

Dear WDAMI Members,

July 2025 President Letter

Summer is in full swing. July is a busy month for family vacations and summer events so remember to allow extra travel time to your destination to allow for road construction and busy roads. I always carry a few buckets of water with me for the horses in case I get stuck in a traffic jam or have a break down. And don't forget to check your tires, wheel bearings, electric systems etc. on your trailer and truck. Drive safely and have fun.

WDAMI would like to congratulate all the wonderful competitors who participated in the **Sunflower Horse Show**. Thank you for supporting WDAMI. Our Big WDAMI **Battle of the Saddle Online Horse Show** (BOSS) is almost here. Entries will be open from July 11 to August 3. Joann Williams is the judge this year. Joann is also judging at the world Show. As always, we have lots of great prizes including door prizes just for entering the show as well as show high point for Open, Amateur, and Junior. We also have a high point versatility award as well. For more information, please check out <https://www.sportlighthorsheshows.com>.

A few things of interest.

WDAA World Championship Show is September 16 to September 20, 2025. Hope to see you there. There is a large group going from Michigan this year. Should be fun. The line-up of judges this year are amazing and include Joanne Coy, Joann Williams, Ann Judge, Lillian Evaniew Phelan, and Cynthia Ganem. Entries open July 28, 2025, and close August 26.

Our WDAMI Facebook page has wonderful little posts from our famous Sue Hughes which are very helpful to all levels of riders.

Not sure how to ride certain movements, or want a few hints on how to ride the test you have been working on? Check out our member Ida Norris on *Ida Norris Dressage*. Ida has some great YouTube videos out there -- well over a 100 -- with lots of good info.

I would like to remind our junior members that WDAA offers a Ride a Test program for junior members and it is free. So go check it out at:

<https://wdaa.memberclicks.net/wdaa-online-ride-a-test-program>.

Our thought of the month is from Thomas Ritter: "Aids are used for a variety of purposes. They are means of communicating our intentions to the horse. They are sensors that feel the horse's muscle tone and mood. We can use them as probes that follow the pathways of the horse's bones and muscles to find any stiff, inflexible joints and muscles. And they can be used to frame the horse and create boundaries within which we want the horse to move."

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.

