressage test, as well as what can go right.

She explained many horse and rider pairs don't have the opportunity to ride in a venue like the Alltech Arena and that can change the performance. So obviously this is a great grooming experience for the dressage competitor. Quick to explain how a rider could improve a score and in what movements the horse displayed talent, Connelly pointed out what she enjoyed about each ride and provided insight into both open and adult amateur rides. The Grand Prix and Intermediate levels were more

enjoyable and educational because of her expert eye. I was surprised at how much I enjoyed her commentary during freestyles where Connelly explained how and why the music highlighted a horse, whether a rider "really knew the music," and when a rider may consider a redo on a movement to increase the score. She talked about building in complexity to the freestyle program and how movements could be sequenced to showcase the horse and their strengths giving the pair a higher score. It really helped me as a viewer discriminate an enthusiastic and enjoyable ride from a ride that really did have that higher level of complexity. As the weekend progressed I tested my eye by "evaluating movements" and then seeing what Connelly had to say. Hopefully spectators at the event could rent earphones and listen to Connelly because this took the viewing to the next level.

The most fun was seeing friends and acquaintances on the USEF Network live stream. George Williams, the USDF President welcomed everyone and made a point to welcome and congratulate the adult amateurs who had worked so hard to get to the finals. In the opening ceremony we got to watch and listen to NODA member Lisa Gorretta in her role as USDF Vice President. Lisa also posted photos from Kentucky Horse Park on Facebook, bringing a little of the atmosphere to our computer screens. How fun to watch NE Ohio professionals and

adult amateurs enter the Alltech Arena for their rides and then return to receive their honors during the awards ceremonies. Of course, I couldn't experience all the excitement in three other rings outside of the Alltech Arena where I had friends and acquaintances riding, but I kept up with their scores in real time and kept my fingers crossed that they would show up in the Alltech in the ribbons for their awards ceremony. I read there was shopping, barn fun, and after hours tours and dinners that sounded like they would have been a blast to attend. The **United States Dressage** Federation has their offices at the Kentucky

Horse Park and of course, there's the Horse Park itself to see. If you missed the action live you can find out about the competitors, horses, placings, and all the action at the 2014 US Dressage Finals at www.usdf.org. To see rides from the Finals go to USEF live and on demand programming on USEF Network at www.usefnetwork.com. It will open a whole world of equestrian programming up on your own computer screen.

My interest in the 2015 Dressage Finals is piqued. So what's in store for 2015? I found out online that they will be held at Kentucky Horse Park one last year before moving to a more westerly location that is yet to be announced. The search is on for the 2016 location and who knows what fun a western venue will offer. It appears the US Dressage Finals are fast becoming a showcase for the quality of dressage on the US dressage scene. Based on what I experienced in my living room, taking the time to attend the US Dressage finals in 2015 would be a great way to support dressage and get an education. We should all consider supporting the finals even if we don't compete by volunteering or going as a spectator. I may be writing a review from the field next year. Field trip anyone?



Refreshing Refresher! By Regina M. Sacha-Ujczo ● Photos by Dee Liebenthal

ats off to our NODA Educational Committee Co-Chairs, Marcia Doyle and Bernie Moauro for organizing yet another wonderful USDF

Instructor/Trainer event. With financial assistance from

The Dressage Foundation, NODA was able to offer a USDF Instructor Certification Refresher Workshop on October 25 and 26, 2014 at Topline Stables at Walden in Aurora, OH. Five Participating Instructors (PI's), demo riders and a plethora of Auditors all benefited from the experience and workshop leadership of USDF Instructor Faculty member Bailey Cook, USDF.

The USDF Trainer's/Certification program is a rigorous assessment of Dressage Theoretical Knowledge, practical teaching application and

lungeing capability. It requires the ability to quickly assess strengths and weakness of an unfamiliar horse and rider, implement a training plan after a ten-minute warm-up and apply appropriate training resulting in noticeable improvement. The lesson concludes with a wrap-up with reiteration and a plan for future training sessions. Participants ride, teach and lunge unfamiliar riders and horses. That's quite a tall order but this group of PI's had already participated in three separate intense training workshops over the past year. This session was a comprehensive refresher with amazing learnings and teaching tool enhancements.

Participating Instructors for this Refresher were Professionals Liz Biddick, Janeen Langowski-Grava, Julie

McElhaney, Anne McClintock, and Adult Amateur Regina Sacha-Ujczo.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed this extreme learning experience. PI Anne McClintock commented, "The clinic was another eye opening learning experience. I can't believe how much valuable information you can receive when professionally presented, instructed and run. And it was!"

Demo rider Kristen Semegen is an Event Rider who is very close to obtaining her USDF Bronze Medal. She trailered in with her TB One



Liz Biddick and Bailey Cook prepare to lunge Tucker

he isn't 100% supple our scores drop a point or two on every movement. I spoke with my trainer after the lesson and explained that I needed help with the turn on the haunches. He gets tense and stiff, to the point of almost pivoting. She broke down the movement and gave me a way to ask for it in a much simpler way at home so he

> would relax. After only four rides, they are already much improved! The USDF Instructor Certification Program is very thorough and really tests the Instructors, leaving little

room for error. I definitely had the easy part of just showing up to ride!" Kristen plans now on taking additional lessons to further her dressage development.

Nation for a lesson and found this experience to be very

insightful and helpful. She stated, "My trainer helped me

find exercises to supple my TB One Nation. Nation is the

most willing horse but he gets nervous and tense easily. If

Bailey Cook struck a delicate balance between allowing the PI's total freedom to determine their readiness for possible Certification Testing and providing valuable Instructor guidance to improve riding, teaching effectiveness and enhanced lungeing tools.

It was a wonderful surprise to see the Auditor chairs filled on Saturday to benefit from observing the riding, teaching and lungeing sessions. It is part of the responsibility of a rider to continue to expand their knowledge base. What better way than through NODA's and USDF's Educational opportunities, especially when it is a free auditing

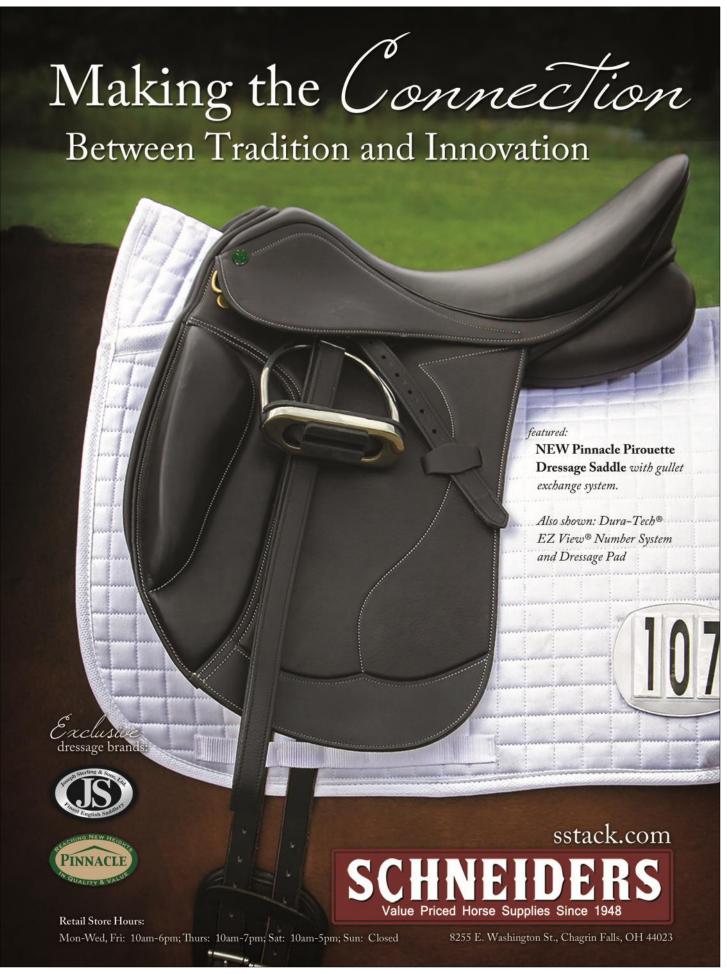
experience!

A Refresher Workshop involves the coordination and generosity of many. Co-chairs Bernie Moauro and Marcia Doyle were instrumental. Also, our President and photographer Dee Liebenthal is always involved and doing so much behind the scenes. Her support and leadership is invaluable!

Also, a huge thank you goes out to those owners who lent their horses for riding and lungeing and the demo riders for teaching and lungeing as well.



Regina Sacha-Ujczo & Kristin Semegen on One Nation.



McKenzie Miavitz was a first-time lungeing volunteer and was amazed at the value of lungeing. "It is a chance to work on your position and balance and not have to focus on managing the horse. It also easily brings to light the rider's position strength and weaknesses. I look forward to future lungeing sessions," she says with a broad smile!

A few important tips to share from the Refresher:

- Start each session with a safety check of tack! Does the saddle appear to sit level and fit well? Is the bit too tight? Girth tight enough?
- Observe and understand horse and rider issues present in the warm-up to apply effective teaching methodologies in the training session.
- Lungeing is far more valuable for horse and rider than most people in the US realize.
- When teaching, look at your rider from the back to observe collapsed hip and lateral saddle slippage.
- · Sit "pretty" on the horse to maximize your influence.
- · Good two-track exercise is haunches-in to shoulder-in.
- · Make sure you stretch horse after collection.
- · Know the stiff and hollow side of the horse in order to adjust for even balance.
- Prioritize your teaching exercises. They build on each other. For example, turn on the forehand and leg-yield before shoulder-fore and then shoulder-in.
- · Take every opportunity to teach dressage theory.
- Insist on accuracy of school figures and proper geometry.
- A solid reminder is "A long rein is a backwards pulling rein!"

It took a small village to provide this amazing USDF Learning experience from organizing schedules, obtaining horses and rider volunteers, liability releases, food, sound systems, stabling, etc. The Walden facility was welcoming and ready to absorb visiting horses, participants and auditors. A huge thank you to Topline Stables Owner, Janeen Langowski-Grava and her wonderful staff for making the magic happen. We also can't forget to thank our scribes, Barbara Soukup and Bernie Moauro as well. We thank everyone who gave generously of their time and talent.

If you ever have opportunity to audit or participate in the USDF Instructor Training Coursework give it ample consideration. It would be a huge learning boost or a refreshing refresher for you as an amateur rider or professional teacher.

Happy and effective learning and riding!

NODA 2014 Year-End Awards Lifetime Achievement Award Winners

Congratulations!



Carey Smith Wilson (left) presented by Lisa Gorretta (right).

Carey was nominated by Lisa Gorretta. She is a former NODA President, was an active board member for many years, and was instrumental in the founding of NODA's Schooling Show Series.



Dagmar Zimmerman (left) presented by Fran Cverna (right).

Dagmar was nominated by Fran Cverna for her 40 years of support of NODA, as a Board member and Judge. She was NODA's 4th President and hosted numerous NODA events including schooling shows and clinics at her farm. She was also instrumental in the founding of NODA's schooling show series.



Mary Lou Gallagher (left) presented by Dee Liebenthal (right).

Mary Lou was nominated by Dale Lappert. She single handedly ran NODA's Schooling Show Series for 18 years. She continues to be an active board member serving the schooling show committee.

NODA 2014 Year-End Awards ● All Banquet Photos by Jessa Janes

Unrecognized Shows		Second Level - Junior Rider/Adult Amater		
Novice Intro Level - Junior		Champion: Jennifer Tulleners and Kodakhrome	61.865%	
Champion: Noelle Ignagni and Sommertime Riddle	66.679%	(Owned by Lynn Tezak) Reserve: Susan Desimpel and Currituck	58.330%	
		·		
Novice Intro Level - Adult Amateur Champion: Rob Stone and Mingo	72.266%	Third Level - Junior Rider/Adult Amateu	_	
Reserve: Penny Baker and Luke's Shadow	72.200%	Champion: Cindy Bank and IdleHour McHenry Reserve: Jennifer Tulleners and Kodakhrome	62.757%	
3rd: Sue Bartlebaugh and Karina	67.344%	(Owned by Lynn Tezak)	62.369%	
(owned by Diane Cochran)		(Owned by Lynn Tezak)		
4th: Kara Maruszak and Irish Cameo Rose	66.641%	Walk Trot - Adult Amateur		
5th: Amanda Kopec and RVF Candlelight Romance	61.953%	Champion: Amanda Kopec and RVF Candlelight Romance	73.583%	
Intro Level Open - Junior		Rider Test - Adult Amateur		
Champion: Richard Tyner and Bur-Dal Chaos	69.102%	Champion: Gail Patton and Summer Breeze	63.733%	
(owned by Michelle Tyner)		Recognized Shows		
Intro Level Open - Adult Amateur		necognized Snows		
Champion: Sara Justice and Elita	73.360%	Training Level - Junior/Young Rider		
Reserve: Rob Stone and Mingo	65.060%	Champion: McKenzie Miavitz and Capricious	65.399%	
3rd: April Woodword and Everybody Talks	64.236%	Training Lovel Adult Amatour		
4th: Amanda Brisbine and Just Dun It AB	64.063%	<u>Training Level - Adult Amateur</u> Champion: Heather Soones Booher and Bordeaux	69.925%	
(Owned by Collen Becker)		Reserve: Barb Tuskas and Stonewall's Ronan	68.561%	
Novice Training Level - Junior Rider		3rd: Kim Apicella and Vita Bella	66.850%	
Champion: Noelle Ignagni and Sommertime Riddle	66.449%	Training Level Onen		
Reserve: Alexandria Salmon and Good Will	66.071%	<u>Training Level - Open</u> Champion: Janeen Grava and Davi's Danseur OBX	70.625%	
(owned by Rose Marherka)		Reserve: Sabine Walker and Luke's Shadow	68.014%	
Novice Training Level - Junior Rider Contin	<u>ue</u>	(Owned by Penny Baker)		
3rd: Michelle Cobb and You Bett It's Zip	65.996%	3rd: Janeen Grava and Feike	65.748%	
(Owned by Loreen Cob)		(Owned by Cathy Widders)		
4th: Meghan Sozio and Paint By Numbers	64.512%	First Level – Junior/Young Rider		
(Owned by Jennifer Sozio)		Champion: McKenzie Miavitz and Capricious	63.151%	
Novice Training Level - Adult Amateurs		First Level - Adult Amateur		
Champion: Rob Stone and Mingo	67.006%	Champion: Meaghan Spann and Gauchada	71.089%	
Reserve: Kathryn Davis-Kime and Smoke On The Wate		Reserve: Heather Soones Booher and Bordeaux	68.889%	
3rd: Colleen Welder and Owen	64.256%	3rd: Kim Apicella and Vita Bella	64.211%	
Open Training Level - Junior Rider		4th: Tay Laster and Kit 'Astrophe	63.146%	
Champion: Rebecca Kirk and Oreo Blizzard	66.672%	First Level - Open		
Open Training Level - Adult Amateur		Champion: Janeen Grava and Davi's Danseur OBX	67.546%	
Champion: Barb Tuskas and Stonewall's Ronan	74.900%	Reserve: Danielle Blymier and Riften +	67.325%	
Reserve: Megan Barnhizer and Fascination Starr	68.150%	(Owned by Wendy Gruskiewicz)		
3rd: Peggi Ignagni and MRF Bello di Notte	67.773%	Second Level - Junior/Young Rider		
(Owned by Noelle Ignagni) 4th: Lea Wojtkiewicz and Winter Sky	64.717%	Champion: Katharine DeLorean and Werner	64.854%	
4th. Lea Wojtkiewicz and Whiter Sky	04.71770	(Owned by Linda Henderson)		
First Level –Junior		Second Level - Adult Amateur		
Champion: Rebecca Kirk and Oreo Blizzard	62.847%	Champion: Lauren A. Wade, DVM and Ghalewind	66.499%	
First Level Adult Amateur				
Champion: Megan Barnhizer and Fascination Starr	67.137%	<u>Second Level - Open</u> Champion: Danielle Blymier and WWA Colino	62.024%	
Reserve: Tay Laster and Kit 'Astrophe	66.129%	(Owned by Karen Potts)	JZ.UZ+/0	
3rd: Amy Craig and Jessica NHH 4th: Kim Shepard and Casey's Artful Treasure	63.997% 62.709%	·		
5th: Niki Sackman and Mercedes Colortyme	59.888%	Third Level - Jr./Young Rider/Adult Amate		
The Submitted the recedes colorlyine	33.300/0	Champion: Shannon O'Hara and Royal Thomas (Owned by Kirsten Thomas)	65.700%	
		(Owned by Kilstell Hollids)		

Reserve: Lauren A. Wade, DVM and Ghalewind 60.263% Fourth Level - Open 3rd: Cindy Bank and Idle Hour McHenry 60.176% **Champion:** Sabine Walker and CA Hudson Bay 59.572% Reserve: Wendy Gruskiewicz and WMF Premier Adventure +++// 55.924% Third Level - Open **Champion:** Anne McClintock and Rens 63.332% Intermediaire I - Jr/YR/AA (Owned by Dee Liebenthal) **Champion I1:** Sara Justice and Narok 63.026% Reserve: Meghan Kelley and Unesco 62.035% Intermediaire A/B/II/Grand Prix - Jr/YR/AA 3rd: Danielle Blymier and WWA Colino 60.272% **Champion :** Sara Justice and Narok 63.821% (Owned by Karen Potts)

2014 NODA Recognized Award Winners









Reserve: Regina Sacha and Arabella



61.679%

Above (left to right): Trainer Janeen Grava with McKenzie Miavitz; Heather Soones-Booher & Barb Tuskas; Sabine Walker & Janeen Grava; Heather Soones-Booher, Tay Laster & Meaghan Spann; Katharine Delorean.

Clockwise from left:
Lauren Wade; Danielle
Blymier & Janeen
Grava; Danielle Blymier, Meghan Kelly &
Anne McClintock; Sara
Justice; Shannon O'Hara, Lauren Wade &
Barb Soukup
(accepting award for
Bank); Danielle Blymier; Wendy Gruskiewicz & Sabine Walker;
Sara Justice & Regina
Sacha-Ujczo.

















Thank You

To the NODA Members, family and friends that shared in the 2014 Year End Awards Celebration on November 15 at the Crown Plaza Hotel. It was wonderful to see all of you. There were so many members supporting and competing at 2014 NODA shows, and we truly are thankful to all of you. Congratulations to all the Award Winners!

This year's banquet was a fun filled evening with sensational Silent Auction items and Raffle Prizes. Thank you for all the generous donations to the Geauga County Dog & Cat "No Kill: Shelter and the Kent State University Inter-collegiate Dressage team. Each banquet guest received yummy horse treats, and every table had a lucky winner that received the polo wrap center piece and a gift certificate.

We with to thank our generous SPONSORS & ADVERTISERS who provided a variety of valuable and fun Silent Auction items, as well as advertising in the Banquet Program. Thank you to all the VOLUNTEERS who worked at the banquet and contributed to the fun and success. Last but certainly not least, a big thank you to the 2014 BANQUET COMMITTEE & AWARDS COMMITTEE. We are already looking forward to a wonderful 2015 show season.

Best of luck to each of you as you enter the show ring, and see you next year!

~ Shannon O'Hara, NODA Banquet Committee Chair



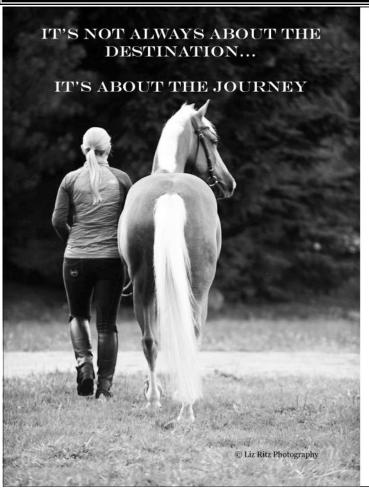
2014 Banquet & Award Committees

Shannon O'Hara, Banquet Chair Rachel Caracci, & Kirsten Thomas

Janeen Langowski-Grava, Awards Chair Marcia Doyle, Dee Liebenthal, & Anne McClintock

2014 Banquet Volunteers

Heather Soones Booher,
Rachel Caracci, Linda Cooley,
Fran Cverna, Marcia Doyle,
Sarah Freeman, Noelle & Peggi Ignagni,
Jessa Janes, Janeen Langowski-Grava,
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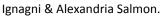
2014 NODA Unrecognized Award Winners







Above (left to right): Rob Stone & Kathryn Davis-Kime; Lea Wojtkiewicz, Barb Tuskas, Peggi Ignagni & Megan Barnhizer; Noelle











Above (left to right): Gail Patton; Rebecca Kirk, Rob Stone, Amanda Brisbine, Sara Justice & April Woodward; Amanda Kopec. Below (left to right): Susan Disimpel & Jennifer Tulleners; Rob Stone, Penny Baker, Sue Bratlebaugh, Kara Maruszak & Amanda

Kopec; Megan Barnhizer.







NODA News 2014 page 14

2014 NODA Year End Trophies & Awards

The Alessandria Memorial Trophy Sponsored by Lisa Gorretta and Paddock Saddlery Sara Justice and Narok (left)

The Fabian Schoolmaster Trophy Sponsored by Regina M. Sacha-Ujczo and Heather Soones Booher Sara Justice and Narok



The Gallant Lad Memorial Trophy Sponsored by Valley Riding, Inc. Sue Bartlebaugh and Karina (right) (Owned by Diane Cochran)

> The Moody Mare Award Sponsored by Kimberly Moody Meaghan Spann and Gauchada

The Sindarin Award

Sponsored by Dale Lappert

Cindy Bank and IdleHour McHenry

The Edy Ujczo Horse Partnership Trophy Sponsored by Regina

Sacha-Ujczo

Bill Justice

The Joan Rapp Award Sponsored by Gail Patton Sara Justice and Elita

The Laddie Andahazy Memorial Trophy Sponsored by The Paddock (below) Penny Baker and Luke's Shadow



Musical Freestyle (above right) Sponsored by NODA

Meaghan Spann and Gauchada - First Level 75.222% Meghan Kelley and Unesco - Third Level 66.111% Lauren A. Wade and Ghalewind - Second Level 66.055%



The Michael Von der Nonne Award Sponsored by Dagmar Zimmerman Meaghan Spann and Gauchada (above left)

The Randeck Memorial Trophy Sponsored by Carey Smith-Wilson Sara Justice and Narok

The Richter 5 Trophy (left) Sponsored by Maggie Ball

Wendy Griskiewicz and Riften +

The Richard Gascoigne Memorial Trophy (left) Sponsored by Bitsy Gascoigne & Ann Gascoigne Nixon Lauren Wade, DVM and Ghalewind

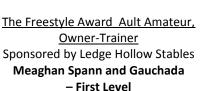


The Sweeter Award (right) Sponsored by Janeen Grava Maria Sandy and Penny/Honey Nut Cheerio (Owned by Margaret McElhany)

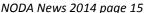


The Rowdy Memorial Trophy Sponsored by Cheryl Lee Barb Tuskas and Stonewall's Ronan

Gretchen Singleton Vintage Award Trophy Sponsored by Kathy Dennis and Sally Gries Barb Tuskas and Stonewall's Ronan (right)











The Full of Grace Award
Sponsored by
Leslie Grimm
Amy Craig and
Jessica NHH (left)

The Determined Effort

Award

Sponsored by

Niki Sackman

Meghan Sozio and Paint

By Numbers (right)

(Owned by Jennifer Sozio)



NODA Lifetime
Achievement Award
Mary Lou Gallagher
Carey Smith-Wilson
Dagmar Zimmerman

Achievement Certificate
John Sandy and Flash's Painted Dazzle

Ashley Habsburg Memorial Award
Sponsored and donated by Chadwick
Farms Sporthorses
Caroline Berg-Redmond, &
Grand haven Stables
Kelly Grant

The Giving Spirit Award Sponsored and donated by friends of English Oak Stable Amy Craig and Jessica NHH

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The Fabian Schoolmaster Trophy Essay by Sara Justice

still cannot believe how blessed I am to have a horse like Narok in my life. Narok is now 17 years young and this season included a lot of first for both of us. When I first met him, Narok was a FEI Young Rider horse. He knew of all the Grand Prix movements, but was unconfirmed at the level. I purchased Narok with the intent of earning my USDF Gold Medal. In our first year together we showed Fourth Level and Prix St. Georges, something with which we were comfortable. Our second season started well and we made the move up to I-1, but I sustained an injury while riding that ended our season early. However, the injury did not stop my desire to continue moving forward with Narok.

In 2013 we both had one of our best seasons, including multiple high scores at shows and winning Prix St. Georges in the USDF All-Breeds Awards. Our 2013 success meant I wanted to make the jump up to Grand Prix and earn my USDF Gold

Medal. Narok, the confirmed FEI Young Rider horse with a piaffe and passage, was going to see if he could become a confirmed Grand prix Horse. At the ODS August Show, Narok exceeded my expectations, helping me earn my USDF Gold Medal in one weekend.

Narok is a horse of a lifetime. I thank everyone who helped with his training and development through the years because without the good foundation, he would not be the horse he is today.



Regina Sacha-Ujczo and Sara Justice.

Edy Ujczo Partnership Trophy The 2014 winner is Bill Justice Submitted by daughter, Sara Justice

very single one of us has our reasons as to why we ride and show our horses. I'm sure all of us will answer we ride and show because we enjoy the partnership with our horses. I also enjoy competing because I am proud to show the person that has supported my life with horses that yes, all of the hours, the tears, the injuries, and the sacrifices he has made are worth it. I show because I want my dad to be proud of how far I have come, from the little kid on the red dun Quarter Horse to the gold medalist on the big bay Swede.

When I was young, my dad hauled me around
Northeast Ohio with my pony Muffin and later
my 4H horse Lassie, taking time away from his
schedule to make sure I could enjoy showing in
every discipline I rode. He rarely had a
weekend to himself because he was always
taking me to a show. Vacations were nothing
more than long weekends spent at shows and extra shifts were
worked to help pay for lessons.

At sixteen, my parents did finally ask me to choose what I wanted to do- dressage or the Quarter Horse circuit. The incentive offered was a budget to find a more competitive horse for the type of showing I chose to do. I immediately began searching for a dressage horse because I knew that dressage would be the one I wanted to do for my entire life and it had more opportunities for adult riders. I found the horse I wanted, but it was double the amount I was allowed to spend. My dad watched me ride the horse in lessons and he knew I loved her.



Regina Sacha-Ujczo and Bill

The problem was the price of the horse. It was far more money than we could afford. There wasn't anything my parents could come up with in order to afford the horse, but they never told me this. They assured me if the horse were to be mine, things would work out.

What my dad didn't tell me was he was looking for a purchaser for his vintage Indian motorcycle.

This motorcycle was the project he spent all of his limited spare time on. It was nearly complete at the time and he spoke about taking it out to ride.

One day, the motorcycle was gone from the garage. He offered no explanation, other than someone asked to buy it and he sold it. The next day, I learned my dad bought the horse I had been riding. My dad sold his prized possession to allow me to have success in the show ring.

I showed my dad what his sacrifice gave me; I rode every day, driving from Akron to North Royalton, and eventually was Junior/Young Rider Horse of the Year and remained in the top five places for the rest of my time in the division for USDF All-Breed Awards.

My dad still came with me to shows and lessons even though I could drive myself. He took time away from his job and his life to make sure I would be able to have my horses. Unfortunately, only five years after selling his prized motorcycle to purchase a horse, my ambitions were much bigger than what my horse

could provide. Once again, my dad offered to help me out if I were to pay him back, and gave me a budget to look for horses. It took nearly a year, but I eventually found a new horse that had potential to compete at the FEI levels. Once again, the horse was more than the budget I was given.

Instead of saying "no, we can't afford it", my dad dipped in to his retirement savings to provide a horse that would help me accomplish my goals. The horse was difficult and I was without a trainer at the time and could not find anyone in the local area willing to work with the horse and me. I was devastated; my dad sacrificed part of his future to help me get this horse and I couldn't ride it well enough, nor could I find help to make things get better. I was in my third year of undergraduate work and recently changed my major from biology to criminal justice, so I knew I wouldn't be done with college on time either.

Again, my dad gave me confidence to move forward. I changed my major? Why not go to a closer university that would cost less. I couldn't find a trainer willing to help with my horse? Why not look out of state. He urged me to call friends I met through the NAYRC program and eventually I was put in to contact with Dr. Cesar Parra, who was willing to work with me if I came to New Jersey.

My dad did not even question when we loaded the truck and trailer and started the drive that would change my life as an equestrian. Dr. Parra's instruction and encouragement brought the unrideable horse and inexperienced rider together and helped me earn my USDF Bronze and most of my Silver medal. I

would call home every day and let my parents know what horses I rode and what I worked on so they could hear how much I appreciated and valued the experiences I had at Performance Farm. While I could not see him, I could hear it in my dad's voice that he was proud of what I was doing and how much I was learning. What I didn't know at the time was how much overtime he was working to help me pay for my time at Performance Farm.

Even though my dad gave time, money, and possessions to allow me to continue riding my horses, the greatest gift he has given to me and to all of the other Horse Show Dads he has inspired through the years is the duty to help others. When I was young, his presence at shows was somewhat odd; he was one of a handful of men at the show and he was actively hands-on with show preparation. As I grew up in 4H, his presence inspired other 4H dads to be the main "show parent" with their kids. To this day, many dads at the barn where my horses are still live up to the example he set, making horse shows a dad and daughter activity. He also inspires others to volunteer at shows, as he continues to step up and help when needed. This year, he not only volunteered for me because I couldn't get time from work to earn all of the required hours for NODA awards, but he spent most of his days at the Region 2 Championships this year standing in the Rolex arena, wearing his old cowboy hat, opening and closing the rings for riders, and assisting with ring maintenance at every break.

My dad, Bill Justice, truly is the Best Show Dad ever.

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janeengrava@earthlink.net

Member News

NODA Welcomes New Members!

Welcome (or Welcome Back) to the following who were not members in 2014:

Jerry Chuey Heidi Crawford Jeff Dennis Brenda Nichols Kristin Payden Gwendolyn P. Samuels

Thank You to all 2014 NODA members who have renewed your membership early for 2015!

Current membership as of November 20 is a little over 100 members.

The online membership roster at www.nodarider.org is used as verification of membership for NODA activities.

Your membership, time, and talents make NODA a better GMO!

Thank you to those who made additional donations with their membership:

Lisa Antoniou Susan E. Baker Maggie Ball Charlotte Bayley-Schindelholz Mary K. Hazelton Barbara L. Soukup Barbara Tuskas Shari Weeden

The online membership roster at www.nodarider.org is used as verification of membership for NODA activities.

Your membership, time and talents make NODA a better GMO!

Submitted by NODA Membership Chair, Fran Cverna

Membership Benefit Reminder!

All NODA members are eligible for am annual subscription to the Horsemen's Corral publication at the discounted rate of \$10/year.

Please note your NODA membership on your subscription application.

Attention 2013 Year-End Scholarship Recipients!

Please use the following address when redeeming 2013 Year-End Scholarships

> Nancy Danielson, NODA Treasurer P.O. Box 608 Newbury, OH 44065

Members Share

Meaghan Spann submitted photos from her experience at the National Dressage Finals. Watch for Sarah Diggin's article on the National Dressage Finals in the next issue of NODA News. Congratulations on a job well done Meaghan and Sarah!



Left: Sarah Diggin Dressage's festive decorations painted by Molly Gamin.

Right: Sarah Diggin and student Meaghan Spann with her mare, Gauchada



Left: Sarah Diggin with Beverly Heath -Rawling's Ruffino. The pair placed 5th in Open Third Level Freestyle.

Next NODA Board Meeting: January 12

Panera Bread, Solon, **6130 Kruse Drive**Minutes are available at <u>www.nodarider.org</u>

NODA's Board welcomes all comments and opinions regarding NODA activities, shows and policies. Please contact member liaison Kathy Kirchner.

Monthly board meetings are held the second Monday of each month from 7 to 9 pm at Panera Bread in Solon.

Members are always welcome to attend. See the meeting page at www.nodarider.org for details as on occasion the location of the meeting may change.

Classifieds

Classified Ads NODA Member/2 issues

FREE: 60 words or less \$5.00: 60- 80 words Photo \$5.00

Non-member/ per 2 issues \$5.00: 60 words

Photo:

\$5.00/issue for photo in newsletter and on website

Free member ads will run for two issues only. One free ad per member at a time. Submit Ad and payment by 15th of the month.

Free Stable Listings: include contact info, city and three lines. Ads subject to editing. Website posting included.

Classified Editor: Jill Voigt Phone: 216-346-2811

Check payable to NODA:

NODA Classified c/o Jill Voigt 27059 Sanctuary Lane Olmstead Township, OH 44318

Email ad to:

Classifieds@nodarider.org

APPAREL& TACK

For Sale: Petrie series 3 standard dress boot - brand new in box, never ridden in. Purchased in the Netherlands. European sizing, is comparable to US women's size 10.5. LW calf, measurements are 47 cm height, 40 cm calf. Medium firm leather. No zippers or modifications. Asking \$200, \$25 shipping or can pick up. Sara 908-240-6949 (I-2)

For Sale: Ariat Performer Back Zip IV paddock boots. Worn twice, new condition. Size 6.5B. Asking \$85. Also for sale German tall leather riding boots "Das Besondere". Size 8.5 USA. Very good condition. Asking \$50. Contact Kris at 440 -942-9034. (I-2)

For Sale: Vespucci Oversized Dressage Snaffle Bridle,

Padded crown, double-raised browband and crank noseband. Includes web reins. Excellent condition, only used slightly for shows. Picture available. \$150. Please contact Berni at nb9467@aol.com or 216-389-2743. (I-2)

IN SEARCH OF

Instructors Position Open:

Fieldstone Farm Therapeutic Riding Center in Chagrin Falls has part-time instructor openings on Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings. If you are a PATH Intl. certified instructor or are interested in becoming PATH certified, please contact Leslie Mapes at

Imapes@fieldstonefarmtrc.co m or 440.708.0013 x131. (I-1)

Saddle Wanted to

Buy: Looking for a used Bates Caprilli or Bates Dressage Saddle. 17 or 17.5" seat. Please contact Classifieds@nodarider.org. (I-2)

Saddle Wanted to

Buy: Looking for a used Wolfgang Solo Saddle with 17 or 17.5" seat. Please call Susan at 216-401-6886 (no texts) or e-mail susan.slotnick@gmail.com. (I-2)

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RECYCLE Your NODA News!

Share it at the barn, the Vet's office, or give it to a friend.

Grants Are Available for NODA Member Equine Professionals

NODA maintains a fund to support professionals, trainers and instructors with continuing education.

> 50% of Event Cost is Reimbursable (Up to \$200 maximum)

Apply in writing to:

NODA Board c/o Mary Dana Prescott 38905 Gardenside Drive Willoughby OH 44094

Tell us:

Why you should receive a grant?

What function do you plan to attend?

Where it is to be held?

How do you support NODA?

State how you will share the content with NODA members (lecture, clinic, or article)

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You must be a "professional" horseperson as defined by the current USEF rule book and a member in good standing with NODA.

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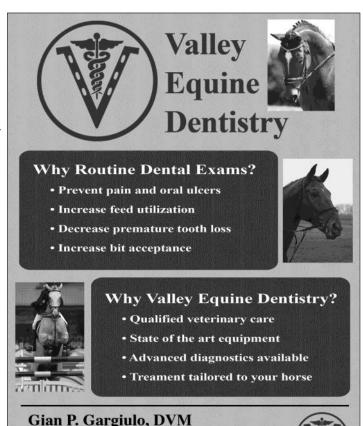
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Calendar of Events

Additional calendar listings with links available on the NODA Website <u>www.nodarider.org</u>

** Schooling Show Scores eligible for NODA Year-end Awards

12/19-21 Dressage Clinic with Jeremy Beale, Bridlewood Dressage Farm, Medina OH Contact Sherrie 330-805-1538 CBridlewood@aol.com

12/28 Dressage Schooling Show at Chagrin Valley Farms**

www.chagrinvalleyfarms.com

2/1 Dressage Schooling Show at Chagrin Valley Farms **

www.chagrinvalleyfarms.com

2/21 NODA New Test Clinic with Margaret Freeman at the Crowne Plaza Cleveland South-Independence. 9:00 AM.

3/1 Dressage Schooling Show at Chagrin Valley Farms ** www.chagrinvalleyfarms.com

3/14-15 Lake Erie College Dressage Winter Series (USDF/USEF)

Lake Erie Equestrian Center, Concord, OH www.LEC.edu/equestrian/events 3/29 Dressage Schooling Show at Chagrin Valley Farms **www.chagrinvalleyfarms.co m

4/9-12 Equine Affaire Columbus, OH

www.equineaffaire.com

4/18-19 Lake Erie College Dressage Prix de

Villes (USDF/USEF)
Lake Erie Equestrian Center
Concord OH <u>www.LEC.edu/</u>
<u>equestrian/events</u>

6/20 Lake Erie College Dressage Derby I (USDF/USEF Recognized) Lake Erie
Equestrian Center, Concord,

www.LEC.edu/equestrian/events

6/21 Lake Erie College Dressage Derby II (USDF/USEF Recognized) Lake Erie
Equestrian Center, Concord
OH

www.LEC.edu/equestrian/ events



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Planning an Event? NODA Wants to Know!

Send Calendar Submissions Website and Newsletter

to Elizabeth Bross at Elizabeth-editor@nodarider.org

and/or Linda Cooley at webmaster@nodarider.org

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Northern Ohio Dressage Association 2015 Membership Form

NODA membership runs 12/1/2014 through 11/30/2015

NODA is a United States Dressage Federation Group Member Organization

A portion of your NODA membership dues go towards your group membership in USDF. A USDF Group Membership (GM) makes you eligible for USDF Rider Awards. Group Members may participate in recognized shows without the payment of USDF non-member fees, are eligible to earn university credits, receive member discount rates for USDF events, and receive the USDF Connection magazine. (Supporting Family members do not receive a subscription to the USDF Connection – one magazine per "family.") See www.nodarider.org or <a href="https://www.nodarider

GMO

Date:	□ New						
Name:			USDF#				
Adult Amateur Professional Youth, birth date required: Youth is a NODA membership category that includes both Juniors (JR) and Young Riders (YR). Sign up for YOUTH membership unless you turn 22 or older in 2015, you must sign up for Adult Amateur or Professional membership.							
Address:		City, S	State	Zip:			
Phone:							
	If you do NOT war	nt your email printed	in the NODA Handbook, o	check □ here			
Additional/Supporting Family				USDF#			
(Must live at <u>same address</u> ; includes ALL ☐ Adult Amateur ☐ Profess			DDA newsletters): required:				
Phone:		- Committee of the comm					
Additional/Supporting Family (Must live at same address; includes ALL ☐ Adult Amateur ☐ Profess	benefits except for USE			USDF#			
Phone:	Email:			~			
To add more family members, use other side of form, or contact membership@nodarider.org							
NOTE: The printed Schooling Show Prize List, details for the Awards Program, and the NODA Handbook will be mailed to members who join before June 1, 2015. Information about shows, awards and events is available all year at www.nodarider.org . Members are added to the printed NODA Newsletter mailing list as they join; back issues are not sent. Join early in the year to enjoy the printed NODA News and E-News all year long!							
The NODA News printed newsletter is included with membership. Newsletter subscription without membership Fill out this section for a Newsletter subscription without a membership. This is not a membership and does NOT include USDF GM Membership, discounts, eligibility for NODA awards or Schooling Show Championship. Name Email:							
Address:	City, State		Zip:	Phone:			
Membership Dues:			Please make checks	s payable to NODA and mail to:			
Adult Amateur or Professional	\$45.00	<u> </u>	NODA Membership 12212 Snow Rd Burton, OH 44021 QUESTIONS? Membership questions: call Fran Cverna at 440-834-177				
Youth	\$35.00	<u> </u>					
Family Member (Amateur, Professional	or Youth) \$20.00	<u> </u>					
Family Member (Amateur, Professional	or Youth) \$20.00	M					
Newsletter subscription only (not member	ership) \$24.00		email membership@nodarider.org Other questions: call Kathy Kirchner at 330-995-6010 or				
Additional donation	Cabalarahina	8.	email memb	errep@nodarider.org			
EducationAwards	_Scholarships NCLOSED:						
TOTALE	NCLOSED.	-					
Anything you want to bring to the attention of the NODA officers and Board Members?							
Do you have specific volunteer interests and talents?							

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NODA Newsletter and Web Advertising Advertising Rates Deadline: 10th of each month (width x height) One ISSUE **Six ISSUES** Ex: Submissions received by the 10th of the month \$75.00 **Full Page** (7.5 x 10): \$375.00 will publish in the NEXT ISSUE of NODA NEWS. Half Page (7.5 X 5): \$40.00 \$200.00 All Ads will be placed on the NODA website for the **Quarter Page** (3.75 x 5): \$20.00 \$100.00 same period they are in the NODA NEWS. **Business Card** (3.75 x 2): \$15.00 \$75.00 Please complete form & enclose payment in full. Layout in jpg format should be emailed Make Check Payable to: NODA and send to: to: Mosie-editor@nodarider.org NODA News, 3244 Camden Rue, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223 Please note *payment for ads* must be received by the newsletter deadline of the 10th for your ad to be placed in the next issue. For Classifieds contact <u>Classifieds@nodarider.org</u> —see information on page 20 of this issue. Number of issues ad will run: 1 issue 6 issues full year Date: ___ Issue/year ad will run: ______Ad Size: ______ Amount enclosed \$____USD ______Company:_____ Address: City: ______ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: () E-mail: