

OADG 2016 AGM Report

President's Executive Summary It was a good year in 2016 with generally hot and dry weather for the shows, membership numbers in OADG were up and the banquet was very well attended. The purpose of this Executive Summary is to capture "for the record" the significant achievements and actions taken by the Board in 2016.

Board update:

- A total of 8 regular meetings of the Board were planned for 2016 but as it turned out, not all were needed. Seven meetings were held - all in the homes of the directors.
- 1 director is resigning at the end of 2016: Cheryl Denault – Secretary. The Board wants to sincerely thank Cheryl for her work and for hosting 2 meetings.
- Going into 2017, we have candidates for 10 of the 12 Director positions on the Board. Note: one of the positions is the CADORA rep which is typically assumed by the President, so we are effectively short one director position – that of Secretary.
- The Board hosted a web-based Member Survey in the summer. 72 responses were received. Overall, the results indicated a good level of satisfaction with the Board's various activities on behalf of members.
- The Board returned to the use of the "planning calendar" to guide our activities through the year. Many thanks go to Cheryl for improving the formatting and to adding an action register to our regular meetings in order to keep us on track.
- The CADORA Ontario representative attended one (of the 2) CADORA Ontario Board meetings as well as the AGM in person to pick up prizes awarded to OADG members. The Oakhurst team also attended the AGM to pick up their individual and Team Competition awards. Cathy Gordon was named the Lisa McGunigle Hunt Volunteer of the year for CADORA.

Membership: The membership this year was up to a total of 242 (2015-212; 2014 - 216) members. The 2016 annual fees remained the same for all members. In the Spring, the Board held a special members-only sales event in collaboration with Encore Equestrian tack shop to encourage member signup and provide member-benefits in terms of merchandise discounts. It met with limited success in terms of signup; however the discounts offered were attractive – those who did show up got some good deals.

Overall membership totals have increased in all four of the major categories: local OADG, CADORA Ontario, CADORA National, and Quebec National members. A total of 242 individuals joined the OADG in 2016; an increase of 30 members from 2015.

New membership totals decreased this year as opposed to last but the number of returning members was up in all categories across the board. In contrast, the previous year saw a spike in new membership instead of the participation of existing members.

	TOTAL MEMBERS	ONTARIO MEMBERS	NATIONAL MEMBERS	QUEBEC MEMBERS
2016	242	132	88	5
2015	212	121	76	2
	+30	+11	+12	+3

	OADG SR	OADG JR	ONT SR	ONT JR	NAT SR	NAT JR	QUE SR	QUE JR	NEW OADG	NEW ONT	NEW NAT	NEW QUE
2016	150	25	98	12	73	9	3	0	64	22	6	2
2015	116	21	81	8	58	7	2	0	72	32	11	0
	+34	+4	+17	+4	+15	+2	+1	-	-8	-10	-5	+2

Show Circuit: The past season was a very active one for our local riders. The Ottawa area hosted six Gold shows as well as one CDI/Platinum competition. The seven Silver shows plus the Eastern Division Championships, again ably hosted by Oakhurst Farm, were overall very well attended. Nine ESD competitions rounded out the schedule for our grass roots riders. We welcomed Stevens Creek Farm to our local show scene, and Caroline Peck hosted her very popular ESD show at International Equestrian Centre. Both locations will again be holding shows in 2017. We will also be introducing several new facilities to next year's schedule. It promises to be another busy season for our riders, so stay tuned for a full listing of all our 2017 local dressage competitions coming soon.

Sponsorship:

- The Director reports that she is very glad with our Team approach in helping with the distribution of the OADG Sponsorship items at the various Schooling, Silver and

Gold Shows throughout the Show Season. We had ordered 25 very nice dressage saddle pads with our OADG logo and website address on them, and Catherine Maguire and Anne Galt took care of their distribution.

- For the CADORA ONT Silver Dressage Championships -East show, Sue was able to obtain 15 sponsors for the Champion and Reserve Champion ribbons cost and the Competitor Prizes. Peggy McQuaid was a great help prior to the Show with the sorting out of donations by the 14 sponsors, and on the day with the presentations. Thanks also to Catherine Maguire and Lynda Maltby for their help on the day.
- For the Banquet Sponsorship, we were able to secure 46 sponsors (including ourselves) for a total of 68 door prizes. Many thanks go to the wrapping and labelling team of Val Everson, Peggy McQuaid, Michelle Paquette, Steve Curtis, Lynda Maltby and Terry Otto. The final chore of the year will be to send out Thankyou letters to the sponsors which include a nice photo of some of our award winners with their trophies. Thankyou letters with photos were also sent to the Silver championships sponsors after the Show.

Website: In 2016, the OADG website was redesigned to be mobile-friendly, which required 60 hours of work.

Banquet:

- After stepping in last year at the last moment to help with the Awards Banquet, this was Heather's first full year as the Banquet Director. By her own comments, she has thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the rest of the OADG Board of Directors and being part of such a wonderful group of people who are dedicated to promoting dressage locally. This year the Awards Banquet was held on November 26 at Tudor Hall and 198 people attended. (This compares to 168 attendees in 2015 and 200 in 2014.) The venue changed as the Board was in agreement it was time to "change things up" and I think the Tudor Hall provided an elegant setting for the Awards Banquet at a reasonable cost to each member. The OADG was able to secure some great door prizes and "special" prizes again this year through the hard work and dedication of the Sponsorship Director which always adds some excitement at the banquet

Awards:

- The board welcomed Caroline Peck in 2016 as the awards director. Also, we wish to acknowledge the continuing hard work of Rhonda Burke in tracking the Gold circuit scores.

- In the technical classes 59 Trophies were awarded (vs 51 of 77 in 2015), 38 Reserve Champion plaques were awarded, 18 3rd Place medallions were awarded and 38 Merit medallions.
- 6 Team Challenge Plaques were awarded to: Centaur Riding School for ESD & The Queenswood Queens for Gold. No Silver Team qualified.
- Our 4 special trophies were awarded to Shelia Trusdale (Sr. Rider), Cathy Gordon (Volunteer), Marion Bailey-Canham (Horse Owner) and Karina Cudahy (ParaEq).
- Devlin Abergel-Preston was awarded the Dr. Brian Mills Award for Junior Rider
- Diane Forbes was awarded the Madison Crich Memorial Award.
- We presented 8 special cash awards for the highest scores in each circuit and category
- The OADG Special Achievement Awards were presented to Lindsay Cooper-Kelly and Nicole Babich-Morin who attended the 2016 NAJYR Championships, Elsie Redford and Lucie Redford who attended Lendon Gray Youth Dressage Festival and Karina Cudahy for Commitment to Horsemanship.

Education: Another Stephen Clarke Clinic synopsis was prepared for the newsletter. Unfortunately, there will not be one for the 2016 clinic as the Director was unable to attend. Some work was started on a “free style 101” clinic but got bogged down on licensing to use copyright music. This will be re-visited in 2017. A free “exercise session for riders” was organized, but unfortunately that was a failure -- bad timing and weather too nice. The feedback from the Member Survey did not produce any definitive results as to where we should go with clinics however work continues to see what might draw more member interest and turnout.

Communications:

- Three newsletters went out. The membership seemed to enjoy them and find them informative, but the number of submissions by members dropped a little bit this year, compared to previous years. Next year, we’ll try to get the number back up.
- Our Facebook page is still popular with over 600 members. It is open to unpaid “friends of OADG” as well as paid members and is proving to be a good source of information for members of other CADORA chapters, and for friends and family of the paid members.

- Most other “bulletin boards” in the area have pretty well died out. The Horse World community boards have been taken down (replaced by Facebook).
- OADG seems to be a popular source of info – one member recently moved to Alberta, but when asked if she wanted her email removed from the e-mailing lists, she preferred to stay on!

2016 Financials:

For the fiscal operating year of 2016 the OADG had final operating revenue of \$19,929 from received membership fees, sponsorship, banquet ticket sales and miscellaneous items. The OADG had overall expenses (banquet, awards, insurance, sponsorship, website, miscellaneous items) related to 2016 activities of \$15,641.10 plus \$4,307 in flow through membership fees paid out to CADORA Ontario and CADORA Inc.. This leaves the OADG with an overall surplus of \$1114.90 for the fiscal year of 2016. The surplus will be carried over into following years to be used to offset rising sponsorship expenses and other award expenses. For 2016 the OADG also paid out \$250 in bursary funds from cash reserves.

The OADG receives its main operating revenue from membership fees and donations which came to \$6642 for 2016. The chart below depicts the OADG expenditures and the remaining surplus as a percentage of the \$6642 in main operating revenue.

2016 OADG Fiscal Report - Actual

