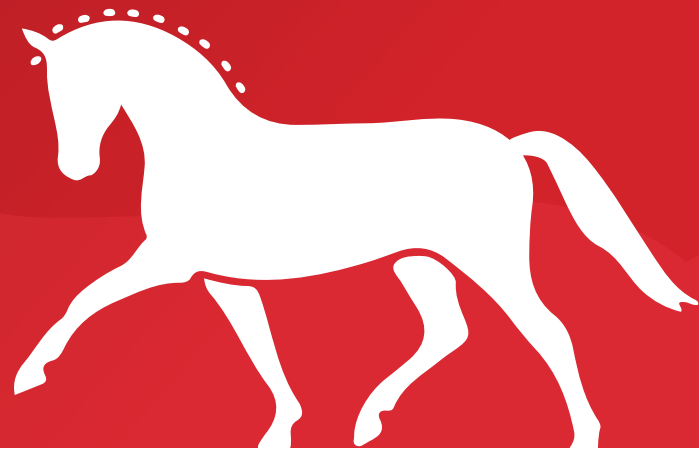




Nebraska Dressage Association

A charter member of the United States Dressage Federation (USDF) since 1973.



education. competition. **community.**

The NDA's guiding purpose is to further the use of classical dressage techniques by disseminating educational material and sponsoring clinics, workshops, and shows.

Membership benefits include:

- Subscription to the monthly newsletter, *The Contact*
- Group Membership in the USDF
- Subscription to USDF monthly publication, *USDF Connection*
- Eligibility for NDA Year-End Awards
- Eligibility for USDF Rider Awards
- Reduced fees for NDA events

JOIN TODAY!
nebraskadressage.org

Nebraska

The birthplace of organized dressage in America

LOWELL BOOMER (1911-2011)

The “Father of Dressage” in the United States

A rider as a child, Nebraska native Lowell Boomer hadn't been in the saddle in years when he saw members of the Fort Riley, KS, based U.S. Cavalry School competing at a Lincoln-area horse show in 1934. Boomer, then a 23-year-old clarinetist in a band that was playing at a show, found his equestrian interests reawakened and began riding jumpers and fox hunters.

Boomer established his Great Plains Equestrian Center just outside Lincoln, teaching and training riders in jumping, eventing and dressage. He made regular trips to Fort Riley to watch future USDF Hall of Famer Col. Hiram Tuttle and Col. Isaac Kitts school their horses, and he would return home and try to copy what he'd seen. His growing interest in dressage led him to found both the Nebraska Dressage Association (NDA) and the United States Dressage Federation (USDF) in 1973.

He was regarded as one of the most influential figures in the equestrian world after founding the USDF and operated the organization at his print shop in

Lincoln for 16 years before the national headquarters were moved to Lexington, Kentucky. The USDF now has more than 30,000 members and is the governing body for all recognized dressage shows in America.

In 1989, he established The Dressage Foundation in Lincoln “to cultivate and provide financial support for the advancement of dressage.” Over the past 20+ years, The Dressage Foundation has awarded well over \$1 million in scholarships and grants to deserving individuals and organizations seeking to further dressage education.

Boomer was the first inductee into the USDF Hall of Fame, the recipient of the Braley

Gray Award, and recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF). *The Chronicle of the Horse* named him “one of the 50 most influential horsemen of the 20th century worldwide.”

*Information courtesy of www.usdf.org,
www.dressagefoundation.org,
www.dressage-news.com.*



Lowell Boomer on Nebraska Hayseed

On founding the USDF:

“A number of us interested in dressage saw the need for a single organization to represent the various regional organizations which had developed. There was considerable discussion whether we should meet on the East Coast or on the West Coast. I suggested that middle America (Nebraska) would be better as a neutral location and made appropriate arrangements for the first meeting.”

—Lowell Boomer

