



# eQuester

Wisconsin Dressage & Combined Training's Monthly Newsletter

## Building for the Future May Mean Change

The WDCTA State Board is meeting over the next few weeks to discuss transforming the structure of WDCTA. Over the last few years, the state and chapter boards have had a difficult time recruiting members to step up as board members on both the chapter and state levels.

This is not a reflection on our members at all; it's a reflection of society as a whole. According to *Philanthropy News Digest*, 80% of non-profits rely on volunteers. The majority of non-profits are struggling to *attract* volunteers. In fact, a Stanford University article states, "research has shown while over 90% of us want to volunteer, only one out of four Americans actually do."

The reasons are many, according to the article, but the number one reason stated is lack of time. *Nonprofits Source* states that overall, the volunteer rate declined by 0.4% to 24.9% in 2016, with women volunteering at higher rates (27.8%) than men (21.8%). When you look around and see women busy with careers, is it any wonder that non-profits (including ours) are struggling?

Because of this, the WDCTA State Board is looking at centralizing the governance of the organization. This means folding the chapter boards into the state board, which would reduce the number of volunteer positions needed by approximately 16 positions.

The questions and issues the chapter and state boards need to work through include ensuring that:

- Educational opportunities such as scholarships, clinics, symposia and local meetings can continue and funding is available, as needed;
- Chapters' treasuries/funds built over the years remain accessible for that area's educational needs (with more funds, as needed);
- Smaller chapters that have had smaller treasuries can still sponsor educational activities;
- State board positions aren't over-burdened with the additional work and oversight required when requests for funding special projects are submitted. This is especially a concern for the position of state treasurer, who would be responding to approved requests and continued oversight to make sure we meet state laws and remain good fiduciaries of our funds.

If you have ideas on how we can transform the WDCTA organization to meet our future needs of all the areas we serve in Wisconsin, please contact your chapter president, members-at-large or any state board member. Any changes the state board determines would help the organization will be presented to the membership for their approval. We welcome your ideas and suggestions to create a WDCTA that will work in the future.



## Awards Deadlines Approach!

Members who have signed up for year-end dressage (traditional and western) and eventing, must submit their scores by **November 30. (Or send in now.)**

See [wdcta.org](http://wdcta.org) for more details.



## Caryn Vesperman Editor

All advertisements, articles and photographs (with photo release) should be submitted by the 15th of the preceding month of publication, unless you make prior arrangements for additional time.

Calendar of events will appear in both the eQuester and on the WDCTA website.

Payment for advertisements should be submitted via PayPal through the WDCTA website ([wdcta.org](http://wdcta.org)) or mailed with a check made out to WDCTA and mailed to the editor.

**CONTACT INFO**  
(608) 695-9914  
W1619 King Road  
Brooklyn, WI 53521



# Competing—Highs and Lows and Everything In-Between

I'm back from Regional Championships, and I can report that I won the warm-ups! However, once I was in the ring with both horses....all bets were off. Such is the life with horses and competing.

The warm-up for Fourth Level with Diamond Dureza ("Zeza"—photo to the left of her) felt great, but once in the ring my not-usually-spooky-horse saw something outside of the ring, and it panicked her. The good news is, we accomplished the hard parts in the test. The bad news is, it was the lowest score I remember ever getting in my life! One of the judges wrote: "A hot horse, sensitive. Rider showed good decision in the test to help establish confidence and calmness as test went on!" That helped. A little.

Tanqueray MRF, who was debuting at Second Level, got a bit undone in the warm-up, due to other horses jumping and spooking all over with the high winds. He usually loves the warm-up with all his new "friends." But, he tried his best to stay with me in the test. We still ended up seventh in the championship class. That helped. A little.

After those championship tests, I have to admit, I was discouraged. I had worked so hard to be prepared, and then to have two unfortunate situations derail my goals. Rationally I know things can happen that are out of our control, that we ride horses that have minds of their own, but still... You know this rationally but sometimes you still react emotionally.

I called a friend after the tests, and she reminded me that if a "failure" makes you give up, the failure won. If the failure makes you dig down and work harder, then the failure was something that helped in your journey. So, after wallowing for a little bit...I am choosing to let my disappointment drive me harder., and I will be implementing some ideas from now until the next show season that will hopefully help for next year.

I'll also be taking the pressure off my horses and me by doing a few more trail rides this fall, taking advantage of these gorgeous days and stunning colors!

I hope if things didn't go as you planned, you pick yourself up and keep trying. Don't let a disappointment discourage you.

As always, stay safe, stay on and push on!

*Caryn*

## Dressage Horse Boarding Eagle, WI



Tailwind Farm, a premier dressage facility in Eagle, WI has one opening beginning March 1, 2021.

Heated barn and tack room. 12x12 matted stalls with automatic waterers. Grain AM and PM, hay fed 4 times daily. Daily turnout in spacious dry lots and attached pastures are used weather permitting.

Warm 60'x150' indoor arena with well maintained footing. 2 outdoor arenas, one sand and one grass standard dressage arena.


This 30 acre farm has trails surrounding the property and hay field, also with in a short distance of the Kettle Moraine trail system.

Training and lessons provided by Andrea Schten. Andrea is a USDF Gold, Silver and Bronze medalist on self-trained horses. Multiple students have also obtained their USDF medals under her tutelage.

Please contact Andrea Schten for more information. Call or text 262-470-4557, email: [aschten@hotmail.com](mailto:aschten@hotmail.com)

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**PEN BRYN FARM**

**Valerie Ahl**  
**4321 State Road 138**  
**Oregon, WI 53575**  
**(608) 698-7924**  
**[veahl@wisc.edu](mailto:veahl@wisc.edu)**



*Stabling, breeding top bloodlines.*

**Tailwind Farm**

Andrea & Dean Achtenhagen, owners

W350 S6890 Ulrickson Road  
Eagle, WI 53119  
(262) 470-4557  
[aschten@hotmail.com](mailto:aschten@hotmail.com)  
[andreaschten.com](http://andreaschten.com)




# Calendar of Events

Stay Tuned for the Future!

# Stable, Instructor, Breeder and Business Listing Form

For only \$10 per category or \$35 for all four, you can have your stable, instructor, breeder or business listing appear in the eQuester newsletter and on the WDCTA website. This advertising is for WDCTA members only. Must be a WDCTA member to be listed.

**(Please limit your information to 35 words per category.)**

**CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:** STABLE  INSTRUCTOR  BREEDER  BUSINESS

MEMBER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

STABLE/BUSINESS NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

**STABLE FACILITY FEATURES:** (OUTDOOR/INDOOR ARENA, TURNOUT, LOUNGE, WASH STALL, TRAILS, LESSONS AVAILABLE)

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**BREEDER INFORMATION:** (STANDING STALLIONS, BLOODLINES, BREEDS, ETC.)

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**BUSINESS INFORMATION:** (TYPE OF BUSINESS, DAYS OPEN, HOURS, LOCATION, ETC.)

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**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:** (COMPLETE BELOW)

EQUESTRIAN EDUCATION BACKGROUND: (DO NOT INCLUDE NAMES UNLESS PROVIDING WRITTEN PROOF OF PERMISSION)

YEARS OF TEACHING EXPERIENCE: \_\_\_\_\_

LEVELS WILL TEACH: \_\_\_\_\_

LEVEL OF RIDING EXPERIENCE: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL HORSES AVAILABLE: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

WILL TRAVEL: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

AWARDS EARNED:

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

[ 25 ]

*Only WDCTA members can be listed.  
One name per instructor listing.*



**COMPLETE FORM AND  
SEND PAYMENT TO:**

Diane Brault  
5184 Co. Rd. HH  
Barneveld, WI 53507  
608-455-1037  
[membership@wdcta.org](mailto:membership@wdcta.org)

## **Instructor/Trainer Profile**

*For WDCTA Members Only*

*These questions are only to get the ideas for your profile started. Use as many of them as you want, and add others as needed. Email or mail this sheet and additional pages. The editor will follow up with any additional questions or clarifications.*

**Please submit some photos of yourself, facility, horses, etc. to:**

Caryn Vesperman, newsletter editor  
W1619 King Road, Brooklyn, WI 53521  
[newsletter@wdcta.org](mailto:newsletter@wdcta.org)



**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone(s):** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Website:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Teach dressage, jumping, both:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Riding Since Age:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Background History:**

**Current and Past Instructors/Mentors:**

**Horses -- Past and Current:**

**Your Showing/Riding Accomplishments:**

**Students' Accomplishments:**

**If you own your facility, describe:**

**Dream or What Inspires/Motivates You:**

**Interesting or Amusing Personal Story:**

**Riding/Training Philosophy or "Motto":**

**Anything Else?**

### **Renew Today!**

**Time to renew your membership and your stable, instructor, business and/or breeder listings.**

The cost is so reasonable!  
See forms toward end of this newsletter or go online at [wdcta.org](http://wdcta.org).



# eQuester Advertising Rates

### Mechanicals:

Ad size below. Photos should be submitted as jpegs. Or, mail to editor for scanning. Include self-addressed, stamped envelope for its return.

### Deadline:

All calendar submissions, ads and payment must be received by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Make checks out to WDCTA.

**WDCTA members receive special rate (in **ORANGE**).**  
**See calendar information at bottom of page.**

### Editor Contact Info:

Caryn Vesperman  
[newsletter@wdcta.org](mailto:newsletter@wdcta.org)  
W1619 King Road  
Brooklyn, WI 53521

Description	1 x	6 x	12 x
<b>Business Card</b> 3.5 x 2": In <i>eQuester</i> newsletter with link to email OR website.	\$10 ( <b>\$9</b> )	\$50 ( <b>\$45</b> )	\$100 ( <b>\$90</b> )
<b>Classified Ad</b> Up to 50 words. In <i>eQuester</i> newsletter with link to email OR website.	\$5 ( <b>\$4</b> )	\$25 ( <b>\$20</b> )	\$50 ( <b>\$45</b> )
<b>Quarter Page</b> 3.5 x 5": In <i>eQuester</i> newsletter with links to email OR website.	\$15 ( <b>\$12</b> )	\$85 ( <b>\$70</b> )	\$150 ( <b>\$135</b> )
<b>Half Page</b> 7.5 x 5" or 3.75 x 10": In <i>eQuester</i> newsletter with links to email AND website.	\$20 ( <b>\$15</b> )	\$100 ( <b>\$90</b> )	\$195 ( <b>\$175</b> )
<b>Full Page</b> 7.5 x 10": In <i>eQuester</i> newsletter with links to email AND website.	\$40 ( <b>\$35</b> )	\$150 ( <b>\$175</b> )	\$300 ( <b>\$350</b> )
<b>Website Banner Ad</b> 180x150 pixels, and can be a .jpg, .gif or .png	N/A	\$200 ( <b>\$150</b> )	\$400 ( <b>\$300</b> )

### eQuester and Website Calendar of Events Submissions: *For WDCTA members only. (Up to 20 words).*

INCLUDE THIS: Date > Event > Location > Contact (Name/Phone/Email) > WDCTA-Sponsored Event (Yes/No)

**WDCTA Event:** Link to organizer's email and registration form, if applicable

**NON-WDCTA-Sponsored Event:** Link to organizer's email only.

Member-hosted private riding clinics cannot be advertised in the newsletter at this time.