



Western New York Dressage Association

Highlights Newsletter

Your Western New York USDF Group Member Organization

Summer/Fall 2023

Letter from the President

First and foremost, thank you for welcoming me aboard as the WNYDA President—it is with great honor that I lead WNYDA this term! 2023 promises to be full of amazing opportunities for our dressage community, including some fantastic new educational events and a full slate of wonderful schooling and recognized shows. Can you believe that we are well into the season with so many more events to look forward to?

The start of the local show season started strong with two very successful WNYDA schooling shows, both the Houghton University Spring Show and Cobblestone. These shows were incredibly well attended, and many of our membership were able to dust off the cobwebs and practice some tests for the rest of the season.

Membership for our local organization is up with over 130 members currently, and we would encourage any member or family member to get involved! There are numerous volunteer opportunities and any help is greatly appreciated. We have also tried to include numerous volunteer perks, not to mention, without help to run these events, they aren't possible.

The WNYDA Summer Festival was a wonderful event for all and we were blessed to have a wonderful array of prizes for our annual fun awards! A huge thank you goes out to the generous sponsors who aid in this fun event. See pages 6 and 7 for upcoming events to participate in as a rider, volunteer or spectator, including multiple Challenge Series Shows (August Twilight, Silver Spur, Houghton September and November), and the WNYDA Educational Fall Symposium with Jackie Brooks. Lastly, don't forget all the wonderful year end awards WNYDA gives out and stay tuned for the annual awards banquet where all the annual placings and prizes are awarded.

We look forward to seeing you at future events, and remember to check the website and WNYDA Facebook for further updates, or even just to share fun pictures from your year in dressage!

Kait Webster, WNYDA President





Kenzie West and Lambrusco DL



Carolyn Wehle and Rock My Lady



Kim Blaszak and Gintaras



Judy West and Annika QWF

2022 YEAR-END AWARDS



Karina Jentsch and Velartijin HBC



Gillian Tagliaferro and Target the Moon



Lauren Adelizi and Wysteria Giana



Annabel Carr and Le Dame Noir et Blanche



Chloe Duncan and Zeppole



Molly Ryan and Nadia



Tracy Tremblay and Spero



Jasmine McPherson and Carbondale Cole

RIDER OF THE YEAR WINNERS

Overall Rider of the Year

Champion: Judy West and Annika QWF
Reserve: Carolyn Wehle & Rock My Lady

Professional Rider of the Year

Champion: Judy West and Annika QWF
Reserve: Carolyn Wehle & Rock My Lady

Adult Amateur Rider of the Year

Champion: Kenzie Norman and Lambrusco DL
Reserve: Kimberly Blaszk and Gintaras

Vintage Rider of the Year

Champion: Judy West and Annika QWF
Reserve: Tracy Tremblay and Spero

Junior Rider of the Year

Champion: Chloe Duncan and Zeppole
Reserve: Gillian Tagliaferro and Target The Moon

CHALLENGE SERIES WINNERS

Challenge Series Overall

Champion: Karina Jentsch and Velartijin HBC
Reserve: Annabel Carr and Le Dame Noir et Blanche

Challenge Series—Juniors

Intro: Annabel Carr and Le Dame Noir et Blanche
First: Karina Jentsch and Velartijin HBC

HORSE OF THE YEAR WINNERS

Training Level Horse of the Year

Champion: Judy West and Annika QWF
Reserve: Kenzie Norman and Lambrusco DL

First Level Horse of the Year

Champion: Gillian Tagiaferro and Target The Moon
Reserve: Karina Jentsch and Velartijin HBC

FEI Level Horse of the Year

Champion: Carolyn Wehle and Rock My Lady
Reserve: Kimberly Blaszk and Gintaras

Darla Trophy

Carolyn Wehle and Rock My Lady

Flying Change Horse of the Year

Sr. Champion: Kenzie Norman and Lambrusco DL
Jr. Champion: Gillian Tagliaferro and Target the Moon

OPPORTUNITY WINNERS

Champion: Jasmine McPherson and Carbondale Cole
Reserve: Molly Ryan & Nadia

OTHER AWARDS WINNERS

Joint Upstate High Point Award: WNYDA Nominee

Judy West and Annika QWF

OTTB Incentive Award

Chloe Duncan and Zeppole

Rider Achievement Plaques: Chloe Duncan (Training), Kimberly Blaszk (Intermediate I)

2023 WNYDA FALL SYMPOSIUM: JACQUELINE BROOKS

OCTOBER 21-22, 2023

Jacqueline Brooks, two-time Olympian (2008 and 2012), has been a dressage competitor, trainer and coach for more than 25 years. During that time, she has qualified for six Canadian Teams; 1 PanAm (Team Silver Medal), 1 WEG, 2 World Cup, and 2 Olympic Teams on two different horses; Gran Gesto and DNiro, better known as "Goose". She has trained more than 20 dressage horses to Grand Prix and is an Equestrian Canada certified Competition Coach Specialist who has helped numerous young riders and adult competitors of all equestrian disciplines achieve success in the ring. Jacquie is the Head Trainer at Brookhaven Dressage, located just outside of Newmarket, Ontario, which she owns and operates in partnership with her mother and biggest fan, Mary. There she welcomes clients in full or partial training and ship-ins for single lessons or short-term stays. She also coaches several competitors online.

Jacquie can be found quite often as a guest clinician across North America sharing her expertise and experience to packed audiences. Jacquie's encouraging and sympathetic teaching style that puts the horse's mental and physical health first has made her a popular clinician everywhere she goes. The Symposium will showcase demo riders from Training through FEI levels. Sessions will be geared towards auditors, with an overlying theme throughout the rides and opportunities for Q&A.



DATE: October 21st – 22nd , 2023

LOCATION: Hamburg Fair Grounds, Hamburg, NY – All activities at the Showplex Complex

TIME: 8 am – 5 pm

COST: Auditing available for WNYDA members at \$40/day, or \$60 for both days. Auditing available for non-WNYDA members at \$60/day or \$85 for both days. Auditing available for members of CDCT, GVRDC and NEDA at \$50/day, or \$70 for both days Auditing available for Pony Club members at \$30/day or \$50 both days. Demo rider lesson cost for WNYDA members at \$200*/weekend (must ride both days) .

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS: WNYDA will be following current governmental, USEF, and USDF guidelines and precautions. For more information, please contact Dr.Lauren Adelizi at LJDembkoski@yahoo.com.

For updates on the Symposium, check the WNYDA website (WWW.WNYDA.ORG) and the WNYDA Facebook page.

2023 WNYDA ART AWARDS WINNERS

Junior Divison

Gold: Erin Ozminkowski

Silver: Lena Sparcino, Selene D'Angelo, Elsa Shultz

Bronze: Nina Woloszynska



Junior Gold Medal Winner, Erin Ozminkowski

Senior Division

Gold: Prin Furst, Andrea Billin, Sheila Cannon

Silver: Emily Fausnaught, Hannah Williamson

Bronze: Katherine Rubino-Hansen



Senior Gold Medal Winner, Sheila Cannon



Senior Gold Medal Winner, Andrea Billin



Senior Gold Medal Winner, Prin Furst

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

WNYDA is currently in need of volunteers for upcoming events, and very much in need of a volunteer coordinator! Remember, you must have completed 8 volunteer hours by October 10th in order to be eligible for 2023 awards. Volunteers are needed for all aspects of WNYDA events, from helping at competitions (we have several schooling shows still coming up!) and with preparation and organization for events like the awards banquet, educational symposium, newsletter, and fundraising. No matter your strength or skill, we rely on the efforts of volunteers to help our organization provide dressage opportunities throughout Western New York. Plus, we offer great swag for volunteers!

Please visit the “Volunteer” page on the WNYDA.org website for more information and to put in volunteer requests.

GRANT UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Are you familiar with the Dressage Foundation? Founded in 1989, the Dressage Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt organization, whose mission is to cultivate and provide financial support for the advancement of dressage in the United States. Since their inception, TDF has provided over three million dollars in grants and scholarships to professionals, amateurs, young riders, judges, and organizations, all funded through donations.

Some of these donations found their way back to Western NY during the 2019-2020 season. WNYDA was the recipient of the Violet Hopkins Educational Grant in order to help offset the costs of the L Judge program. Due to the generosity of TDF and donors, WNYDA was able to reschedule sessions B and C of the L Judge program for fall of 2020.



**2020 Gifted Grant recipient Sarah Averill
trained with John Zopatti in NC**

In addition, WNYDA board member Sarah Averill was the Region 8 recipient of the 2019 Carol Lavell Gifted Memorial Fund Grant. The purpose of the grant is to provide adult amateurs active in their local GMO the opportunity to set aside quality time away from the daily pressures of job and family, riding their horse with their trainer of choice. Sarah traveled with her Quarter Horse, Samwise, to train with John Zopatti in Pinehurst, NC in April 2022.

Interested in furthering your own dressage education? Check out the Dressage Foundation’s website at dressagefoundation.org for information on upcoming grant deadlines and applications, and please consider donating to help them in their mission to provide continued learning for all. In addition, WNYDA also provides grant opportunities for

members to organize educational programs and clinics through the Ida Mizelle Fund. For further information, visit the “Educational Grant” section of the WNYDA website at WNYDA.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 15 Twilight Dressage/WNYDA Challenge Series Show, Geneseo, NY
- August 19 Erie Hunt and Saddle Club Combined Test, Erie, PA
Contact: Brittany Hartley—hartley.brittany88@gmail.com or (814) 602-7325
- August 19-20 Genesee Valley Riding and Driving Club Horse Trials
- August 26-27 Dressage in Wine Country I and II, Cayuga Dressage and Combined Training
USEF/USDF Recognized
- August 26-27 Erie Hunt and Saddle Club Dressage Camp, Erie, PA
Contact: Brittany Hartley—hartley.brittany88@gmail.com or (814) 602-7325
- Sept. 3 WNYDA Challenge Series Dressage Schooling Show, Hamburg, NY
In conjunction with Silver Spur Arabian Show
Contact Jen Powell at jlpowell2675@gmail.com for questions
- Sept. 9 Erie Hunt and Saddle Club Combined Test, Erie, PA
Contact: Brittany Hartley—hartley.brittany88@gmail.com or (814) 602-7325
- Sept. 16 Saddle Up for Roswell Horse Trials and Schooling Dressage Show to benefit Roswell Park Cancer Institute and the East Aurora Pony Club
Chestnut Ridge Equestrian Center, Gasport, NY
Contact: Sue Williams 716-772-2707 or 561-707-8050/visit chestnutridgeequestriancenter.com
- Sept. 16-17 Clinic with Vera Kessels, Fox Run Dressage
Contact Carol Heckman at ceheckman@gmail.com for more information
- Sept. 17-20 USDF Region 8 Championships, HITS on the Hudson, Saugerties, NY
- Sept. 30 WNYDA Challenge Series Dressage Schooling Show, Houghton, NY
- Oct. 14-15 Dressage clinic with Anne Gribbons, Chestnut Ridge Equestrian Center, Gasport, NY
- Oct. 21-22 WNYDA Dressage Symposium with Jacqueline Brooks, Hamburg, NY
Contact Dr. Lauren Adelizi at LJDembkoski@yahoo.com for demo rider/auditor information
- Oct. 21-22 Clinic with Vera Kessels, Fox Run Dressage
Contact Carol Heckman at ceheckman@gmail.com for more information
- Nov, 18 WNYDA Challenge Series Dressage Schooling Show, Houghton, NY
Houghton College Equestrian Center