

# The Contact

WINTER 2017



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## Letter from the President

Greetings, Cheers and Happy New Year, NDA Friends! Thank you for re-electing me to the NDA Board, and most of all, accepting me as the 2017 NDA President.

The Nebraska Dressage Association experienced a fantastic year in 2016. Membership was at a record high, our shows were full to the brim and new educational events were brought to our state. With an enthusiastic board and growing membership, 2017 looks brighter than ever!

We have some great things to look forward to this year, including part one of the USDF 'L' Education Program for Judges this spring, hosted for the first time ever in the state by NDA! This educational opportunity isn't just for future 'L' Graduates that become eligible to become USEF Judges, this opportunity gives great insight into the dressage tests for all riders- trainers, amateurs and youth!

This year, NDA is celebrating the 40th Annual Cornhusker Classic dressage show, held once again at the all-indoor venue, the Lancaster Event Center on May 27-28. Judges have raved about the footing, competitors love the environment. Let's make the 40th year a record. YOU can be part of the fun by competing, volunteering, joining us at the competitor's party and checking out our Sponsors, too.

Finally, I'd like to remind all members that thanks to our generous sponsors, membership and program participants, we are able to offer scholarships to NDA Members for another year. Stay tuned for more information.

For a grand total of seven years of being on the NDA Board, it's always felt like a second family to me. We have so many incredible people involved with NDA, it's more than just a Group Member Organization...it's our community. I'd like to share this community with you, so please: come volunteer or visit at competitions, drop in to an event or Board Meeting, email, call or write any of us- we are here for you! Let me know what you want to see from NDA, and how we can make this YOUR community.



Warm regards, and happy riding.

**Jane Fucinaro**

*2017 NDA President*

[president@nebraskadressage.org](mailto:president@nebraskadressage.org)

## Board Member Bios

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This year's elections brought a few new faces to the NDA board room. We wanted to introduce all of our new and returning board members to you all, so you know exactly who to contact with your questions, can recognize them at events, and also learn more about the positions they hold. We are featuring the majority of the positions in this issue, and will feature the rest of them in the next issue. There were many members traveling over the first board meeting of the year, so we will also include a photo in the next issue. So, without further ado, meet your 2017 board members!

### Jane Fucinaro, President

My past 15 years with NDA have been an important part of my life. I've held the position of Junior/Young Rider Representative when I was a kiddo, I've been a Board Member at large, Vice President, and before all that, a volunteer at shows, a competitor, sponsor, newsletter editor, and who knows what else! Dressage has always been a way of life: I'm following a lifelong dream of becoming an instructor/trainer, I'm understanding biomechanics and equine training by becoming certified in Masterson Method Equine Bodywork, and helping others achieve their dreams by working as Administrative Assistant at The Dressage Foundation. Truly, I live and breathe the sport and I can't wait to help steer NDA in 2017. Cheers!

### Gracia Huenefeld

Hello fellow NDA friends! This is my third year as a board member serving you. My first two years I served as chairperson of the fundraising committee and this year I hope to help facilitate more educational events for the youth to expand their knowledge and opportunities to grow in the sport.

Being a native to Nebraska and spending time working out east for several trainers, my goals coming back and being active in NDA are to help grow the local dressage community and offer more opportunities to grow here in the Midwest. Training and teaching out of Still Waters Equestrian academy, I also am active competing in the ring and am currently in Florida to compete through the winter season. Cheers to all the adventures our beloved horse friends lead us on!

### Heidi Helmer, Secretary

Hello NDA members!! I have been part of NDA since

2003. I have served as president, secretary, and education committee member in my time with NDA.

As far as my history with horses, I do believe I was born with the 'horse gene'. From my earliest days I wanted my own horse. Unfortunately, I was surrounded by cows. Holstein cows. But my parents gave me a cow at a young age, which I promptly sold to purchase my first quarter horse, Corky. A savvy cow horse. We wandered the South Dakota prairie together.

When I left to attend school, Corky stayed in South Dakota. Upon graduating from college, I moved to Missouri, and wished to pursue more horse related activities. This search led me to a barn where I was able to sit in an English saddle for the first time. I was hooked. Started jumping, and purchased an appendix Quarter Horse with whom I evented. Stainless. We were together until 2012, when he passed away. We attempted dressage for several years after Stainless pulled a suspensory. Not his favorite. Currently I have Weston, an AWR, with whom I have fallen in love with dressage. We are having a splendid journey together.

By trade, I am a nurse. I have worked in ICU, Cardiac Cath Labs, and Cardiac Electrophysiology Labs. Currently I work as a representative for Biosense Webster, specializing in Cardiac Electrophysiology. I have met many of you, and look forward to meeting more NDA members and working with you!!

### Margo Hamilton, Fundraising Chair

I am a long time Member of the Nebraska Dressage Association, and have served on the board a few times in different capacities. My husband, Zack Hamilton, is an AFA Certified Farrier and together we operate Lincoln Equestrian Center in Lincoln, NE. Pursuit of my dream to be the best dressage rider I can possibly be is foundational in my life. I have spent countless hours in and out of the saddle working on this goal, and like many of you, am still learning every day.

When I decided to run for the board this fall my motive was to more fully commit myself to the local dressage community. While on the board I hope to champion educational and showing opportunities for every rider at every budget. In my opinion, knowledge is the best tool we have to become the riders we dream of being, and at its core NDA should do everything it can to promote the riding and understanding of dressage.



## Board Member Bios

### Kathy Lewis

Hello NDA members, my name is Kathy Lewis and it has been my pleasure to begin my second term as a member of the board of directors.

I have a palomino quarter horse mare, Solo, and Gypsy Vanner mare, Enchantment, that I show in the Western dressage classes. I enjoy learning more about the classical dressage principles and try to seek out all the educational activities that are available.

My goal as a board member is to bring the educational and showing opportunities to our members both English and Western. I am excited to see the launch of the "L" program training, which will bring not only some great learning opportunities, but also hopefully some wonderful new judges for our schooling shows.

Please feel free to reach out and let me know how I can help to make Nebraska Dressage the best it can be!

### Judy Seward

I was born in 1948, a 4th generation Lincolnite. I have 2 adult children: Andy and Laurie, and 6 grandchildren. My husband Harry and I were married in 1970. I graduated from Lincoln Southeast High and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a degree in Social Work. My grandparents owned The Candy Factory Building in the Haymarket. I enjoy sports: running, riding, biking, yoga, swimming, Pickleball, kayaking, and spending time with our rescue dog, Lizzie.

I started riding at age 56 with lessons from Dara Liss and purchased my horse, Belle, from Cindy Berlin when Belle was 8. Belle and I now train with Angie McClelland at Middle Cross Stables.

I'm grateful to be on the NDA board as an opportunity to learn, serve NDA members, and encourage others to get involved. ❖

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## USDF Convention News

This past November, a few of our members from Region 4 were in attendance at the USDF Convention in St. Louis. Our members attended special Region 4 meetings to network with region representatives and discuss issues close to our hearts



and homes, and to keep our interests as a Region in the forefront of their collective minds. Members attended educational sessions such as lectures on Biomechanics for Riding, and national Board of Governors meetings, but here are the thoughts from our own members in their own words!

...

“I was on official business this year at the 2017 USDF Convention in St. Louis as the Admin Assistant for The Dressage Foundation. When I wasn’t sitting at our booth, I was able to attend a few meetings. My personal favorite thing to do at Convention is attend the “Roundtable Discussions.” This gives leadership in GMOs across the counties of all sizes to share ideas on volunteer retainment, fundraising ideas, competition management and so much more. It was very refreshing and I have some ideas for this year that I can’t wait to share! On another note, NEVER LEAVE THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING. Not even for a bathroom break. They will draw your name and you’ll win a GMO Basket and get shamed for not being in the room, and not be able to claim it. Don’t be me.”

**Jane Fucinaro**

“What an opportunity—the USDF convention! Thank you, NDA! One of the highlights for me was the Pilates for Dressage with Janice Dulak. Janice has been to Nebraska a few times working with several NDA members. It was great to be able to participate in a Pilates work out each morning.

One of the meetings I attended was the Instructor Certification meeting. USDF has certified a total of 275 instructors with 680 participants. The current breakdown of Certified instructors is as follows: through first level - 34, second level - 68, fourth level - 83 and FEI - 6. They are revising the reading list, repackaging the curriculum with more focus on how to help instructors become better teachers.

I also attended the adult program meeting. They have been working hard to create educational events that will meet the needs of all GMO’s. The current every-other-year regional symposium will be replaced with the USDF Education Initiative. This initiative is the result of our survey responses! The goal is to better serve both large and small GMO’s by allowing the GMO to decide what

kind of offering will best meet the needs of their membership. The GMOs will be afforded four types of offerings, 1) riding/clinics 2) adult camps 3) unmounted programs or 4) ride a test. USDF’s role will include some level of help in organizing, advertising and possible other assistance. They are hoping for funding to offer monies as well but that had not been approved at the time of the meeting. The GMO can offer an event each year and choose their own instructors/clinicians. USDF will provide a pre-approved list of USDF certified instructors to choose from. If a GMO wants to use an instructor not on the list, they can apply to have that instructor approved. The committee seemed to put a great deal of work and thought into this initiative. There are still some details to be worked through and I look forward to the roll out!

Lastly, would you like some free education? Check out USDF’s e-trak.”

**Sandie McConnell**  
Convention Scholarship Recipient

“In my second year as GMO Delegate representing the voting interests of NDA at USDF Convention, I was dedicated to soaking up as much information as possible about the issues being presented to the Board of Governors in an effort to make informed decisions that reflected the best interests of our Nebraska community. Chief among these issues was a dues increase for USDF participating members (not GM members). USDF committees and representatives spent the week explaining all the wonderful new initiatives this increase would be funding, and by week’s end, the proposed increase passed a vote with no objections. Keep an eye on USDF news this year as they roll out some really exciting educational opportunities as a result!

Region 4 meetings were also super productive with another great group of region members this year. We covered a lot of ground in our regional meetings, including efforts to improve cooperation among judges throughout the area, a renewed commitment to a regional awards program, and some exciting fundraising ideas to keeping us solvent and able to provide scholarships to our community members.

Finally, we heard from the CEO of USEF, who shared that organizations exciting rebranding as “US Equestrian,” with a new aim of attracting “fans” to equestrian sports in the U.S. to help support our community the way other sports do.

All of our Nebraska representatives brought back tons of information we are enthusiastic about applying directly to NDA in 2017. It’s going to be a fantastic year for dressage in the midwest!

**Melissa Ward**  
GMO Delegate  
Region 4 Communications Committee Chair



## USDF L Education Program

By Jennifer Rawlinson

Nebraska Dressage Association is excited to announce they are hosting USDF's L Education Program-Part 1 in 2017 in Lincoln, the birthplace of the USDF and the home of The Dressage Foundation! Marilyn Heath is presenting the Introduction to Judging and Biomechanics the weekend of May 20-21, Janet Foy is teaching Gaits, Paces, Movements & Figures July 8-9, and Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez will take the group through Collective Marks, Basics & Freestyle September 16-17.

An affordable pay-as-you-go system requires only a \$100 deposit with your application and the full \$250/session payment for A, B, and C is due 60 days prior to each weekend. Breakfast and lunch are included Saturday and Sunday, with 8-5 p.m. sessions consisting of both classroom time and time spent observing demonstration riders in local barns (indoor arenas). Participants need to be current USDF members (PM, GMO, or Education) and will receive 4 hours of USDF University credit and access to full L Program instructional materials.

For those interested in becoming an L judge, you will need to complete Part 2 after completing Part 1. Per USDF, the minimum score requirement to enter Part 2 are three scores from three USEF-licensed dressage judges, two scores of 65% or higher at the highest test of Second Level and one score of 62% or higher at Third Level or above. Three scores of 62% or higher at Third Level or above from three different, or any combination of these requirements would also meet the requirements to enter Part 2. Only scores from USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized competition(s) will count.

While more L graduates are needed to judge schooling shows in our area, we also encourage auditors at just \$100 per weekend (\$75 for 2017 NDA members). Auditors are not required to complete the L program application, but USDF members will earn 2 hours of USDF University credit. Auditors are asked to e-mail the program organizer as soon as possible to confirm space is available but are not required to pre-register or pay in advance.

Auditors are expected to be silent, so you should register as a participant if you plan to ask questions of the instructors or want access to the full set of materials.

Volunteers for these dates are also needed, so please reach out to Lauren Van Norman with your interests and availability. Margo Hamilton is coordinating horse and rider pairs for the demonstrations. For general questions or an application, contact L Program Organizer Jennifer Rawlinson at [jcrawlson@windstream.net](mailto:jcrawlson@windstream.net) or 402-560-3319 (cell) and more information will be available at [nebraskadressage.org](http://nebraskadressage.org).

All dressage enthusiasts are invited to take advantage of these educational weekends and we look forward to seeing you there! ❖

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Karen L. Stricklett, MS, CRC, ABVE-D  
 President

# The World of Dressage

This March 29 through April 2, the world's most incredible equine athletes will come together on American soil to showcase to the entire world the magnificence of our sport—and it's happening right in our backyard! In a bid that won out over 10-time hosts in the Netherlands, as well as fellow first-time bidder Hong Kong, the CenturyLink Center in Omaha will be the home of the Longines FEI World Cup Jumping and Dressage Finals. It is the first event of this international scale in the Midwest, and an event for equestrians of many disciplines to celebrate together.

## Isabell Werth is Worth the Trip

The weekend kicks off with Dressage Grand Prix on Thursday, March 30 at 2:00. Then, Friday at 3:00, don't miss a special Dressage Showcase from 5-time Olympic veteran and holder of 10 Olympic medals, Isabell Werth, fresh from her Olympic rides in Rio. She'll be showcasing two young Grand Prix horses in the education of her training methods in her first exhibition in the United States. Saturday, April 1, there will be a Dressage Natural Horsemanship clinic at 9:00 am with Tristan Tucker, Lynn Palm, and Kip & Missy Fladland. Finally, the most anticipated dressage event—the Grand Prix Freestyle, determining the World Cup winner—takes place Saturday at 2:00.

And of course, don't miss all the exciting Jumping action all week long! See [omahaworldcup2017.com](http://omahaworldcup2017.com) for the full competition schedule.

This will be the most incredible opportunity yet to come to the Midwest and we could not be more excited to have a presence at this historical event.

## An Equestrian Destination

In addition to the main attraction of equine talent, this will be the social and sporting event of a lifetime. When speaking to Mike West, CEO of the Omaha Equestrian Foundation, there is no doubt that he is bringing his background in sports marketing in full when planning the event.

"The College World Series has Fan Fest, Nebraska football has Husker tailgates. We are determined to rise to the

challenge of these other sporting events and make this a fan-based experience," West says.

So, what does this mean for the dressage rider? It means we can bring friends, even non-equestrians, and they are sure to enjoy themselves in this environment. West's team have created a shopping paradise with their Boutique Shopping Village, featuring 140 vendors from all over the world, along with a new Tailgate Lounge offering dining options while mingling with the top dressage and jumping riders in the world. The vendor and lounge area were designed specifically around the warm-up arena so you are never out of view of the action. With bands in the Tailgate Lounge in the evenings and more shopping options than anyone could ask for, this is truly an equestrian destination.

"We have listened to the advice of equestrians and we are treating this event with the enthusiasm of other mainstream sports, and taking those elements to make this a spectator event not to be missed by equestrians of any sport."

This is not only a thrilling opportunity for the dressage world, but an opportunity to advance the progress and exposure of equine sports in the Midwest. There is a wide variety of ticket prices, from VIP to free admission options, to make this event accessible to anyone and encourage participation of newcomers to the sport. This is the chance for equestrians to introduce others to our disciplines and show spectators the grace and athleticism of the horse.

It is our dearest wish to see all of our Nebraska Dressage Association members in attendance, for as much time as you may be able to arrange. The world will be watching, and we want to show them a full crowd, featuring dressage as a true spectator sport. Put these dates on your schedule and make it a long weekend of enthusiasm for international equestrian competition. This is a dazzling showcase of our sport to the rest of the world, and an incredible opportunity to have it hosted here in the United States. But to have it brought to our very doorstep will be an experience of a lifetime. ible opportunity to have it hosted here in the United States. But to have it brought to our very doorstep, is an experience of a lifetime. ❖





# CALENDAR OF WORLD CUP EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE!  
MARCH 29 -  
APRIL 2

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2017

Dressage Familiarization at 9:30 a.m.  
Jumping Training Session at 2:00 p.m.  
All vendor, dining and entertainment areas open  
Wednesday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

## THURSDAY, MARCH 30

FEI World Cup™ Dressage Grand Prix at 2:00 p.m.  
Longines FEI World Cup™ Jumping Final I (Jumping Speed Class) at 7:00 p.m.  
All vendor, dining and entertainment areas open  
Thursday 10 a.m. – 11 p.m.

## FRIDAY, MARCH 31

Dressage Showcase at 3:00 p.m.  
Longines FEI World Cup™ Jumping Final II (Grand Prix) at 7:00 p.m.  
All vendor, dining and entertainment areas open Friday 10 a.m. – 11 p.m.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 1

Dressage Natural Horsemanship Clinic at 9:00 a.m.  
FEI World Cup™ Dressage Final (Dressage Free-style to Music) – the event determining the FEI World Cup™ Final 2017 winner at 2:00 p.m.  
Jumping Grand Prix competition at 7:00 p.m.  
All vendor, dining and entertainment areas open Saturday 10 a.m. – 11 p.m.

## SUNDAY, APRIL 2

Longines FEI World Cup™ Jumping Final III (Grand Prix Jumping Final) – event determining the Longines FEI World Cup™ Jumping Final 2017 winner at 2:00 p.m.  
All vendor, dining and entertainment areas open Sunday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

\*Schedule is tentative and subject to change.

### Tickets:

For more information about the FEI World Cup™ Finals Omaha 2017 and to purchase tickets, please go to [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com), charge by phone at 800-745-3000 or at the CenturyLink Center Omaha box office.

### Social Media:

Follow the FEI World Cup™ Finals Omaha 2017 on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram for photos, video and news about the extraordinary horses and riders competing at the show, plus special alerts, information, contests and international equestrian news.



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## USDF L Education Program

By Jennifer Rawlinson

What an honor it was to be awarded the adult amateur scholarship for education! Thank you NDA!

I used the scholarship to work with Sarah Martin. Sarah is a USDF bronze, silver and gold medalist and USDF certified instructor as well as a member of the certification faculty.

I am currently riding my 7yo Irish Sport Horse, Chieftain. Chieftain tends to tuck behind the bridle or hold himself in a pretty frame without true connection. I've not ridden a horse with this way of going. I'm really good at riding a pulling horse that is heavy in the bridle, I am happy to hold their heads up! So, to help us, Sarah and I worked on balance and teaching Chieftain to accept the bridle with an even connection.

Below are the pearls of wisdom from Sarah that help me work on balance and achieving a proper connection in the bridle that enables Chieftain to work over his back.

- Know what part of your body influences the horse

*wrist/fingers* influence the poll/jaw

*forearm/elbow* influence the neck/base of neck as it comes out of the shoulder

*torso* influences the horse's torso-by using our abs to stabilize our spines and lengthen our backs, the horse is able to bring their back up and lengthen their spine

*legs/thighs* influence the shoulders

*calf* influences the corresponding hind leg

- Open the rein to keep the connection and prevent Chieftain from curling away from the connection
- When going straight, keep the feeling of the 20m circle. By doing so you keep the inside hind leg under the middle of the body encouraging thoroughness over the back and reach into the bridle
- As the horse becomes more aligned, the trot gets bigger. Shoulders in front of the hips (think slight shoulder fore or first position) allow more reach and lift. You don't get more reach by driving the horse forward, you get more reach by straightening (moving the shoulders)
- Half halts help organize the horse to the bridle by allowing the horse to lift and bascule
- Float the forearm towards the ears to help fingers feel the bars of the mouth
- Commit to lift in the sternum/base of the neck (with your steady, elastic elbows and abs) while using the placement of your weight and seat bones from the inside to outside so that leg and seat say "step up into the bridle"

- Balance is the end point and the beginning point
- Lightness in the moment is not the end goal- (it's ok for the horse to be a bit heavy while learning more new movements/exercises and moving up the levels) lightness with elasticity in the connection is
- Lightness is progressive
- Stretching out doesn't always mean down-use seat/leg(thigh) to bring the horse up in the wither, stretching down can put horse on the forehand. This is especially pertinent to Chieftain as we teach him he can stretch with connection and thoroughness

There is much more but these are the highlights this time. As we continue to work on a solid connection Chieftain's balance improves and his gaits get lighter with more suspension. Stretching is coming slowly but it is coming!!

Again, a huge thanks to NDA, I appreciate the support you give all members!

Sandie McConnell and Chieftain

Region 4 is proud to announce a new Educational Scholarship program! They are now offering grant money for our members to put toward their dressage education.

Two \$350 grants will be offered each year—one to a junior/young rider and one to an adult (either amateur or professional). If there are enough applications, the Scholarship Committee may decide to award two adult scholarships—one for an adult and one for a professional.

This year's application deadline for Region 4 scholarship is JUNE 15, 2017 - so start thinking NOW about how you could best utilize this program for your personal success.

Between NDA, USDF Region 4, and The Dressage Foundation, you have lots of opportunities to make 2017 the year of your dressage education through these scholarship options! The NDA scholarship deadline will be May 30th, just in time for you to benefit from any upcoming summer clinics in store



# Dara Show Highlight



On a beautiful Saturday back in November, the dressage community gathered for the social event of the year to support one of our most special and cherished members. Long-time Lincoln dressage instructor and former Nebraska Dressage Association board member Dara Liss, of Esprit de Corps Dressage based at Falkland Stables, broke her arm

late last summer. Many area riders have benefited from her friendship and knowledge (of dressage and life) over the years and we all returned the favor with a benefit dressage show on November 5th at Salt Creek Wranglers to show her how much she is appreciated.



Friends of Dara stepped forward to organize a silent auction, concessions and management of the show, while still more individuals and organizations generously donated to the cause. Among the main attractions of the day were the comical introductions and comments of Jeff Rawlinson, who was in rare form in his role as “horse show dad,” along with

the much-anticipated return of Dara’s stunning horse, Galena, to the dressage ring, ridden expertly by Jane Fucinaro. Galena was exuberantly happy to be back in the spotlight! All of the show proceeds were gifted to Dara to help her with medical expenses while on stall rest. ❖



*“It was the best day ever! Everyone who was there were sparks of warm light! And what a beautiful & radiant day! If I said “thank you” a billion times, it wouldn’t be enough- but I thank you all from the bottom of my soul! Happy trails & ride on!”*



**HUGE THANKS TO PHOTOGRAPHER REBECCA MCNEESE FOR MAKING PHOTOS OF THIS EVENT AVAILABLE!**

**THANK YOU!!**

We appreciate all individuals and organizations that donated auction items!



Thanks to those bidding and buying, too!

**Silent Auction & Tack Swap Donors**

Angie McClelland	Madison Sobotka
Barb Simmons	Margo Hamilton
Betsy Bobenhouse	Michelle Napoleone
Bison Inc	Midwest Coop
Bob and Michelle Dudley	Nutrena/Cargill
Carrie Meinecke	Omaha Equestrian Foundation
Dara Liss & Falkland Stables	Phoenix Training Systems
Elizabeth Jane Shanahan	Pink Flamingo
Emily Bontrager & Becky Hutchins	Pro Performance Veterinary Service
Geri True Design	Quick Nick's
Haltered Hearts Training	Raising Canes
Happy Journey Massage/Kourtney	Sara Flanagan
Jami Kment/Providence Farm	Sue Downing & Family
Jane Fucinaro	Take Flight Farms
Jennifer Rawlinson	Tammy Mendoza Greenlee
Kim Higgins	The Cashmere Family
Kimmie Peterson	Walker Tire

**SHOP & EAT!**

Bid early and bid often at our silent auction and tack swap.



Enjoy all your meals and snacks today at our lunchstand! Yum!

Thanks to our sponsors, all proceeds from today's show, auction, and concessions will be gifted to Dara!

- Salt Creek Wranglers
- Nebraska Innovative Insurance
- Karen Carlson & Family
- Lexus of Lincoln
- Nebraska Dressage Association
- Schwisow Construction
- Super Saver & The Sobotka Family
- Many, many volunteers of time & talent, too!

**Class Sponsors**

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- Heidi Helmer
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- CMN Property Management
- Wolf Tackle Shop
- Windsong Equitherapy
- Kimmie Peterson/Gray Horse Ranch
- Judy Seward & Belle
- Michaela & Adam Schieffer
- Michelle Rohman & Family
- Galaxy Farm & Irene Nedved

## 2016 Year-End Awards

Our 2016 NDA Annual Meeting and Year-End Awards Banquet this past November was an incredible night to remember in its most beautiful setting yet at the Ashland Country Club! Thank you so much to everyone who came out for the night of great food and fun awards among our wonderful members. 2 new trophies were donated for inclusion in the awards lineup. The 3rd level trophy was donated by Tish and Tillie Jones in memory of Tillie's horse, Boegely's Mauricio, who passed away this past year. Jami Kment donated a new FEI trophy. Both are beautiful upgrades from the previous trophies and we are fortunate to have them to aspire to in the future. If you were unfortunate enough to miss the event, we still want to highlight every member's personal achievements with this issue, and hopefully the photos alone will encourage you to attend with us in 2017!

### Horse Awards:

#### **Horse of the Year Champion**

Honor ridden by Ashley Duran at Training

#### **Horse of the Year Reserve Champion**

Zania ridden by Jami Kment at Grand Prix

**Intro Champion** – Mollie ridden by Porshe Miller

**Training Level Champion** – Honor ridden by Ashley Duran

**Reserve Training Level Champion** – RG Denmark Royal's Image ridden by Kate Rawlinson

**3rd** – Wild Rumpass ridden by Becca Barry

**4th** – Blue Man Tango ridden by Lexi Kment

**5th** – Coolamity Jane ridden by Raegan Lingenfelter

**First Level Champion** – Weston ridden by Heidi Helmer

**First Level Reserve Champion** – Hooked on Honky Tonks ridden by Cathy McCloud

**Second Level Champion** – Eschaton ridden by Casey Blum

**Second Level Reserve Champion** – Flintwood Not an Issue ridden by Lynn Beideck

**3rd Level Champion** – Apachi ridden by Tillie Jones

**3rd Level Reserve Champion** – Montagny von der Heidi

**FEI – Prix St. George Champion** – Colin ridden by Gracia Huenefeld

**FEI – Intermediate I Champion** – Colin ridden by Gracia Huenefeld

**FEI – Grand Prix Champion** – Zania ridden by Jami Kment at Grand Prix

**FEI Champion** – Zania ridden by Jami Kment at Grand Prix

### Special Awards:

**Sedlacek-Rose Swedish WB Award** - Lana Erickson riding My Blue Skye

**Peter Rose Memorial Trophy** - Ashley Duran riding Honor at Training Level

**David Funk Memorial Trophy** - Jami Kment riding Zania at Grand Prix

**FEI Young Horse Award** - Honor shown by Ashley Duran

**Western Dressage High Point Trophy** - Janelle Stelk riding These Spots are Hot at Western First

**NDA High Score of the Year** - Ashley Duran riding Honor at Training

### Rider Awards:

**Intro Level**

**Jr. 14 and Under Champion** – Porshe Miller riding Mollie

**Training Level**

**Jr. 14 and Under Champion** – Lexi Kment riding Blue Man Tango







**Reserve Champion** – Raegan Lingenfelter riding Coolamity Jane

**Jr. 15 to 21 Champion** – Ashley Duran riding Honor

**Reserve Champion** – Kate Rawlinson riding RG Denmark Royal's Image

**3rd** – Becca Barry riding Wild Rumpass

**First Level**

**Adult Amateur Champion** – Heidi Helmer riding Weston

**Adult Amateur Reserve Champion** – Cathy McCloud riding Hooked on Honky Tonks

**Second Level**

**Adult Amateur Champion** – Lynn Beideck riding Flintwood Not an Issue

**Jr. 15 to 21 Champion** – Casey Blum riding Eschaton

**Third Level**

**Jr. 14 and under Champion** – Tillie Jones riding Apache

**Adult Amateur Champion** – Laureen Van Norman riding Montagny von der Heide

**FEI Intermediate I**

**Open Champion** – Gracia Huenefeld riding Collin

**FEI Prix St. George**

**Open Champion** – Gracia Huenefeld riding Collin

**FEI Grand Prix**

**Open Champion** – Jami Kment riding Zania

**Rider Rosettes**

**Blue Rider Rosettes**

**Intro:** Avae Muir riding Mexicali Cash, Porshe Miller riding Mollie, Saylor Behrens riding Lucy

**Training:** Alexa Starner riding Coal Creek Devious Boy, Alexis Acton riding Orlando, Becca Barry riding Wild Rumpass, Cally Dorff riding RG Flyhawk's Destiny, Lana Erickson riding My Blue Skye, Lexi Kment riding Blue Man Tango, Raegan Lingenfelter riding Coolamity Jane

**First Level:** Regina Frey riding Countess Casablanca

**Western Intro:** Carrie Cross riding Suddenly A Zip, Grace Spaulding riding Mirrhi

**Western Basic:** Janelle Stelk riding All Assets on Zip

**Western First:** Janelle Stelk riding These Spots are Hot

**Red Rider Rosette**

**Intro:** Anna Cooper riding Lil Boomer, Lizzie Ehlers riding Dante, Zoe Christensen riding Charlie Brown

**Training:** Betsy Bobenhouse riding Lyricon, Anna Cooper riding Lil Boomer, Ellie Pfannebecker riding MarryaKing, Lizzie Ehlers riding Dante, Saylor Behrens riding Lucy

**First Level:** Becca Barry riding Wild Rumpass, Miya Higgins riding Can Danse

**Western Intro:** Alyssa Loudon riding The Bar Exam

**Western Basic:** Anne Bennier riding Coola Coosa Man, Grace Spaulding riding Mirrhi

**White Rider Rosette**

**Intro:** Lexi Wathor riding Kjor Tolef

**First Level:** Aussia Stander riding Bar Nothing Dianna, Miya Higgins riding Can Danse

**Western Intro:** Sarina Kyhn riding Rooster

**Western Basic:** Kristen Loudon riding Lena's Four Shogun

**Qualified Rider Certificates:**

Anne Bennier, Betsy Bobenhouse, Ellie Pfannebecker, Raegan Lingenfelter, Saylor Behrens

**Schooling Show Medal Series**

**Intro:**

**14 and Under**

**Gold** – Saylor Behrens riding Lucy

**Silver** - Avae Muir riding Mexicali Cash

**Bronze** – Porshe Miller riding Mollie

**Training Level**

**14 and Under**

**Gold** - Kylee Kment riding Manatee

**Silver** – Lexi Kment riding Blue Man Tango

**Bronze** – Miya Higgins riding Can Danse

**15-21**

**Gold** – Alexis Acton riding Orlando

**Silver** – Kate Rawlinson riding BG Denmark Royal's Image

**Adult Amateur**

**Gold** – Lana Erickson riding My Blue Sky

**Silver** – Jackie Muir riding Wakis Fancy

**Bronze** – Betsy Bobenhouse riding Lyricon

**First Level**

**14 and Under**

**Gold** – Miya Higgins riding Can Danse

**Adult Amateur**

**Gold** – Cathy McCloud riding Hooked on Honky Tonks

**Silver** - Heidi Helmer riding Weston

**Bronze** – Regina Frey riding Countess Casablanca

**Second Level**

**Adult Amateur**

**Gold** – Lynn Beideck riding Flintwood Not an Issue

**Prix Caprilli - Intro**

**14 and Under**

**Gold** – Aussia Stander riding Bar Nothing Dianna

**Silver** – Anna Cooper riding Lil Boomer

**Western Intro**

**14 and Under**

**Gold** - Grace Spaulding riding Mirrhi

**Silver** – Alyssa Loudon riding The Bar Exam

**15-21**

**Gold** – Sarina Kyhn riding Rooster

**Adult Amateur**

**Gold** - Kathy Lewis riding Simon Says Im Solo

**Silver** –Carrie Cross riding Suddenly a Zip

**Bronze** – Kathy Lewis riding Excalibar Elite Equine's Enchantment

**Western Basic**

**14 and Under**

**Gold** - Grace Spaulding riding Mirrhi

**15-21**

**Gold** – Anne Bennier riding Cool Coosa Man

**Silver** – Kristen Loudon riding Lena's Four Shogun

**Open Gold** – Janelle Stelk – All Assets on Zip

**Western First**

**Open Gold** – Janelle Stelk riding These Spots are Hot





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**SHOUTOUT CORNER**

In December, the Esprit de Corps 4-H club picked up the boxes of ribbons from Lauren Van Norman's house. The club members sorted, ironed, and inventoried the ribbons so they are ready for 2017 shows. These youth members deserve a big round of applause for their efforts in keeping our ribbons organized and looking perfect.

Major congratulations are also in order to youth members Ashley Clegg and Aussia Stander, and coach Kate Rawlinson, for bringing home a National Title in Hippology from the Denver National Stock Show. They competed in horse judging, a timed stations identification event, team problem speeches, a written exam, and a slides identification portion. Their team members pictured are Kate Cooper and Jenna Wolfe. These young ladies are



not only organized with ribbons, they are also smart as can be!

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Photo by Susan J Stickle: Olivia LaGoy-Weltz, 2015 Lavell Advanced Prize Recipient

*Your contribution to The Dressage Foundation is an investment in your dressage community. Thank you!*



## CLASSIFIED ADS

### *Do you have something to advertise?*

Classified ads are \$5 for NDA members and \$10 for non-members. They will appear on the Classifieds page of the website for 90 days, in addition to one issue of *The Contact*.

Advertising images, documentation, and any questions should be sent to Gracia Huenefeld at [graciarae@yahoo.com](mailto:graciarae@yahoo.com). Checks should be made payable to NDA and should be sent to Kathy Hanford, 10301 W. Pioneers Blvd, Denton, NE, 68339.

*NDA makes no endorsements or representation in connection with advertisements placed in this section.*

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## Calendar of Upcoming Events

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### FEBRUARY

- 13** NDA Board Meeting - 6:30  
Havelock Misty's Steakhouse
- 17-19** Clayton Martin Clinic  
Still Waters Equestrian Academy - Hickman, NE  
Middle Cross Stables - Roca

### MARCH

- 1** Deadline to apply for L Education Program
- 13** NDA Board Meeting - 6:30  
Havelock Misty's Steakhouse
- 26** Spring Fling Dressage Schooling Show - Lancaster Event Center
- 27 - April 2** LONGINES FEI World Cup™ Jumping & FEI World Cup™ Dressage Finals  
CenturyLink Center

### April

- 8** Ride or Drive a Test Clinic with Felice Rose - S & L Stables

## Region 4 News Corner

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The Region 4 website just launched their new website, which now includes more information for members. Check out the revamped changes today!  
[www.usdregion4.org](http://www.usdregion4.org)

Region 4 is planning a Regional Symposium for April 2018. Head to the Region 4 Facebook page to complete a survey to help determine the location!

Region 4 is proud to announce new Educational Scholarship opportunities. For more information, check out page 8!

If you would be interested in the possibility of having a Charlotte Dujardin clinic here in Region 4, head to the Region 4 website and check out the News section to let the organizers know your interest!

Don't miss the Isabell Werth Dressage Showcase at the FEI World Cup on Friday, March 31. Turn to page 6 for all the details!