



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

July 2021 WDAA Newsletter

Dear Friends,

I have just finished judging the rides assigned to me for the WDAA Western Dressage Online International Challenge 2021. I saw what some of you go through to participate in Western Dressage. It made me fall in love with all of you and your beautiful horses all over again.

- To the rider who turned on the camera, held up the sign, dropped it, walked to the mounting block and mounted, rode to the other end of the dressage court, rode their tests from memory, and turned off the camera when you finished: I saw you and you are a warrior!
- To the rider who performed a test in the pouring rain: I saw you and you are fearless!
- To the rider who braided your horse's hair and yours to match: I saw you and you are gorgeous!
- To the rider whose kid filmed you and said "That was awesome, Mom!" before the video ended: I saw you and you are awesome!
- To the rider who rode in a homemade dressage court on a hill: I saw you and you are amazing!
- To the rider who rode in a dressage court next to a road with cars whizzing by: I saw you and you are unshakeable!
- To the rider who jumped off and kissed your horse: I saw you and you are cherished!
- To the rider who suffers from medical issues, but rode through the pain: I saw you and you are unstoppable!
- To the rider with challenges I don't know about and I didn't see: I know you're there and I believe in you!

WDAA members are super heroes and I could not be prouder to serve you all. I'm not even going to start discussing your horses because I loved every single one of them. It was an honor to see you all doing what you love and I look forward to seeing you again, but in person, at the World Show.

If any of you are on the fence about attending the World Show, jump off and sign-up! We only regret the things we don't try and if you don't come, you'll never know what could have been. You are ready! If you get yourself to the World Show, you are already ahead of almost everyone you know. What's the worst thing that can happen? You could fall off? I fell off in a show. Then, I got back on and finished my test. It wasn't that bad.

If you come to the World Show, you will find your tribe. If you have never been, it's hard to understand, but those who have been to the WDAA Western Dressage World Championship Show can attest that it is truly a magical place where no one is an outsider and everyone is excited to share in each other's journeys. If you come, you will have the time of your life. For all World Show information please visit www.wdaaworldshow.org

"There is freedom waiting for you, on the breezes of the sky. And you ask, "What if I fall?" Oh, but my darling, "What if you fly?" -Erin Hanson

In other news, WDAA will be asking members for opinions through some of our “Question of the Month” polls in the near future. We want to make sure we are moving the organization in the direction you want it to go. Therefore, if you are not a current member and want your voice heard, [join now](#) so you can participate in the polling. WDAA is growing and striving as always, to improve.

Cindy Butler, Your President
Western Dressage Association of America

Judging is under way for the Online International Challenge!

Entries were more than we ever could have imagined, we are thrilled to share these stats with you.

- Horse and Rider combinations = 386
- Rides = 1136
- States represented = 36
- Countries represented = 6
- Continents represented = 3
- Breeds and cross breeds represented = 65

The live Zoom award celebration invitation will be sent to all exhibitors after judging is finished. It will be held at 5:00PM Mountain time on Sat July 17th. Good luck to everyone!



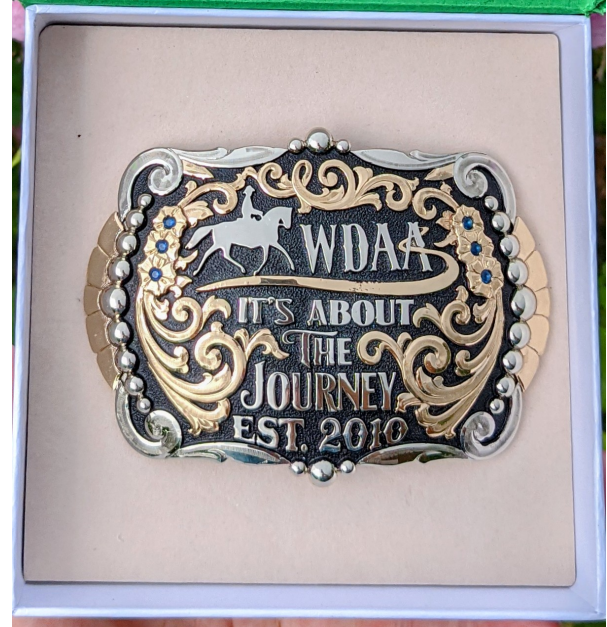
WDAA Volunteer Opportunity



WDAA and our World Show cannot function without the help of our priceless volunteers. Do you love asking people for money? If your answer is YES!! then we have the volunteer job for you! We are looking for a World Show Sponsorship Chairman, we already have quite a few loyal sponsors, we just need help managing the program. Can you help us? Please contact Dini Swanson at dini@westerndressageassociation.org for more information.

WDAA Belt Buckles

What could be a better way to show your WDAA pride!! WDAA is now offering beautiful silver buckles for members to purchase. To purchase one of these beauties, click the button below!



Order Your WDAA Belt Buckle Now!

Texas has a newly formed WDAA State Affiliate.

Western Dressage Association of America is pleased to announce our newest state affiliate, Western Dressage Association of Texas (WDATX). Headed up by Dee Kellner of Azle, TX, the state affiliate has been re-established from the ground up with the support and dedication of Kathy Marcum, Lori Krell, and Roxie Lee.

In the past, others found it difficult to build and retain membership in the affiliate because the state is large and requires support from several areas to be able to offer inclusion to the entire state. Dee has responded to this issue by reaching out to people in different parts of the state to inform members who were previously unable to be included in activities and events that were confined to a smaller area of the state that the affiliate wants to be inclusive in all parts of the state. Still working on getting a website together, the affiliate does have a Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/wdatx/>.

We will let Dee introduce herself here and provide some history of how she got here to WDAA and WDATX.

“Hello! My name is Dee Kellner and I’m so excited to get the Texas affiliate back up and running!

A little bit about me: I’m a former low-level event rider, and while I did love the jumping and the wings that it gave me, I always went back to the dressage part of the discipline, and it just felt good to concentrate on the basics and focus on the communication between my horse and me.

I decided after a bit to go back to my southern roots and pick up western riding again, but something was missing... my dressage!

What a godsend western dressage has been! I love it! I love the communication and harmony the sport gives to western riding partnerships.

I want others to have the ability to grow in this invaluable discipline as I have (and continue to do). And as Texas has not had a western dressage group to call “home” recently, I wanted to give people a resource that they could utilize that is available from a WDAA state affiliate.

I hope and will continue to work for the sport by bringing education, events, and a community that Texan western dressage riders can call their own, and I hope others will join me”.

Attention Professionals!

Get yourself noticed, people from all over the world are looking for Western Dressage trainers! Make sure you are listed in our Professionals Directory, it is a free service for members! For example, if someone were looking for a trainer on www.WDAA.org in FLORIDA, they would find 0 trainers listed...

You can opt in by doing the following steps;

- Step 1, go to WDAA Member Profile
- Step 2 Click "Update Your Profile"
- Step 3 scroll down a little and click "Edit" in the box that has user name etc. in the upper right corner.
- Step 4 check the box for "Professional Directory" - YES (and then click save)



Got a tack question??? Then visit the WDAA Equipment Guide.

Not sure whether your saddle, bridle, or bit is acceptable for showing in western dressage shows? There is a copy of our current equipment guide linked on the WDAA website, but it may not be easy to find among the information linked under Education & Tests, so we have included a copy of the guide for you to download to your mobile device or computer for reference.

[WDAA-Equipment-and-Attire-Guide-7-2-2021.pdf](http://www.wdAA.org/WDAA-Equipment-and-Attire-Guide-7-2-2021.pdf) ([westerndressageassociation.org](http://www.westerndressageassociation.org)).

Membership Tip of the Month

Can't remember your log in ID or password? Here's how to retrieve or update your log in information:

- Click on Login to Member Portal at the top left of the WDAA home page
- When the landing page opens, click on the link near the bottom of the page to retrieve your username or to reset your password.



Join WDAA or renew your membership today so you don't miss out on exclusive member benefits!

Join WDAA



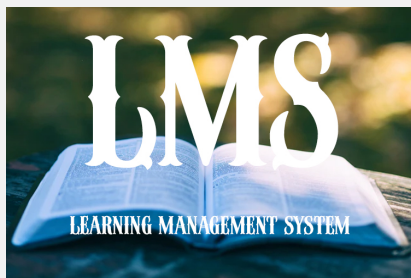
WDAA has some very exciting events, be sure to check the calendar regularly so you don't miss out!

[Visit the Calendar](#)



Take advantage of this free member benefit! Professional directory to connect potential clients with professionals.

[Visit the Directory](#)



The LMS is a great way to learn more about Western Dressage. Only available to members.

[Visit the LMS](#)

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OF AMERICA

