



Whatcom County Dressage and Eventing Association

Next General Meeting

The Board meets regularly and you're invited!

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, October 11th

Dinner at 6:30, Meeting at 7:00

Round Table Pizza
Clubhouse 1145 E Sunset Dr, Unit 135, Bellingham

Who is WCDEA?

This dressage and eventing (& working equitation) club is an all-volunteer group of local horse enthusiasts committed to furthering our knowledge of our disciplines and providing equestrian-related educational and competitive opportunities in the local area.

[FaceBook](#) [Website](#)

President's Corner

And just like that summer went out with a splash. It is nice to have the rain come and get things green again. Our final clinic was full and bit damp but still tons of fun! Katie Stearns is a fantastic clinician who share tons of fun experiences she has had competing and gives lots of show ring tips. We had 2 youngsters come do the clinic in-hand. It is great to watch them touching and exploring the obstacles. Some like to ring the bell themselves! Kudos to Nicol Hinde who showed patience and grit for HOURS in the rain with her sometimes opinionated young red headed mare. The mare vacillated between doing amazing kite impersonations and then being smart and well-behaved.

The days are getting shorter, our horses' hair is getting longer, it is getting time to tuck in and get ready for winter. Hoping to see many next month at our general meeting. Anyone get a new horse, achieve new goals, have an amazing experience?! Bring those tales along to share!

Viki Schimke



Sunset Farm Park



Do you know that Whatcom County has an extensive horse park? It's an all-volunteer effort provided by Friends of Sunset Farm.

- All-weather outdoor arena
- Wooded trails
- Water element and bank jump (seasonal)
- Seasonal cross-country course with obstacles from Grasshopper to Training Level

*The park is at
7981 Blaine Road, Blaine, 98230*

The Friends of Sunset Farm, a non-profit organization, was formed for the purpose of providing assistance to the Whatcom County Parks and Recreation Department in order to support, maintain and fundraise for the Whatcom County public equestrian park known as "Sunset Farm Park."

WCDEA hosts regular clinics and schooling shows at the Park. Keep an eye on the Park's FaceBook page and Website for real-time updates and happenings!

WE NEED YOU!



Calling All Volunteers!

WCDEA is in need of new board members. The current board's terms are over and the club needs 4 good people to step in and run with it.

Activities include planning and organizing clinics, schooling shows and various other educational opportunities. Other duties include creating and sending out a regular newsletter, maintaining the membership list, and managing the finances, updating the website. The board meets every month or two and depends solely on volunteers. Without you there is no club!

If you're willing to serve a 1-year term please contact Viki Schimke with questions. vikischimke@yahoo.com (360) 420-6945



Salish Schooling Show Series & Working Equitation Clinics

Over the summer we were able to host 3 working equitation clinics and two dressage/working eq schooling shows at Sunset Farm Park. Thank you to our clinicians Kim Roe and Katie Stearns who taught riders beginning through experienced how to ride more correct obstacles and earn better scores. And thank you to our judges Deirdra Dong, Birthe Schumann, Kim Roe and Kyra Gautesen.

Congratulations to our high point winners: Deirdra Dong and Drake at the Intro Level, Haley Dansen and Diego at Novice and Sharlet Jones and Lunabelle at Intermediate!

Our Sportsmanship Awards, sponsored by Nicol Hind Dressage were selected for each show. The June **Sportsmanship Award** winner is Becky Matthews for stepping up to help a new rider, from calling her test to and then again stepping in to help that rider during her EoH phase. Becky was competing herself – and all this just a few days after a chemo treatment! Becky, you're amazing and we are so glad to know you!

The July show's **Sportsmanship Award** goes to Katen Van Harmelen whose horse didn't take too kindly to the working equitation bull but she persevered and helped her dubious equine to learn the obstacle with patience and kindness.



WCDEA Finances

Clinics and shows have a lot of costs associated with them: regular insurance, special insurance for the Horse Park, Whatcom County Parks application and fees, clinician fees and gas allowance, and Friends of Sunset Farm fee of \$728 total. If you participated in the clinics this year, you got a good deal as a member!

The May Cavaletti Clinic with Kim Roe was offered at \$40 for members and our cost per rider was \$54.00.

The May Saddle Fitting Clinic with Hannah Knaebel cost the club \$350.00 and it was free for members to attend.

For the July 15th WE Clinic with Kim Roe we offered members an early bird rate of \$55 which increased to \$65 10 days before the clinic. Our cost per rider was \$92.08.

The August 26th WE Clinic with Katie Stearns we offered an early bird rate for members was \$55 which increased to \$75 after a couple weeks. Our cost per rider was \$83.33.

The last WE Clinic on September 23rd with Katie Stearns had an early bird rate of \$75 that increased to \$85. Our cost per rider was \$88.67.

The two shows had modest profits of \$178 and \$698 which helped offset the clinic costs.

As part of this year's membership benefits we were able to sponsor riders in clinics/ educational opportunities of their choice at \$50/each. Three of our members took us up on that offer.

There is one thing that we'd like to point out and ask you to please be considerate of — the members-only vs. non-members pricing. We've had a handful of people enter our clinics and shows using the member rates, where it's clearly spelled out that one needs to have been a "*paid in full member prior to 1 June of this year*" in order to register with member rates. Unfortunately a number of people didn't get their memberships in by the deadline (or at all) but chose to pay the member rates anyway. This hurts the club. Please don't be that person next year....



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