

USDF Historical Committee

HISTORICAL GMO QUESTIONNAIRE

Please fill out the following, as completely as you can:

Note: USDF does not have complete GMO records.

Group Member Organization: Alaska Dressage Association

Region: 6 Location in Region: Alaska

Founding date: December 29, 1979

Founding members: Kathryn Brooks, Steve Brooks, Carolyn Schultz

Current Officers: President: Raena Schraer
 Vice President: Susie Kaiser
 Secretary: Mary Kaye Hession
 Treasurer: Deana Johnson
 Senior Board: Marti Miller, Jennifer Lundberg
 Junior Board: Emily Carr, Jori Dittmer

1.) Please tell the story of how the club got its start and when and how it became an official USDF GMO:

In 1979 Kathryn Brooks arrived in Anchorage, Alaska from Virginia with her third level horse Sunny and her husband Steve Brooks. At that time, dressage shows in Alaska were held in conjunction with Regular Member Shows and guest cards were obtained for any judge that would sit at C. Often the tests from these classes would have no comments, only numerical scores. The need for recognized judges and shows was obvious to both her and Carolyn Schultz, a fellow dressage enthusiast who arrived in Anchorage from the same barn in Virginia as Kathy. There was scattered dressage interest in both Fairbanks and Anchorage, the two largest cities in Alaska, but people were waiting for someone to organize the group. Since the basis of support already existed, late that year Kathryn, Carolyn and Steve founded the Alaska Dressage Association, which has been an official USDF GMO from time of its inception.

2.) From size to geography, every GMO and its members have their own unique set of challenges and opportunities that lend the club its personality and regional flavor. What are your GMO's challenges and opportunities?

ADA's Challenges:

Size of the State – Alaska is the largest state in the US. To illustrate: if AK were placed on top of US it would touch FL, CA and Canada. Because of this, the distance between centers of population makes it difficult to coordinate activities creating a need for area representatives to effectively distribute. Two largest cities (Anchorage and Fairbanks) are >300 miles apart. Some parts of the state are remote and do not have facilities or populations to support interest in dressage.

Climate – Northern location means long, cold winters, and hot, dry summers. Since the outdoor riding season is from mid-May to mid-September, an indoor facility is needed to school year round. All the shows are held in outdoor facilities and the extremes in weather make it difficult to keep optimum

footing conditions in show rings. Recent warm summers in Fairbanks have been highly forest fire prone and have interfered with numerous outdoor activities due to smoke in the air.

Isolation – The closest state is 1500 miles away, a journey of 3 ½ hours by jet or 5 days driving. This leads to a lack of perspective and lack of inspiration. To see what is happening in the dressage world members must travel to one of the “lower 48” states and there is no easy access to view upper level horses and riders.

Expenses – Cost of living and horse keeping is high since everything must be shipped here including food, hay and equipment. To get recognized judges and officials, show management must always plan for airfare costs. Clinic organizers have similar issues

ADA’s Opportunities:

Community -- Small, close community, which provides for opportunities for many members to be involved in leadership and learn about hosting recognized competitions. Riding population is somewhat transient due to the large impact of the oil industry, so new members transfer in with fresh ideas and enthusiasm.

Unique destination - Officials are attracted to AK for its uniqueness, which helps the club recruit judges and technical delegates and negotiate expenses to offset

3.) What does your GMO do to help the beginning dressage rider? The advanced dressage rider? Other categories of members (e.g. eventers)? *Advantages to being a member if you are not dressage oriented.*

Support for beginning riders includes assisting local schooling shows that offer dressage classes, offering clinics open to all levels and offerings at our recognized shows of a non-rated Beginning Dressage Rider Classes and USEF Introductory Classes.

Support for advanced riders includes offering clinics open to all levels, retaining judges rated at R or above, and offerings at our recognized shows of classes to 4th level, Dover Medal qualifying classes, qualifying classes for Region Championships and until 2004 providing 4 recognized shows so that members had the opportunity to qualify for national awards.

Support for other categories (specifically hunter/jumper riders) includes offering clinics open to all levels, assisting local schooling shows that offer dressage classes and offerings at our recognized shows of Prix Caprilli classes.

4.) What members and horses coming from your GMO ranks have distinguished themselves regionally, nationally, or internationally?

1986 Katherine Long, USDF Vintage Cup, Training and First Level

1988 Grand Baroque, USDF All-Breeds Award, Second at First Level, Appaloosa Sport Horse Association, Carolyn Schultz (owner/rider)

Grand Baroque, USDF All-Breeds Award, Second at First Level, Appaloosa Horse Club, Carolyn Schultz (owner/rider)

1989 Rullakee, USDF Region 6 Championships, 8th at Second Level, Jennifer Watson (owner/rider)

1990 Victory Keeper, USDF All-Breeds Award, 3rd at Second Level, American Quarter Horse Association, Dana Eaton (owner/rider)

HIA Harram, USDF All-Breeds Award, 3rd at First Level, Arabian Sport Horse Association, Anna Tileston (owner/rider)

HIA Harram, USDF All-Breeds Award, 3rd at Second Level, Arabian Sport Horse Association, Anna Tileston (owner/rider)

1990 cont.

Grand Baroque, USDF All-Breeds Award, First at Second Level, Appaloosa Sport Horse Association, Carolyn Schultz (owner/rider)

Tiana, USDF Horse of the Year, 16th at Training Level, Jenny Rousey-Dick (owner/rider)

Dana Eaton, Jr./Young Rider of the Year, 13th Place at Second Level

1991 Chip's Alaska Casino, USDF Region 6 Championships, 8th at First Level, Rhoda Brown (owner/rider)

1992 Mingus, won the Founder's Cup Trophy at Ram Tap Three-Day Event CCI*, Ted Reed (owner/rider)

John McNeerney, Jr./Young Rider of the Year, 10th Place at Second Level

Grand Baroque, USDF All-Breeds Award, First at Third Level, Appaloosa Sport Horse Association, Carolyn Schultz (owner/rider)

Grand Baroque, USDF All-Breeds Award, Second at Third Level, Appaloosa Horse Club, Carolyn Schultz (owner/rider)

1993 Bell Tour, Ram Tap Three-Day Event CCI*, Ted Reed (owner/rider)

Anna Tileston, Bronze Medal Rider Award

Carolyn Schultz, Bronze Medal Rider Award

1994 Dania, USDF All-Breeds Award, 1st at Training Level, Bashkir Curly, Lisa O'Dell (owner/rider)

Bell Tour, Ram Tap Three-Day Event CCI*, Ted Reed (owner/rider)

Lisa O'Dell, Qualified Rider Award

1995 Doreean, USDF Region 6 Championships, 5th at First Level, Susie Kaiser (owner), Jennifer Watson (rider)

Rufus, USDF Region 6 Championships, 5th at Second Level, Tracie Audette (owner/rider)

1997 Tosca, USDF Region 6 Championships, 3rd at Training Level Jr./Young Rider, Linda Goentzel (owner), Raena Schraer (rider)

Tosca, USDF Region 6 Championships, 6th at First Level Jr./Young rider, Linda Goentzel (owner), Raena Schraer (rider)

High Flyer, USDF All-Breeds Award, 5th at First Level, American Quarter Horse Association, Robin Nelson (owner/rider)

Pirate, USDF All-Breeds Award, 5th at Training Level, American Warmblood Society, Carol Phillips (owner), Lisa Weis (rider)

Fearless Fred, USDF All-Breeds Award, 4th at First Level, American Warmblood Society, Carol Phillips (owner), Lisa Weis (rider)

Victory's Firelite, USDF All-Breeds Award, 5th at First Level, Arabian Sport Horse Association, Robin Willis (owner), Deana Johnson (rider)

HIA Harram, USDF All-Breeds Award, 2nd at Third Level, Arabian Sport Horse Association, Anna Tileston (owner/rider)

Bite Size Jazz, USDF Horse of the Year, 19TH at Training Level, Lindsay Reynolds, (owner/rider)

Lindsay Reynolds, Jr./Young Rider of the Year, 1st Place at Training Level

Sundance Kid, North American Young Riders' Championships, Wadsworth, Ill, finished in the top 20, Ted Reed (owner/rider)

1997 cont.

Ted Reed attended Ecole Nationale d'Equitation in Saumur, France under tutelage of Cadre Noir Sept. 1997 – Aug. 1998. He earned BEES 1 (French Riding Instruction License) for Dressage, Show Jumping, Eventing, and Driving. He also competed extensively throughout France in dressage, show jumping and eventing.

1998 First Lass, USDF All-Breeds Award, 1st at First Level, American Connemara Pony Society, Monica Gray (owner/rider)
Jennifer Watson, Qualified Rider Award

1999 USDF Junior/Young Rider, Training Level Champion, Silent Type. Owner/Rider: Britany Kaiser.

USDF Adult Amateur Rider, Training Level Champion, Silent Type. Owner: Britany Kaiser, Rider: Jennifer Watson-McLead

2002 TVR Dunny Chip, USDF All-Breeds Award, 1st at Training Level Adult Amateur, Appaloosa Horse Club, Linda L. Kelley (owner/rider)

TVR Dunny Chip, Appaloosa Competitive All-Breed Activities Program, Certificate of Achievement, Appaloosa Horse Club, Linda L. Kelley (owner/rider)

TVR Dunny Chip, Appaloosa Competitive All-Breed Activities Program, Certificate of Superior Achievement, Appaloosa Horse Club, Linda L. Kelley (owner/rider)

TVR Dunny Chip, Appaloosa Competitive All-Breed Activities Program, Year-End Top Ten Finalist in Dressage, Appaloosa Horse Club, Linda L. Kelley (owner/rider)

Shahil Fujai, Reserve Champion, 2002 USA Equestrian Zone Horse of the Year at Training Level, Marti Miller (owner/rider)

2003 TVR Dunny Chip, USDF All-Breed Award, 1st at Training Level Adult Amateur, Appaloosa Horse Club, Linda L. Kelley (owner/rider)

TVR Dunny Chip, USDF All-Breed Award, 1st at Training Level Open, Appaloosa Horse Club, Linda L. Kelley (owner/rider)

TVR Dunny Chip, Appaloosa Competitive All-Breed Activities Program, Year-End Top Ten Finalist in Dressage, Appaloosa Horse Club, Linda L. Kelley (owner/rider)

2004 TVR Dunny Chip, USDF All-Breed Award, 1st at Training Level Adult Amateur, Appaloosa Horse Club, Linda L. Kelley (owner/rider)

TVR Dunny Chip, USDF All-Breed Award, 1st at Training Level Open, Appaloosa Horse Club, Linda L. Kelley (owner/rider)

TVR Dunny Chip, USDF All-Breed Award, 1st at First Level Adult Amateur, Appaloosa Horse Club, Linda L. Kelley (owner/rider)

TVR Dunny Chip, USDF All-Breed Award, 1st at First Level Open, Appaloosa Horse Club, Linda L. Kelley (owner/rider)

TVR Dunny Chip, Appaloosa Competitive All-Breed Activities Program, Year-End Top Ten Finalist in Dressage, Appaloosa Horse Club, Linda L. Kelley (owner/rider)

Park My Hot Rod, USDF All-Breed Award, 3rd at Training Level Adult Amateur, American Quarter Horse Association, Debbie Erickson (owner/rider)

Miss Boston Wonder, USDF All-Breed Award, 3rd at First Level Adult Amateur, American Quarter Horse Association, Peggy Bowker (owner/rider)

Joe Rebel Tucker, USDF All-Breed Award, 2nd at Second Level Adult Amateur, American Quarter Horse Association, Debbie Erickson (owner/rider)

Joe Rebel Tucker, USDF All-Breed Award, 3rd at Second Level Open, American Quarter Horse Association, Debbie Erickson (owner/rider)

Joe Rebel Tucker, USDF All-Breed Award, 1st at Third Level Adult Amateur, American Quarter Horse Association, Debbie Erickson (owner/rider)

2004 cont.

Joe Rebel Tucker, USDF All-Breed Award, 2nd at Third Level Open, American Quarter Horse Association, Debbie Erickson (owner/rider)

Emily Carr, rode in Lendon Gray's Youth Dressage Festival in New York and placed 4th overall in the 14-17 age division at Training Level, she was also a member of a team that placed 9th out of 57.

2005 (pending)

TVR Dunny Chip, Appaloosa Competitive All-Breed Activities Program, Year-End Top Ten Finalist in Dressage, Appaloosa Horse Club, Linda L. Kelley (owner/rider)

Laurie Collins, Bronze Medal Rider Award

Debbie Erickson, Bronze Medal Rider Award

USEF Officials:

Kristi Wysocki, USEF "R" rated judge (previous ADA active member)

Sigrun Robertson, USEF r Technical Delegate, since 2003

USEF R Category 1&2 Steward, since pre 1977

Susie Kaiser, Steward 1987-1989

5.) Dressage at Devon is the production of a GMO, Delaware Valley CTA. Describe your GMO's most noteworthy events or undertakings.

1982 – 2004 Organized 4-6 volunteer-run recognized shows between May and Sept.

1992 Instructors' workshop with Bill and Sue Woods

1997 Dressage Camp with Dolly Hannon and Kristi Wysocki

1998 Violet Hopkins Grant received to help finance a Dressage Camp with Dolly Hannon

6.) In what ways has your GMO contributed to the development of dressage in the U.S.?

ADA has contributed to the development of dressage in the U.S by creating a positive atmosphere for people to enjoy and appreciate the sport of dressage. We have provided an alternative equestrian discipline for Alaskan riders who are looking to diversify their partnership with their horses and have provided a feeder grassroots program for riders to build from and move on to higher levels of competition, training and service to USDF.

7.) In what ways has your GMO changed/evolved over time? (i.e. growth of membership, hosting large events, & divided into chapters)

Beginning in 1980 with a membership of 46, the club supported dressage at one Regular Member Show, utilizing judges with guest cards, but by 1982 that had grown to a program of four recognized shows with dressage judges and a new portable arena made from rebar and white chain. Coincident with that expansion, we developed our own annual awards and banquet with awards calculated locally. In 1985 our support of competitions was expanded to five shows a season. In 1987 the Kathryn Brooks Award was commissioned and established to recognize individuals whose support of dressage in Alaska has been positive and extensive. By 1990 ADA was managing, helping to organize or providing volunteer workers at six recognized shows a season. Membership in 1991 was 59 people. Along with adding shows, through

the year's divisions such as Beginning Dressage Rider, Introductory and Championship Qualifying were added to ensure that members with diverse interests were represented. We also hold our own local Championship Classes at the end of the season since attending the Regional Championships is very difficult for our competitors. In the interest of education we have held clinics with nationally known instructors whenever possible. Membership currently stands at 53, holding steady despite the cyclic nature of the Alaskan economy.

8.) If available, please provide a list of your club's officers through the years.

1980

President: Kathryn Brooks
Vice President: Ginny Moriarty

Secretary: Sigrun Robertson
Treasurer: Carolyn Schultz

1982

President: Kathryn Brooks
Vice President: Julia Berry
Secretary: Susie Merritt-Kaiser
Treasurer: Carolyn Schultz
Senior board:
Denise Buckalew, Loretta Address

1984

President: Katie Eberhart
Vice President: Deana Johnson
Secretary: Sigrun Robertson
Treasurer: Susie Kaiser
Senior board:
Patty Monaco, Lois Nickell

1986

President: Margaret Adams
Vice President: Sigrun Robertson
Secretary: Robin Garrett (Junior)
Treasurer: Susie Kaiser
Senior board:
Colleen Gelvin, Katie Long,
Katie Eberhart

1988

President: Margaret Adams
Vice President: Sigrun Robertson
Secretary: Jim Littell
Treasurer: Susie Kaiser
Senior board:
Katie Long, Colleen Gelvin
Junior board: Jennifer Watson

1981

President: Kathryn Brooks
Vice President: Ginny Moriarty
Vice President: Steve Brooks
Secretary: Sigrun Robertson
Treasurer: Carolyn Schultz

1983

President: Katie Eberhart
Vice President: Deana Johnson
Secretary: Sigrun Robertson
Treasurer: Colleen Arsenault
Senior board:
Mary Bakic, Laurie Bristow

1985

President: Deana Johnson
Vice President: Sigrun Robertson
Secretary: Lois Nickell
Treasurer: Susie Kaiser
Senior board:
Patty Monaco, Margaret Adams

1987

President: Margaret Adams
Vice President: Sigrun Robertson
Secretary: Jim Littell
Treasurer: Susie Kaiser
Senior board:
Colleen Gelvin, Katie Long
Junior board: Jennifer Watson

1989

President: Margaret Adams
Vice President: Colleen Gelvin
Secretary: Jim Littell
Treasurer: Susie Kaiser
Senior board:
Katie Long, Sigrun Robertson
Junior board: Jennifer Watson

1990

President: Margaret Adams
Vice President: Sigrun Robertson
Secretary: Anna Tileston
Treasurer: Susie Kaiser
Senior board:
Katie Long, Monica Powers
Carolyn Schultz

1992

President: Deana Johnson
Vice President: Marsha Boyd
Secretary: Kristi Wysocki
Treasurer: Susie Kaiser
Senior board:
Katie Long, Anna Tileston
Frieda Woodbury

1994

President: Kay Howitt
Vice President: Deana Johnson
Secretary: Frieda Woodbury
Treasurer: Susie Kaiser
Senior board:
Christine Erikson, Anna Tileston
Tracie Audette

1996

President: Carla Giroux
Vice President: Tracie Audette
Secretary: Sigrun Robertson
Treasurer: Anna Tileston
Senior board:
Katie Long, Frieda Woodbury,
Leslye Reynolds

1998

President: Frieda Woodbury
Vice President: Leslye Reynolds
Secretary: Ellen Ahern
Treasurer: Anna Tileston
Senior board:
Jennifer Watson, Lisa O'Dell
Sharon Watson
Junior board: Lindsay Reynolds

1991

President: Deana Johnson
Vice President: Sigrun Robertson
Secretary: Anna Tileston
Treasurer: Susie Kaiser
Senior board:
Katie Long, Monica Powers
Frieda Woodbury

1993

President: Kay Howitt
Vice President: Deana Johnson
Secretary: John Strachan
Treasurer: Susie Kaiser
Senior board:
Katie Long, Anna Tileston
Frieda Woodbury, Christine Erikson

1995

President: Kay Howitt
Vice President: Carla Giroux
Secretary: Frieda Woodbury
Treasurer: Anna Tileston
Senior board:
Sigrun Robertson, Tracie Audette
Christine Erikson

1997

President: Frieda Woodbury
Vice President: Leslye Reynolds
Secretary: Ellen Ahern
Treasurer: Anna Tileston
Senior board:
Chuck Hamack, Lisa O'Dell
Sharon Watson
Junior board: Lindsay Reynolds

1999

President: Leslye Reynolds
Vice President: Jennifer Watson
Secretary: Sharon Watson
Treasurer: Anna Tileston
Senior board:
Sue Mues, Lisa O'Dell,
Laurie Collins
Junior board: Emily Kieffer

2000

President: Anna Tileston
Vice President: Jennifer Watson
Secretary: Sharon Watson
Treasurer: Laurie Collins
Senior board:
Sue Mues, Leslye Reynolds
Junior board:
Emily Kieffer, Danielle Woolen

2001

President: Jennifer Watson
Vice President: Sue Mues
Secretary: Sharon Watson
Treasurer: Laurie Collins
Senior board:
Kari Bazy Garber, Wendy McLeod,
Leslye Reynolds
Junior board:
Emily Kieffer, Danielle Woolen

2002

President: Sue Mues
Vice President: Deana Johnson
Secretary:
Nicole Mues, Cyndi Hammond
Treasurer: Laurie Collins
Senior board:
Richard Brown, Kari Bazy Garber
Marji McFadden
Junior board:
Ceri Banet, Britany Kaiser

2003

President: Sue Mues
Vice President: Sandy Gibbs
Secretary: Mary Kaye Hession
Treasurer: Deana Johnson
Senior board:
Kari Bazy Garber, Richard Brown
Marti Miller
Junior board:
Britany Kaiser, Danielle Woolen

2004

President: Raena Schraer
Vice President: Sandy Gibbs
Secretary: Mary Kaye Hession
Treasurer: Deana Johnson
Senior board:
Kari Bazy Garber, Marti Miller,
Sue Mues
Junior board: Emily Carr

Contact person, or the person submitting GMO Questionnaire: [Carolyn Schultz](#)

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USDF staff or members of the USDF Historical Committee may contact you for additional information or media, if required.

Please return this questionnaire by the extension date September 30, 2005 addressed to:

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