

Dear Members,

Summer is here and we are all finding ourselves in new territory. I hope and pray that you and your families are well and safe. I know many of us have adapted a daily routine to live safely in this coronavirus crisis. I think that life will never really be the same as it was, but with hope and love for one another we can still strive to make this world a better place for all.

The WDAMI Board has been hard at work. The Rider Medal Program is in place making it possible for you to go for bronze, silver, and gold medals. Please check the WDAMI website for full details on this program. The Board has also decided to have a virtual show awards this year and rules and detail are post on the website. The WDAMI Board understands that many of you may not be able to attend a live show due to the coronavirus and we want to offer something that our members can work toward. I have been participating in a few online shows myself and am having fun with this new adventure. I am learning a lot about the special challenges involved in both riding and judging video tests.

Wyn Farm, Glass-ed, Woodbine and many others have started their live show season. Please be careful and follow USEF /show rules for public safety and rules of the show you are attending. Remember to social distance at least 6 feet away, wear your mask when not mounted and respect everyone's space. Let show management and staff know how much you appreciate their effort to accommodate the new protocol for public health. If you or your family members are at high risk for COVID-19, please consider staying home and doing virtual shows.

SUNRISE EQUESTRIAN SPORT IS HAVING VIRTUAL DRESSAGE SHOW, both Western and Traditional to Benefit WDAMI. Please help support WDAMI!! The show is open and will close on June 28. For detail go to facebook, under Sunrise Equestrian Sport or call Mary at 810-338-0884. Please help support WDAMI and try a virtual show. Also, Wyn Farm is offering WDAA recognized live shows in July, August and September.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest affiliate, Ohio. They are known as Ohio Western Dressage Association (OWDA). Samantha Terry of Urbana, Ohio, is heading the group. They also have a Facebook page. Welcome OWDA!

Training tip of the month:

Impulsion is the releasing of energy that is stored in the hindquarters. A horse working with impulsion, and with suppleness, will move freely forward with a swinging back and engaged hindquarter. A good exercise to help your horse improve impulsion is to make frequent transitions within the gait. First ride working jog or lope. Take a few steps forward toward medium jog or lope and then ride a transition back to working jog or lope. Repeat when necessary.

WDAMI is looking for sponsors for our year-end awards and educational events. If you would like to help by sponsoring or by helping us to find sponsors, please contact us by email at infowdami@gmail.com. And please do not forget to renew your WDAMI and WDAA membership for 2020. You can do so by visiting our website: www.wdami.org. If you are not yet a member, we would love to have you join and become a part of one of the fastest growing equestrian sports. Thank you for your support. Be safe, have fun, enjoy your equine partner, and exercise the act of kindness to all. Until next time ...

Suzanne Morisse
President of WDAMI