

## More Tools in the Vet Box

# Laser and Acupuncture Therapy

By Caryn Vesperman

Thanks to the offer by a member to show how laser and acupuncture therapies have helped her eventing horse, Southwest Chapter members learned about these treatment options at their October meeting.

Dr. Michelle Krusing Weidenkopf, DVM, of Holistic Veterinary Options, began treating Cathy Wunderlich's horse, Jager, in February 2022. Cathy said, "I felt I had run out of options."

Cathy bought Jager as a four-year-old off-the-track Thoroughbred. Now eight years old, Jager had been a wonderful partner, sweet and docile, but ready to do his job happily.

Jager, however, began displaying uncharacteristic behavior. "It was a roller coaster," said Cathy. "He'd be his normal, sweet self and then start exhibiting behavior both under saddle and in the stall: bolting, spinning, biting and kicking. Things he had never done before."

Cathy had him scoped, discovering he had Grade 4 ulcers. Grade 0 indicates no ulcers and Grade 4 indicates extensive lesions with apparent deep ulceration and often bleeding. Typically horses react the most to ulcers when they trot and canter because the stomach acid sloshes around and hits the unprotected stomach tissues.

Cathy put him on omeprazole (found in products such as UlcerGuard and GastroGuard) and is the only medication approved to treat and heal stomach ulcers in horses. Jager again became the sweet horse she remembered.

However, when she took him off the treatment plan, within a week, Jager

clearly became uncomfortable and his behavior reflected that. Every time Cathy put him on omeprazole, he found relief. Unfortunately, the cost of having a horse on the medication is around \$40 a day, plus there are side effects when using it long-term.

That's when Cathy called Dr. Weidenkopf.

**Continued on next page**



**(Above) Dr. Weidenkopf uses the cold laser on Jager, while owner Cathy holds him. (Right) Note the red laser beam on Jager's chest.**

## Tools in the Vet Box

After learning of Jager's history, one of the first things Dr. Weidenkopf did was a chiropractic session and discovered he had some sore and blocked areas. She started with a class 2 cold laser before moving to acupuncture. The laser offers pain relief and helps heal injuries. The laser beam travels through the horse's skin and into the body where it stimulates the energy and respiration centers of cells—the mitochondria. This energizes them, giving each the ability to start healing.

Then with the acupuncture treatment, Dr. Weidenkopf inserted the

needles in very specific areas including his forehead, neck, legs and hind-quarters. "Most horses accept acupuncture," says Dr. Weidenkopf. "About two percent don't." That's why she's always alert to the horse's reaction and, even though Jager is use to it, she had the group step to the side in case Jager reacted. He didn't. Instead you could see Jager relaxing more and more as time went on.

In addition to laser and acupuncture, Dr. Weidenkopf did a hair analysis and found his vitamin

and mineral balance was off. A new feeding regime was created, and now Jager is basically off all grain, is given some supplements and herbs, and is on 24/7 hay and pasture. Jager's treatments have made a difference. Cathy said the treatments last two or three weeks: "He tells me when he needs another."



(Above and top right) Arrows point to the tiny, threadlike acupuncture needles in Jager's legs and loin.



SW Chapter members (minus guests) at the demo.

## Sometimes You Just Have to Push On



It doesn't matter if it's a job, school, a family problem, household budget, a health issue or our riding, there are times in our lives we just have to be patient (or stubborn!) and push on.

A few weeks ago, I participated in a clinic with Linda Zang at Paradigm Farm. I work with Linda when I go to Florida, so it was nice to have a chance to ride with her, show what we have been working on over the summer and prepare her (forewarn?! ) for what she needs to do with me in Florida!

Fortunately, she thought we had made good progress over the summer/fall. (Thank you, Shelly Reichart!)

After she saw me ride my younger horse, Tanqueray MRF, Linda commented that he looked stronger, straighter and was becoming a "flying change machine." Then she made the very insightful comment, "You look as if you like him again." While I had never said I *disliked* him, he doesn't me the feeling Diamond Dureza does. Now Zeza has had her own challenges, mostly associated with her trying too hard or being overly ambitious. Tanqueray, however, has been the opposite: he has not been very self-motivated. He's a happy goofball, pretty, capable, and also shows talent in piaffe and passage, but he's just not a horse that offers too much extra effort. There have been times when I've reminded myself not every horse matches with every rider, and there's no shame in selling. I remember breeding a lovely Hanoverian about 10 years ago—good pedigree, attractive, nice mover, but our personalities just didn't click. I sold her after showing her successfully at First Level to the first buyer who tried her. Prior to that, I had a horse that was sensible, willing, a nice mover and fabulous on trails, but was told by a very good horseman that she might be better as a jumper than a dressage horse. (Her sire was a jumper.) Of course, being young and naive, I thought I could *make* her a dressage horse. She topped out at Third Level. Should have sold her sooner!

This is my long way of reiterating that I had the experience to know some horses just aren't a good match, and so I was on the fence about keeping

Tanqueray. But in the last couple of months, it's like he has stepped up and into the

next phase. I admitted to Linda, that yes, she was right—I didn't enjoy him last winter and it's only been recently I thought there was hope with our partnership. Her reply, "You better not sell him." I was glad to hear my work and persistence seemed to be paying off!

It's a good reminder to all of us that whatever challenge we're dealing with in or out of the saddle, push on, give the solution (whatever it may be) a chance to reveal itself. There will be ups and downs while you try to figure it out, but as the saying goes, "Sometimes you're the bird and sometimes you're the statue." May you eventually be the bird!



### 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

[newsletter@wdcta.org](mailto:newsletter@wdcta.org)



Caryn

# Handy Trailer Block

By Caryn Vesperman

If you're like me, I hate picking up the trailer block. It's awkward and usually has worms and muck on the bottom. (I admit I am the type to eat a cookie if it fell on the barn aisle floor. Priorities.)

Anyway, I saw this idea and had my husband create a version for me. It makes it much easier to use a block when parking a trailer.

## Directions:

1. Decide the size of trailer block you want.
2. Cut two pieces of treated lumber to create the desired length. You can use one piece of treated lumber, but I like having plenty of room on all sides of the jack. Why? More

than once I've not lined it up correctly and had it fall off the block. Took a bit of work to get a jack lined up to lift it enough to get the wood back under it!

3. Add a 1/2" piece of lumber the size of the two treated pieces and nail to the treated lumber.
4. Nail a spare horse shoe to one end so you can get a good grip for carrying it and don't have to touch worms and mud!

That's it! Enjoy how easy it is to use and no more grubby hands!

Got a tip or trick to share? Send the details and photos (if applicable) to: [newsletter@wdcta.org](mailto:newsletter@wdcta.org).



# WDCTA Awards Deadline!

## Nov. 30

The show season is finished, so be sure to get your test scores, complete your awards report form and send to:

Joann Williams  
W3580 Scotch Bush Rd  
Elkhorn, WI 53121-3302  
email: [awards@wdcdta.org](mailto:awards@wdcdta.org)

*Have ideas for next year's awards? Let Joann know that too!*

- \* For a quick review of the requirements, go to:  
[https://www.wdcta.org/2022\\_forms/2022\\_dressage\\_ch\\_rules.pdf](https://www.wdcta.org/2022_forms/2022_dressage_ch_rules.pdf)
- \* For the form to submit your info, go to:  
[https://www.wdcta.org/2022\\_forms/2022\\_dressage\\_score\\_report.pdf](https://www.wdcta.org/2022_forms/2022_dressage_score_report.pdf)

Forms also in this newsletter for you to download.

## *Laura Graves Symposium Coming to Madison!*

### *May 20-21, 2023*



For information about auditing, riding or being a sponsor or vendor, see the pages at the end of this newsletter.

Volunteer opportunities too!

Keep up with the latest details on our Facebook pages and website!



## 2022 DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

### I. Dressage Awards

- Divisions are defined as Junior/Young Rider (Jr/YR), Open and Adult Amateur
- Applicants may only compete in one Division per competition season.
- A Horse of The Year award will be awarded one for each of the following divisions Training – First level; Second – Fourth level; FEI levels.
- Levels are defined as In-Hand, Musical Freestyle, Materiale, Young Horse Tests, Rider Tests and Intro through Grand Prix.
  - A. A Junior/Young Rider (Jr/YR) is anyone that has not reached his/her 22nd birthday by January 1st of the award year.
  - B. Adult Amateurs must have an US Equestrian Federation (USEF) Amateur card or sign a WDCTA amateur affidavit. The card or affidavit must be included with the entry. If you enter as an Amateur but do not include the necessary proof of amateur status, you will be entered in the Open division.
  - C. A champion and reserve champion will be named for each division at each level of competition -- Introductory through FEI.
  - D. Maiden awards are only open to those HORSES in their first year of showing at Introductory (Intro) Level through Grand Prix. Only one award will be given at each level for all divisions combined.
  - E. One Champion and one Reserve Champion Musical Freestyle award will be given for First through FEI levels combined.

### II. In-Hand Sport Horse Breed Awards

- A. A young horse is filly, colt or gelding 3 years of age or younger.
- B. A mature horse is a mare or stallion 4 years of age or older.
- C. Amateur Handler Award
- D. A Champion and Reserve Champion will be named for Young Horse Filly, Young Horse Colt/Gelding, Amateur Handler, Mature Horse Mare and Mature Horse Stallion.

### III. Registration and Eligibility

- A. The rider and owner of the horse must be members in good standing of WDCTA at the time scores are earned.
- B. For in-hand classes, the handler does not need to be a WDCTA member, nor is it necessary to have the same handler for each class in order to qualify for year-end awards.
- C. A horse and rider combination may win an award or championship at any given level more than once. For In-hand Sport Horse Awards, Mature Horse (Mare/Stallion) may win more than once.
- D. Championship registration for each horse and rider combination must be postmarked at least 1 day prior to the first show from which they plan to submit scores.
- E. A fee of \$25.00 for each level must be paid for each horse and rider combination to be eligible for championships. If competing for a Maiden award at any level, an additional fee of \$25 must be paid. Only one award is given for all divisions at that level for maiden even if there are two riders competing the horse. There is no fee for the Horse of The Year award. (Note: if entering via PayPal, there is an additional cost.
- F. The Awards Chair must be notified in writing and fees paid if adding a level later in the year and prior to scores earned at that additional level.
- G. All registrations are for the show year December 1 through November 30.
- H. Registration is not necessary for the Horse of The Year award. Winning horses will be chosen from the eligible entries. To qualify for the Horse of The Year award, **ALL SCORES MUST BE EARNED AT USDF/USEF-RECOGNIZED SHOWS.**



# WDCTA Dressage and In-Hand Score Report Form 2022

*One Level, One Horse and Rider Combination per Form.*

**All Scores must be postmarked no later than November 30, 2022**

Send good quality copies of your tests or a USDF/USEF score print-out along with this form.

Rider \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Horse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Owner \_\_\_\_\_

### **RULES (Please read complete WDCTA Championship Rules on WDCTA website.)**

1. Both owner and rider must be current WDCTA members at time scores are earned for awards. Exception: For in-hand classes, the handler does not need to be a WDCTA member, nor is it necessary to have the same handler for each class in order to qualify for year-end awards.
2. Dressage Awards: Three scores by three different judges from two different shows.
3. In-Hand Awards: Two scores from two different judges from two different shows.
4. Dressage Awards: At least two qualifying scores submitted must be from a USEF/USDF-recognized show.
5. Each score must be a minimum of 60% at Training - 4<sup>th</sup> level and a minimum of 58% at PSG and above.
6. Scores must be earned at shows, open to all breeds.
7. At least one qualifying score submitted must be from WDCTA- or USEF/USDF-recognized show held in Wisconsin.
8. One test score must be from the highest test from the level.
9. Maiden division awards may be from any test from the level.
10. WDCTA has a 70 Percent Club award for those members that have received a 70% or higher at a WDCTA-sanctioned schooling show or USDF/USEA-recognized show, during the awards year. WDCTA will award a certificate to the rider. There is no fee for the 70% Club.

Scores must be postmarked on or before November 30. Scores may be submitted via email; a reply will be sent indicating your results were received. Scores may also be sent through the U.S. Postal Service. If you want notification that the awards chair received your scores when sent through the postal service, please include a self-addressed, stamped postcard with your score sheets.

**Circle Division:** Open    Adult Amateur    Junior/Young Rider    Maiden    70% Club (free)  
Eligible for a Maiden Award at this level? (Circle one)    Yes    No

Show Name and Date	Level and Test	Judge(s)	Score %

Average Score \_\_\_\_\_ %

Mail or email *Score Report Form* and copies of the tests or USDF/USEA Score report to:

**Joann Williams**  
W3580 Scotch Bush Rd  
Elkhorn, WI 53121-3302

**Phone: 414-378-2231**  
**Email: [awards@wdcta.org](mailto:awards@wdcta.org)**

## AUDITOR INFO & REGISTRATION

# OLYMPIAN LAURA GRAVES DRESSAGE SYMPOSIUM

May 20-21, 2023 - Madison, WI

## FORMAT AND SHOPPING

Over two days, 11 riders, working with young horses and on skills from Training Level to Grand Prix, will train with Laura for 45 minutes to an hour in each session. Laura also will ensure auditors learn from the work she does with each horse and rider.

The vendor area promises to be a great shopping adventure with a variety of tack, clothing and barn necessities. The vendors will be located next to the riding arena and will be open during the entire event.

All of the activities will be under one roof—climate-controlled for your comfort!



*Sponsored by the Southwest Chapter of*



## DAILY SCHEDULE

- 7:30 a.m. Registration and Trade Fair Opens
- 9 a.m. Welcome/Introduction
- 9:15 a.m. Training
- 10 a.m. First Level
- 10:45 a.m. Second Level
- 11:30 p.m. Third Level
- 12:15 p.m. Lunch/Shopping
- 1:15 p.m. Fourth Level
- 2:00 p.m. Prix St. Georges
- 2:45 Intermediare I
- 3:30 p.m. Intermediare. II, Grand Prix
- 4:15 p.m. Wrap-up
- 6:00 p.m. Trade Fair Closes

*Schedule subject to minor changes*

## LAURA GRAVES

### 2019

- Finished second at the FEI World Cup Dressage Final.

### 2018

- Defended her World Cup Finals individual silver medal at the competition in Paris.
- Earned team silver medal and individual silver medal, Grand Prix Special, at the World Equestrian Games.
- Ranked #1 in the world in a record-breaking freestyle performance.

### 2017

- Earned the silver individual medal at World Cup Finals in Omaha.

### 2016

- Competed at her first Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, winning a bronze team medal and placing fourth individually.

### 2015

- Placed fourth at the FEI World Cup Finals, Las Vegas.
- Won a team gold medal and individual silver medal at the Pan American Games in Toronto.

Currently Laura is competing Sensation HM. She had a very successful outing at the 2022 Festival of Champions including earning the Intermediare I Championship title.

## SYMPOSIUM LOCATION

The Alliant Energy Center ([alliantenergycenter.com](http://alliantenergycenter.com)) is the home of the Midwest Horse Fair, one of the top three horse fairs in the United States. It's conveniently located off the Madison beltline. The New Holland Pavilion is an excellent venue for equestrian events because the climate-controlled space contains an indoor arena, stabling, vendor booth areas and concessions, all under one roof. Some camping slots are available for a fee—contact Alliant Energy Center directly.

Alliant Energy Center  
New Holland Pavilion I  
1919 Alliant Center Way  
Madison, WI 53713  
(608) 267-3976  
[alliantenergycenter.com](http://alliantenergycenter.com)

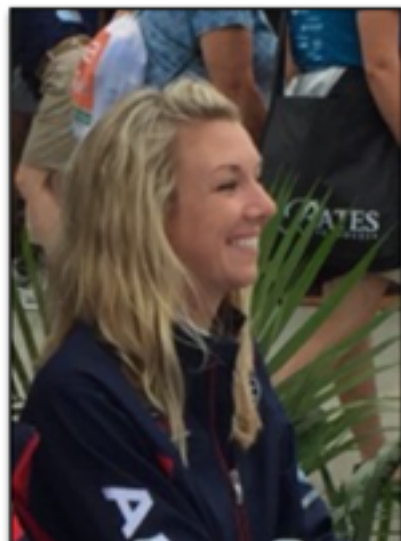
## FEES

See registration section for costs.

- Limited seating. First come/first serve.
- Due to limited seating, priority admission goes to those auditing both days.

## KEEP UP WITH THE LATEST NEWS

Check the WDCTA website ([wdcta.org](http://wdcta.org)) and WDCTA's two Facebook pages to keep up with the latest news about vendors and the symposium.



## Laura Graves Dressage Symposium Auditor Registration Form

### Fees:

#### WDCTA Members

- ~ Through Feb. 28\* — \$55/day or \$95/both days
- ~ Mar. 1 - May 12\* — \$75/day or \$135/both days
- ~ At The Door — \$75/day or \$135/both days

#### Non-WDCTA Members

- ~ Through Feb. 28\* — \$65/day or \$115/both days
- ~ Mar. 1 - May 12\* — \$85/day or \$155/both days
- ~ At The Door — \$85/day or \$155/both days

#### Youth (Under 16 years)

- ~ \$35/day or \$65/both days

*\*Postmarked or online payments no later than May 12. After that date, please pay at the door to ensure we don't miss your payment.*

*If not sold out, tickets will be available at the door. See WDCTA website for updates.*

*Lunch is not included in price. Food available on site.*

*Free parking at the Alliant Energy Center. Some camping spots available for rent; contact the Alliant Energy Center for more information on camping and reservations.*

### One Auditor Registration Per Form. Sorry, No Refunds.

Auditor Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

#### Attending:

\_\_\_\_\_ Both Days

\_\_\_\_\_ One Day — Which Day: \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday

**Total Auditor Fees Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to volunteer to help.

### Contact and Registration Information

**Online registration** can be done via eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/laura-graves-dressage-symposium-tickets-89509929609>.

**Questions about online registration?** Contact Mary Barr at [onlinereg@wdcta.org](mailto:onlinereg@wdcta.org).

**Or mail this registration form, waiver and check made out to WDCTA Southwest Chapter to:**

Donna Thomas, 5996 Co. Rd. A, Brooklyn, WI 53521

**Questions about mail-in/paper registration?** Contact Donna at [paperreg@wdcta.org](mailto:paperreg@wdcta.org).

*Photos of Laura Graves from World Equestrian Games, Tryon, NC. Photo with Verdades - Rebecca Lewison. Head shot - Caryn Vesperman*

**Register via  
mail  
OR  
online at:**

[https://  
www.eventbrite.com/e/  
laura-graves-dressage-  
symposium-  
tickets-89509929609](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/laura-graves-dressage-symposium-tickets-89509929609)

**WISCONSIN DRESSAGE & COMBINED TRAINING ASSOCIATION  
WAIVER, RELEASE, AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT**

In consideration for my participation in the WDCTA Laura Graves Symposium, May 20-21, 2023, (hereafter, "the Activity"), I (the "Participant") hereby acknowledge and voluntarily agree to the following (hereafter, "Agreement"). "Participation" includes, but is not limited to, riding, handling, instructing, or spectating.

**1. Acknowledgment of Inherent Risks of Equine Activities.** I acknowledge and understand that there are numerous inherent risks of participating in equine activities, including, *but not limited to*: (a) the propensity of an equine or other animal, irrespective of its training, to behave in ways that may result in injury, harm, or death to persons on or around them (for example, jump, run, kick, buck, bolt, spin, rear, strike, or bite); (b) the unpredictability of an equine's reaction to such things as sounds, sudden movements and unfamiliar objects, persons or other animals; (c) certain hazards such as conditions at or below the surface or ground, whether seen or unseen; (d) collisions with other animals or objects; (e) the potential for another person participating in an equine activity to act in a negligent manner that may contribute to injury to me, or to others, such as failing to maintain control over the equine or not acting within his or her ability; (f) the breakage or failure of tack or other equipment; (g) the potential that an equine or other animal may cause injury or harm to the rider or to other persons or animals in the vicinity; and (h) sickness and disease (including communicable diseases). *I understand these risks and further acknowledge that I am not relying on the Wisconsin Dressage and Combined Training Association (hereafter, "WDCTA") to list in this document all possible inherent risks of participating in equine activities or the Activity.*

**2. Acknowledgement that Participation in the Activity is Voluntary and Requires Personal Judgment.** I acknowledge and understand that riding instruction by its nature requires that the instructor issue directions in the form of "commands." I understand that while I should consider such commands, I must and will use my own judgment during my participation in the Activity. I understand that while participating in the Activity that: the commands and all activities engaged in as part of the instruction are entirely voluntary; that the instructor is not entitled to nor requests absolute obedience; that I may elect not to comply with any command or suggested act; and that I am expected to at all times be alert and thinking while participating in the Activity. I represent that both my equine and I have the requisite level of physical fitness and mental alertness to enable us to participate in the Activity, and are in good health and free from injury, illness or other defects which may impair our ability to engage in the Activity.

**3. Waiver and Release of Liability.** I understand and voluntarily accept the inherent risks of engaging in equine activities, including risks from my voluntary compliance or noncompliance with instructor commands associated with the Activity. I voluntarily agree to hold harmless, release, waive, and covenant not to sue Laura Graves, WDCTA, its officers, members, non-members that pay an auditing fee, Alliant Energy Center, as well as all other participants in the Activity ("Released Parties") from any and all injuries, sickness and disease, death, liability, or damage to person or property arising from my participation in the Activity, unless caused by Released Parties' reckless, intentional or willful misconduct. Thus, I understand that this waiver and release is effective even if the injury, sickness and disease, death, liability, or damage to person or property is caused or contributed to by the *negligent* action or inaction of Released Parties.

**4. Equine Activity Liability Law.** I acknowledge that I have read the State of Wisconsin's notice regarding equine activities:

**Notice: A person who is engaged for compensation in the rental of equines or equine equipment or tack or in the instruction of a person in the riding or driving of an equine or in being a passenger upon an equine is not liable for the injury or death of a person involved in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities, as defined in section 895.481 (1) (e) of the Wisconsin Statutes.**

**5. Governing Law.** This Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Wisconsin. Any controversy, dispute, or claim arising out of or related to this Agreement, shall be resolved exclusively through proceedings filed in the federal or state court in Madison, WI. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision or sentence of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision or sentence of this Agreement, which shall remain in full force and effect.

***I have read this waiver, release, and hold harmless agreement, fully understand its terms, understand that I am assuming risks inherent to my participation, and agree to be fully bound by its terms. I understand that I am free to consult with any counsel about the terms of this agreement.***

Signature of Participant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(or parent or legal guardian of behalf of Participant, if Participant is under 18 years of age)

Name of Participant (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## RIDER APPLICATION

# OLYMPIAN LAURA GRAVES DRESSAGE SYMPOSIUM

May 20-21, 2023 - Alliant Energy Center, Madison, WI

*All located under one roof in the climate-controlled New Holland Pavilion I*

## DAILY SCHEDULE

Over two days, 11 riders, from the lower levels to Grand Prix, will work with Laura in a symposium setting.

- 7:30 a.m. Registration and Trade Fair
- 9 a.m. Welcome and Introduction
- 9:15 a.m. Training
- 10:00 a.m. First Level
- 10:45 a.m. Second Level
- 11:30 a.m. Third Level
- 12:15 p.m. Lunch and Shopping
- 1:15 p.m. Fourth Level
- 2:00 p.m. Prix St. Georges
- 2:45 Intermediare I
- 3:30 p.m. Intermediare II/Grand Prix
- 4:15 p.m. Wrap-up
- 6:00 p.m. Saturday - Trade Fair Closes

*Schedule subject to minor changes.*

*Sponsored by the  
Southwest Chapter of the*



## Opening Date for Rider Application

**Jan. 1, 2023**

## Deadline for Rider Application

**Mar. 1, 2023**

This is your chance to ride with Laura Graves, one of this country's top international riders, who started out, just like most riders, with a pony and a dream. Add to that, is Laura's persistence and determination through some tough times with her partner, Verdades, because he was not easy as a young horse. Together, they became Olympians and international stars. In early 2020, Laura announced the retirement of Verdades. Currently she is competing SenSation HW at Prix St. Georges and has some up-and-coming young horses. She had a very successful outing at the 2022 Festival of Champions with many wins including Intermediare I Champion.

Laura's experience and the opportunities she has had with top trainers over her career, will help give you tools for training your horse and, if an instructor, give you ideas for helping your students.

**For updates about the symposium, visit:**  
[www.wdcta.org](http://www.wdcta.org) or our two Facebook pages.



## RIDER SELECTION PROCESS

The following horse/rider combinations are needed:

- 2 Training Level
- 2 First Level (amateur riders preferred)
- 2 Second Level
- 1 Third Level (green to this level is fine)
- 1 Fourth Level
- 1 Prix St. George (green to this level is fine)
- 1 Intermediare I
- 1 Intermediare II/Grand Prix

**Only online applications will be accepted.**

**For the application, go to [https://www.wdcta.org/index.php?](https://www.wdcta.org/index.php?option=com_rsform&view=rsform&formId=10)**

**[option=com\\_rsform&view=rsform&formId=10](https://www.wdcta.org/index.php?option=com_rsform&view=rsform&formId=10) .**

The four reserve horse/rider combinations to back up the above selections are: Training/First Level, Second, Third/Fourth Level, and FEI. These combinations will be selected from the pool of riders not selected for the actual symposium riding slots. **Laura Graves will be selecting the riders.**

Riders need to submit a complete application to include all of the following:

- USDF/FEI Performance Record from the past two years or a letter of recommendation from trainer if the rider/horse combination do not have scores. (A letter of recommendation can be submitted even if one has the scores.)
- A summary explaining why the rider would like to be chosen
- A five-minute YouTube video showing the movements at the level applying for
- Current Coggins Test and record of current year vaccinations
- Rider release form
- Payment (which will not be processed until a rider has been selected and notified)

### NOTE:

- Riders must ride the horse listed on the application.
- Riders may apply with more than one horse.
- ASTM/SEI helmets are mandatory.

Applications and videos are not reviewed until after the deadline submission of **March 1, 2023**. We will notify all applicants upon receipt of their entry AND as soon as the selection process is complete, *no later than April 15*. We will not publish or release the names of applicants who are not selected.

If you are **not** selected to ride, we hope you'll join us by auditing. You may want to sign up to audit now to make sure you have a spot in case you are not selected as a rider. If you are selected as a rider, we will refund your auditor application fee. In addition, if you are selected as a reserve horse/rider and you accept, we will refund the difference between the two costs.

## FEES AND CANCELLATIONS

- ~ The 2-day clinic fee for Training through Second Level is: **\$400 for WDCTA members and \$450 for non-WDCTA members.**
- ~ The 2-day clinic fee for Third Level through Grand Prix is: **\$600 for WDCTA members and \$650 for non-WDCTA members.**
- ~ The fee for the four reserve riders is **\$100** for both WDCTA and non-WDCTA members. This includes admission for rider, a stall for the horse and a tack stall. (*No groom registration fee included. Lunch is also not included.*) If selected as a reserve rider, WDCTA will subtract \$100 from the submitted rider fee and refund the difference.

***The accepted rider fee (NOT reserve rider) includes a ride on both days, a horse stall, a tack stall and one auditor/groom pass for someone other than the rider, but does not include lunches. Stall mats are available for \$65/stall from Showtime. (Stall mat information will be sent to the selected riders.)***

Payment will be processed within 7 days of selection. Should checks/payment not be good, we will assume the rider has cancelled and the first alternate will be selected to take his/her place. (There is a \$50 charge to cover any insufficient fund fees.) Riders who need to cancel after their participation has been confirmed, should notify Caryn Vesperman, the rider coordinator, immediately. Riders canceling will receive a refund, minus a \$25 processing fee, if a replacement rider can be found. If no replacement is available from the applications, the rider will not receive a refund unless a medical or veterinary emergency can be verified.

## RIDER COORDINATOR

**Caryn Vesperman: [riders@wdcta.org](mailto:riders@wdcta.org) - (608) 695-9914**

## Sponsorship and Vendor Opportunities



This symposium and trade fair will be all under one roof at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison, WI. The event is expected to attract more than 300 enthusiastic attendees and generate national publicity.

### Registration/Trade Fair:

- Opens at 7:30 a.m.
- Closes at 6 p.m.
- Located in the New Holland Pavilion I— same building as riding clinic

### About WDCTA

The Wisconsin Dressage and Combined Training Association (WDCTA) is a 501(c)3, non-profit organization run by volunteers. We are a charter member of our national organization, the United States Dressage Federation. Events like this help fund scholarships and future educational opportunities. Visit our website at [wdcta.org](http://wdcta.org) or look for us on Facebook.

**For information about the sponsorship or vendor opportunities, contact:**

**Mary Hanneman**  
[vendors@wdcta.org](mailto:vendors@wdcta.org)  
Phone: (608) 712-0975

**Donations under \$100 will be gratefully acknowledged in the event program.**

## Sponsorship & Vendor Options

### Platinum \$2,500

- Double Vendor booth space (10 x 20' space)
- No registration charge for up to 2 vendor staffers
- 2 large banners (exceeds 3' in height/width) hung in riding arena
- Full-page advertisement in event program (inside front or back cover) — first come, first choice
- Full-page advertisement in 12 issues of the *eQuester*, WDCTA's monthly newsletter
- Banner ad on WDCTA website for 1 year
- Sponsorship recognition in program listing
- Pre- and post-event publicity in WDCTA newsletter, website and Facebook pages

### Gold \$1,500

- Single Vendor booth space (10 x 10' space)
- No registration charge for up to 2 vendor staffers
- 1 large banner (exceeds 3' in height/width) hung in riding arena
- Half-page advertisement in event program
- Half-page advertisement in 12 issues of the *eQuester*, WDCTA's monthly newsletter
- Banner ad on WDCTA website for 1 year
- Sponsorship recognition in program listing
- Pre- and post-event publicity in WDCTA newsletter, website and Facebook pages

### Silver \$1,000

- Single Vendor booth space (10 x 10' space)
- No registration charge for up to 2 vendor staffers
- 1 large banner (exceeds 3' in height/width) hung in riding arena
- Quarter-page advertisement in event program (inside front or back cover)— first come, first choice
- Quarter-page advertisement in 12 issues of the *eQuester*, WDCTA's monthly newsletter
- Banner ad on WDCTA website for 1 year
- Sponsorship recognition in program listing
- Pre- and post-event publicity in WDCTA newsletter, website and Facebook pages

### Bronze \$500

- 1 small banner (less than 3' in height/width) hung in riding arena
- No registration charge for one attendee, both days
- Business card advertisement in 12 issues of the *eQuester*, WDCTA's monthly newsletter
- Sponsorship recognition in program listing
- Pre- and post-event publicity in WDCTA newsletter, website and Facebook pages

### Vendor Booth Only

- Single booth space (10 x 10'): \$250
- Double booth space (10 x 20'): \$500
- No registration charge for up to 2 vendor staffers

### Business Card Only \$100

- Business card ad in event program

# LAURA GRAVES SPONSORSHIP/VENDOR FORM

## ALLIANT ENERGY CENTER - NEW HOLLAND PAVILION I

### Yes! We want to participate:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Platinum — \$2,500      \_\_\_\_\_ *Yes, I would like the booth included with my sponsorship.*
- \_\_\_\_\_ Gold — \$1,500      \_\_\_\_\_ *Yes, I would like the booth included with my sponsorship.*
- \_\_\_\_\_ Silver — \$1,000      \_\_\_\_\_ *Yes, I would like the booth included with my sponsorship.*
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bronze — \$500
- \_\_\_\_\_ Single Vendor Booth — \$250
- \_\_\_\_\_ Double Vendor Booth — \$500
- \_\_\_\_\_ Additional Booth Space: \$500 initial booth space, plus \$100 for every 10 feet of additional space. Total number of 10' spaces (*including* \$500 initial space): \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Business Card — \$100
- \_\_\_\_\_ Donation (Amount): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Free 3 MG Wi-Fi  
is available at the  
Alliant Energy Center**

**\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed**

### Additional Info:

Please check all that apply:

- I need an electric hook-up for my booth.
- I need table(s) with my booth. (Two 8' tables come with double booth; one table with single.)
- I need chairs with my booth. (Four chairs come with double booth; two chairs with single.)
- Please provide me with updates on the symposium. My email is listed below.

### Please complete the following:

Company \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Website \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Deadline for sponsorship or booth reservations: April 1, 2023

*Note: The sooner we receive your commitment, the sooner we can begin advertising you as a sponsor.*

Please send the following to [newsletter@wdcta.org](mailto:newsletter@wdcta.org) by April 1:

- **Platinum, Gold and Silver sponsorships:** Your full-, half- or quarter-page ads and logo (PDF or JPEG)
- **Bronze sponsorships:** Your logo
- **Business card sponsorship:** Your business card

Banners should be mailed to [Mary Hanneman](#) by **May 1** at the address below.

For questions, contact [Mary Hanneman](#) at [vendors@wdcta.org](mailto:vendors@wdcta.org), or to reserve a sponsorship or booth, return this form with a check made out to **WDCTA-Southwest Chapter**:


**Mary Hanneman, N8160 Smith Road, Brooklyn, WI 53521**

**Phone: (608) 712-0975**

*Thank You for Your Support*

**MEGAN MCISAAC**  
USDF Certified Instructor

IMPORT AND DOMESTIC  
SALE HORSES SUITABLE FOR  
AA AND YOUNG RIDERS.



Helping dreams become reality when  
finding your next Dressage partner.

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608.445.8531 Megan  
**Lindinhof**  
English System Dressage  
MADISON, WI

**Andrea Schten**  
**Tailwind Farm**

*Training, lessons and boarding*

Enjoy training with a USDF Gold, Silver and Bronze medalist at a 30-acre farm with trails and a short distance from the Kettle Moraine trail system. Indoor arena, 2 outdoors, heated barn and tack room, pastures, and more!

**Contact Andrea at:**

(262) 470-4557

[aschten2000@yahoo.com](mailto:aschten2000@yahoo.com)

*Support  
WDCTA  
Business  
Members!*

# Calendar of Events

## WDCTA Events

**May 20-21, 2023**

Laura Graves Symposium  
Sponsored by the WDCTA  
Southwest Chapter  
Location: Alliant Energy Center

## Other Events

**Nov. 10-13**

US Dressage Finals  
Kentucky Horse Park  
Lexington, KY

# Member Listings

## INSTRUCTORS

### **Tracey Dikkers**

**W4835 Aspen Court**

**Wild Rose, WI 54984**

**(608) 220-2628**

USEF/USDF Silver and Bronze medalist on self-trained horses, trained through FEI. 25+ years of experience training and instructing. Will teach beginners to FEI. Will travel.

### **Jackie Luebke-Puetz**

**15034 Co. Rd. X**

**Kiel, WI 53042-9706**

**[cvestor@aol.com](mailto:cvestor@aol.com)**

**(920) 693-3367**

Will teach through 2nd level, earned USDF Bronze medal, trained through 4th Level. Served in the past on USDF education committee, USEF steward. Will travel.

### **Megan McIsaac**

**Lindinhof Equine Sports Zentrum**

**4246 Schneider Drive**

**Oregon, WI 53575**

**[lindhofllc@gmail.com](mailto:lindhofllc@gmail.com)**

**(608) 445-8531**

FEI trainer, USDF-certified instructor thru 4th Level, 2014 national champion with Kingsley. USDF Gold, Silver, Bronze medalist, all USDF bars. Competed four horses at GP. Competed successfully at Dressage at Devon and West Coast Festival. Year-end USDF, USEF, WDCTA awards. 15+ years teaching experience. Students competed through GP, earned rider awards and medals. Travel for lessons and clinics.

### **Andrea Schten**

**W350S6890 Ulrickson Road**

**Eagle, WI 53119**

**(262) 470-4557**

**[aschten@hotmail.com](mailto:aschten@hotmail.com)**

**[www.andreaschten.com](http://www.andreaschten.com)**

USDF Bronze, Silver and Gold medalist, regional championships: Training through Grand Prix on self-trained horses. Multiple students have earned Bronze and Silver medals. Schoolmasters available. Trailering in for lessons welcome. Available for clinics; travel for lessons.

### **Kate Van Sicklen**

**110 Merrill Crest Drive**

**Madison, WI 53705**

**[katherinevansicklen@gmail.com](mailto:katherinevansicklen@gmail.com)**

**(608) 669-0148**

40+ years of teaching experience. British Horse Society instructor certification. USDF "L" graduate with distinction. USDF Associate Certified Instructor. USDF Silver Medal. Shown through Prix St. George. Will teach through 4th Level. Specialize in teaching horses and riders correct basics. Will travel.

# Member Listings

## STABLES

**Grand Prix Farm**  
**Jackie Luebke-Puetz**  
15034 Co. Rd. X  
Kiel, WI 53042-9706  
[cvestor@aol.com](mailto:cvestor@aol.com)  
(920) 693-3367

Indoor arena w/ mirrors, heated barn and bathroom, H/C wash stall, screened facility, all turnout in PVC fencing—no bugs! Limited openings for boarders. Trails. Lessons available. No drama queens.

### **Lindinhof Equine Sports Zentrum**

**Megan McIsaac**  
4246 Schneider Drive  
Oregon, WI 53575  
[lindinhofllc@gmail.com](mailto:lindinhofllc@gmail.com)  
(608) 445-8531

80x200' heated indoor w/ mirrors. New stalls and client tack room w/ individual lockers. Individual and group turnout. Wash stall. Solarium. Theraplate. Numerous trails. Individual training programs. Lessons and leasing options on FEI school horses, month training for horses and riders. FEI trainer on site.

### **Tailwind Farm**

**Andrea Schten**  
W350S6890 Ulrickson Road  
Eagle, WI 53119  
(262) 470-4557  
[aschten@hotmail.com](mailto:aschten@hotmail.com)  
[www.andreaschten.com](http://www.andreaschten.com)

Heated barn and tack room, dry lots and large pastures. H/C wash stall, 10 x 12' stalls, Theraplate, indoor and outdoor arenas.

## BREEDERS

**Jackie Luebke-Puetz**  
15034 Co. Rd. X  
Kiel, WI 53042-9706  
[cvestor@aol.com](mailto:cvestor@aol.com)  
(920) 693-3367

Standing Section B Welsh stallion, Too Cute to Shoot, bay, 13.2 h, cuter than a bug's ear and several times qualified for USDF breeding championships. In 2018, was third in halter for Welsh Association.

**Tracey Dikkers - USEF/USDF "r" Judge**  
W4835 Aspen Court  
Wild Rose, WI 54984  
(608) 220-2628

USDF Silver & Bronze medals. USDF/USEF licensed dressage "r" judge. Available to judge USEF/USDF dressage shows, clinics and lessons.

### **Lindinhof Equine Sports Zentrum**

4246 Schneider Drive  
Oregon, WI 53575  
[lindinhofllc@gmail.com](mailto:lindinhofllc@gmail.com)  
(608) 445-8531  
[www.lindinhof.com](http://www.lindinhof.com)

Importing top quality dressage horses from Europe. Contact us to find your next dressage star.

**Caryn Vesperman - USEF/USDF "r" Judge**  
W1619 King Road  
Brooklyn, WI 53521  
[touchstonefarm@gmail.com](mailto:touchstonefarm@gmail.com)  
(608) 455-2208

USDF Gold, Silver and Bronze medalist. Shown through Grand Prix. Available for USEF/USDF-recognized dressage and eventing shows and schooling shows.

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