



October 2022 WDAA Newsletter



Dear Friends,

I truly believe that the training system offered by WDAA can save horses' lives because riders can develop better trained and more valuable horses which may be coveted and less likely to be discarded by their owners and future owners. We say that saving horses' lives through good training is the purpose of Western Dressage.

The truth is that I stopped training horses years ago and started training people (including myself) instead. I realized I was serving horses better by training people. A big part of "horse training" is learning to understand and respect horses. Training a person means I am not only helping the horse s/he has now, but also every horse s/he relates with in the future.

I read a quote once that the Industrial Age was the best thing that ever happened to horses because after that, only people who actually liked horses owned them. So, now, one might expect horse owners and other people who like horses should be receptive to learning to understand, respect, and train their horses. That's where Western Dressage comes in. We give everyone a road map. As a member of WDAA, you can share the map with other horse lovers so they can have the same opportunity to train and learn with their horses that you have.

I am thrilled that WDAA's own celebrity judge, Ann Judge has explained how Western Dressage training impacted the Denver Bronco's mascot, "Thunder" as well as presented Western Dressage training methods recently on Horseweek.tv. Ann represents many "brands", but I am proud that Western Dressage is one of them and that Ann and others believe in Western Dressage enough to represent it to the World.

I am also grateful for those of you who share Western Dressage more subtly, for example by wearing your Western Dressage Championship jacket or Western Dressage affiliate t-shirt wherever you go. You may not even have to say a word to inspire someone who sees a WDAA logo on your clothing to Google WDAA and find a whole new realm of possibilities on our website.

There are many ways to "ride for the brand". I challenge you as members of WDAA and enlightened users of our training system, to find your own way to share the benefits of Western Dressage with horse owners and

lovers who may not know about it yet. This mission is worth it! Better trained horses AND better trained people are the true purpose of Western Dressage..

Thank you all for “riding” with me and together for the benefit of any horse and anyone with a horse! We are saving horses’ lives and definitely enriching human lives along the way!

Enjoy the Journey,
Cindy Butler, Your President
Western Dressage Association of America



The 2022 WDAA Western Dressage World Championship Show was a HUGE success.

5 days were packed with extremely competitive rides. Over 1000 tests were performed by 233 entries. A whopping 55 different breeds were shown by exhibitors from 28 states including Alaska, plus Canada.

WDAA would like to thank our exhibitors for the kind words, good sportsmanship, and supporting a fun, yet competitive atmosphere at the show. We lean so heavily on a few die-hard volunteers; it would be impossible to name all of them. We would like to thank just a few of the standouts.

One of which is World Show Sponsorship chair **Kim Mackey** who had the show almost completely sponsored, this year was an all-time high for sponsorships. On top of that she managed the in-person and online silent auctions from over a thousand miles away! She was unable to get off work to attend the show but still found a way to help.

Joann Sarni basically melted her Fitbit with how many steps she took throughout the week being one of our invaluable test runners!

Jen Sigety kept all of the officials happy with a never-ending supply of Halloween candy and some healthy treats thrown in for good measure. No one went without, Jen was on top of it, even keeping the carrot and apple supply stocked up at the WDAA office.





Congratulations to our World Championship Overall High Score Champions

Overall Exceptional Rider - JUSTIN BYROM CUMMINS on WA ZANTIA with a 68.864

Overall Gaited Horse Rider - TIM CHRISTENSEN on CALLEBEAU with a 76.944

Overall Amateur Rider - GLYNIS WALFORD on TAPT OUTTA CASH with a 78.269

Overall Open Rider - MARK HISER on DREAMIN MIRACLES with a 78.889

Overall Junior Rider - RILEY WHITTAKER on LNR GAMBLING SMART with an 82.955



Riley Whittaker our Over Overall Junior Rider Winner and Carilynn White our Reserve Overall Junior Winner.



Glynis Walford our Over Overall Amateur Rider Winner and Jessica Schultz our Reserve Overall Amateur Winner.

Extra congratulations go to \$2000 Lynn Palm Future Star Award winner for Junior riders Basic Level and up, KEHAN COX on EQUINOX COURAGE UNDERFIRE GCH with a 75.192! For the full story please visit <https://www.dressagefoundation.org/>

For all World Show results please visit www.wdaaworldshow.org, there you can also find a digital copy of this year's beautiful show program highlighting our generous sponsors.



Kehan Cox, the Future Star Award Winner

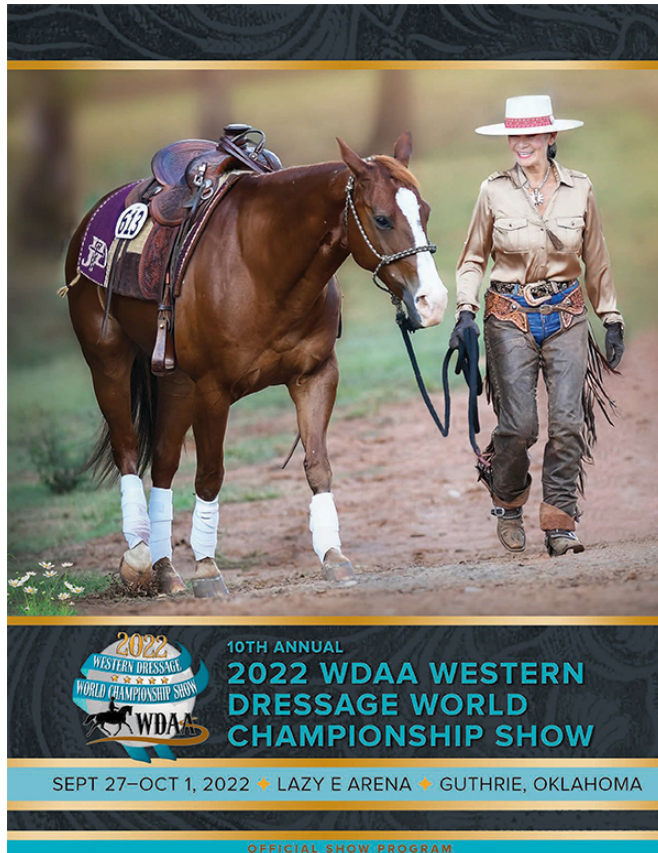
Stories About the Journey

Make sure to visit the WDAA blog sites "[The Show Pen](#)" and "[The Journey](#)" for several beautiful and inspirational stories about World Show exhibitors and their equine partners.

Harmony Saddle Award Winner

Big congrats go to R-A Mazzola of Redmond, Washington! He won the drawing for the beautiful 2022 Harmony Award Saddle. He's joined for the photo by Mike Corcoran creator of the saddle and WDAA President Cindy Butler.

All drawing entries were earned by first getting a harmony score of at least 8 in the 2022 Online International Challenge. Of that pool of people, each harmony score of 8 or above earned at the World Championship Show secured one ticket to the drawing.



We look forward to seeing you all at the 2023 WDAA Western Dressage World

Championship Show September 26th
-30th at the Lazy E Arena in Guthrie, OK.



WDAA Honors

The 2022 WDAA Horse Lifetime Points and Awards Program banquet was held Tuesday night, September 27th during the World Show, over 100 attendees gathered for a joyous celebration of everyone's journey from the past year. WHLPAP Administrator Jenny McBurnett, had the awards beautifully presented so the evening went off without a hitch. 150 Awards were presented to 93 WDAA members representing 46 Breeds.

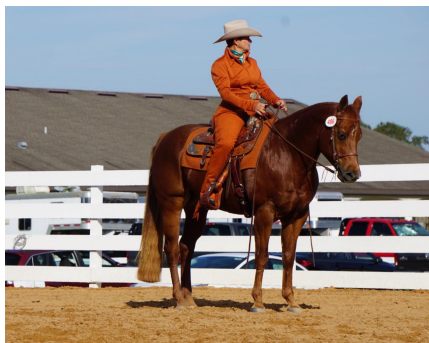
6 Supreme Champion
3 Gold Medalist
10 Silver Medalist
12 Bronze Medalist
25 Register of Excellence
36 Register of Achievement
58 Register of Merit

Shipping of unclaimed awards will begin November 1st.





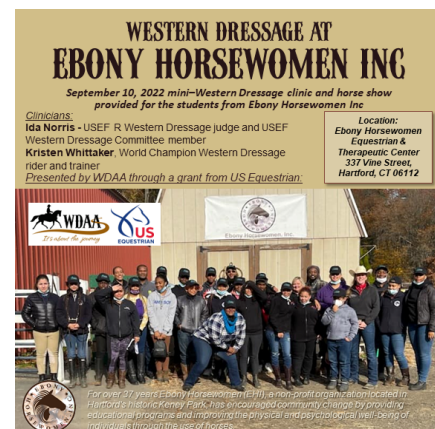
The Whittaker family of Massachusetts is making a difference in WDAA. Before the Saturday Night Awards Ceremony the 2022 WDAA Top Hand award was presented to Whit Acres Farm. This award is presented to a volunteer whose contribution to WDAA and its educational mission was outstanding during the current award year. For the whole story please visit, [Meet the 2022 Top Hands](#).



WDAA Inducts “Tommy Temon” Into the Hall of Champions. Please visit [WDAA Honors](#) to read his story.

WDAA instructs youth with the help of a USEF grant

On September 10th WDAA hosted a Western Dressage mini clinic and show at Ebony Horsewomen, Inc. Equestrian and Therapeutic Center located in the beautiful and historic Keney Park in Hartford, CT. This was made possible through the USEF Youth Sportsman’s Award Recognized Affiliate Grant.



Generously donating their time to teach for the day were, R USEF Western Dressage judge Ida Norris of VT and World Champion trainer Kristen Whittaker of MA. During the summer students were tasked with completing 4 “homework” lessons to help them prepare for a day of instruction and mini horse show. In the morning students had a review of their homework and their learning from the 2021 clinic. They performed

WDAA Introductory test 3, for judge Norris at the end of the day. Everyone had a great time and was very thankful for the invaluable learning experience.



News concerning USEF

Find all USEF rule change proposals here [Rule Changes](#) | [US Equestrian \(usef.org\)](#)

Find all USEF Presidential Rule Modifications here [Presidential Modifications](#) | [US Equestrian \(usef.org\)](#)



WDAA Test Revisions to Date

- Level 1 Freestyle: 4/5/2022 Total points correction on cover page only.
- Level 2 Test 2: 3/30/2022 Movement 15 clarification that the collect jog begins at V. Changed sidepass from 4 steps to 4 strides.
- Level 2 Test 2: 5/23/2022 Changed sidepass from # of strides to go to the first quarter line.
- Level 2 Test 4: 2/15/2022 Changed sidepass from 4 steps to 4 strides.
- Level 2 Test 4: 5/23/2022 Changed sidepass from # of strides to go to the first quarter line.
- Level 2 Freestyle: 1/7/2022 Movement 10 has had the verbiage "through the jog" removed. And now states only "Simple change of lead".
- Level 3 Freestyle: 4/26/2022 Total points correction on cover page only.
- Level 4 Freestyle: 4/26/2022 Added L|R to movements 9 & 10. Removed L|R from box 11. Corrected total points on cover page.
- Level 5 Test 1: 12/10/2021 Added "Left Lead" to movement #1 to clarify the lead to take from the halt.
- Level 5 Test 3: 12/10/2021 Added "Left Lead" to movement #1 to clarify the lead to take from the halt.



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](#)

WESTERN DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA

