

Dear WDAMI Members,

November 2022

WDAMI would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and safe travels during the holiday season. Would like to update everyone on the last couple of months.

The Western Dressage World Championship Show was a great success for our Michigan riders. There were 5 Michigan riders who competed at the World Show this Year. Some additional WDAMI members went along to volunteer and help support our riders. Many new friendships were formed along with memories that will last a lifetime.

WDAMI would like to congratulate Kristen Kill and her horse Glorificado for their performances at the World Show. This pair took home many championships as well as a few Reserve Championship ribbons in Level One and Level Two Amateur and they won the overall division for Amateurs in level one and two. They also won the Dressage Hack Amateur and Horsemanship Level 1 Pattern class. The pair were also the highest scoring Michigan Amateur.

Holly Zecchin showed two horses: Amodi in Level Three Open and Buckeye Warrior in Basic Open. Amodi took 2 Reserve Championships and placed 3rd in tests One and Two, plus third in the Level 3 Open Division. Holly and Buckeye Warrior won Basic 3, placed third in Basic 1 and 2, and 7th in basic 4. They were the overall division Open Basic champions. Holly was also the highest scoring Michigan professional.

Tracy Fox and Reduced to Rubble competed in Level 1 Open and did a wonderful job. I was not able to verify her placing. We had a few Juniors from Michigan attend the world show and even though they are not members. WDAMI would like to congratulate Evelyn Smith and her horse, Entrance Afire, and Colton Luszczynski and his horse CJL Crazy Train on a job well done.

I would like to extend a special "thank you" to Joanne Coy, our own Michigan Western Dressage Judge, and WDAA and WDAMI Board member, for once again being one of the instructors for the Western Dressage judging apprentice program held at the World Show. Joanne does a wonderful job of training our up and coming western dressage judges, helping to make sure we have competent and consistent judging for our events. This is not an easy task.

WDAMI would like to congratulate Holly Zecchin and her horse, Buckeye Warrior, for being the first Western Dressage competitors to win the Dressage discipline at the Thoroughbred Makeover held in Kentucky last month. What a great honor. Way to go Holly and Buckeye.

Congratulations to Suzanne Morisse and Sabreena Sue CRHF for being the first from Michigan and the first Haflinger to achieve the Supreme Champion status in the WDAA Horse Lifetime points and Awards Program.

Our WDAMI annual awards ceremony will, once again, be held virtually via Zoom , January 28, 2023 at 7 pm. In addition, our WDAMI board is working hard to schedule three educational events for next year. More on these events next month. Our virtual shows for 2023 will be held as follows: (1) Dressage at Water Edge opens on April 21 and closes on May 14, with videos due by June 4. (2) Sunflower is opening on June 16 and closes on July 9, with videos due July 30. (3) And the Big Boss show will open July 31 and close August 20, with videos due by September 10. All these shows will be offering door prize just for being part of the show. Please plan on supporting and being part of our show series.

Our quote of the month is by Janet Foy: "There must be an aid, an answer, and a reward. If you take care of the basics, the movements will take care of themselves."

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
WDAMI President