

The Hope 4 Hooves Silver State Dispatch

EXTRA-EXTRA? READ ALL ABOUT IT!

Trainer/Coaches Corner

- "Whether you are a fierce competitor chasing victory, a trail warrior conquering untamed paths, or an arena enthusiast living for that perfect ride – you already have everything you need to reach your greatest goals: Your loyal horse, your trusted saddle and equipment, and the wisdom of a coach, trainer, or steadfast saddle pal. Now, all that's left is to make the bold commitment...and fully embrace the beautiful, unforgettable journey." -**Ann Marie Avansino**
- "Ride the horse you have today." - **Annette Spinette-Duncan**
- "One of the exercises that I see incredible value in is lateral flexion. This leads to softness in all movements." - **Garth Garner**
- "Consistency, passion, and purpose are the foundation of good horsemanship. Show up consistently, train with intention, and never lose sight of why you love working with horses. The small steps taken every day are what lead to lasting success." -**Lindy Christensen**
- "The smallest step taken in relaxation is worth more than a giant step taken in tension." -**Callie Klein**
- "I think people should develop a relationship with their horse. Such a relationship that they can work together, so that cues seem invisible and riding turns into a partnership." -**Sharla Wilson**
- "Kindness and patience need to accompany every rider into the saddle. Shorter, relaxed, positive rides will always be more beneficial than drilling and exhausting your horse." - **Angela Mountain**
- "I believe that it takes true deep gritted dedication to own a horse, consistency is a MUST to achieve your visions! Good horses are trained. Great horses are developed." -**Dania Spor**
- "One of the most powerful and underrated skills of good horsemanship is presence. When we learn to quiet our busy minds and be in the moment, we open the possibilities for connection on multiple levels." - **Carolyn Heaton**
- "I see so many riders lose easy points on their entry halt. If you do not prepare your horse for the halt, they will not stop balanced or square. Also, an unbalanced and unsquared halt will lead to an unbalanced and delayed trot off so your second score will also suffer. Practice balanced, square halts at various parts of the court and make sure you're helping your horse with your aides. Never "rush" your halt in fear that your horse may move. A good judge will not be fooled. Show off that your halt is truly immobile and if your horse does move, just do your best to correct it and move on the judge will appreciate your effort." - **Tonya Shuey-Skinner**

Upcoming Events

July 15-19 The Morgan Medallion Classic South Point Arena-Equestrian Center USEF, USDF, WDAA, ASHBA, Approved
Online entries are available at www.horshowsonline.com

September 15-19 WDAA World Championship Show LAZY E ARENA GUTHRIE, OK USEF, WDAA, Approved show
<https://www.wdaaworldshow.org/>

October 16-17 H4H/SSWD Dr. Jodi Larsen Memorial USEF Lite Show
Horseman's Park
5800 East Flamingo Rd.
Las Vegas, NV
WDAA, CAWDA, AQHA, approved
Judge Paula Briney

October 18 H4H/SSWD "AN INTRODUCTION TO WORKING EQUITATION OBSTACLES!"
Judge/Clinician Kathleen Elliot- number of rider slots available 15
Horseman's Park
5800 East Flamingo Rd.
Las Vegas, NV

November 13-15 H4H/SSWD Col. Richard I Porter Memorial USEF Lite Show
Horseman's Park
5800 East Flamingo Rd.
Las Vegas, NV
WDAA, CAWDA, AQHA, approved
Judges Friday- Carolyn Lindholm Saturday/Sunday-Mary Mahler

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Horse and Rider Roundup

Giddy-up meet Lin Hokana & his wonder steed Gracie!

I've always wondered what the show registration staff thought when I attended my first #4H/SSWD show. Paperwork said "Lin" but some old guy showed up when they probably were expecting another lady; the usual dressage rider. Everyone was very welcoming, never-the-less, and made the inaugural experience a total pleasure.

My wife introduced me to the horse world several decades ago. I became hooked. We did everything with Peruvian Pasos, from training green horses, showing, a little breeding and a lot of trail riding.

At one point we decided to change breeds. We liked gaited horses and did extensive searching and researching. We ended up with two gaited Morgan mares, a rare subset within the breed. Lilly was the older of the two, about 12 as I recall. The other, Tinkerbelle, was 5. One day my wife Sue saw Lilly's one and only foal for sale on the Internet. We loved Lilly so we had to check out her offspring, who was also 5 years old. Lilly had been bred to a gaited Morgan stud so everyone expected the foal to also be gaited. We thought we saw gait in her video; therefore, a deal was made. This palomino mare had some training but was pretty inexperienced. Her registered name is Gold Nugget Amber, quite a mouthful. She needed a barn name. To our surprise she did not gait but had a very graceful trot, hence the barn name Gracie. Now it was Sue and me and three horses. It was a hard decision but we figured one of them had to go. We decided to keep the two that were the same age. Lilly went to an older lady who rode, just a little, every day.

Tinkerbelle was a flashy, petite chestnut with flaxen mane and tail. People would see her and say, "Oh she's so cute." I did some western pleasure showing with her and got the local county show circuit to add gaited horse classes to the show list. We ended up selling her and my time shifted to working with Gracie. Gracie did not perform well in rail classes; she is a hotter horse and didn't fit in with the quieter Quarter horse-type exhibitors. Not knowing what to do with her, we took her to a trusted Morgan trainer, who rode her a little bit and said her would be good at dressage.

Where we lived in Northern California, Cowboy Dressage ("CD") was being developed and promoted. I knew Eitan, the promoter and mastermind behind CD, from him also being a Morgan horse owner and member of the local Morgan association. I also found a local trainer who was promoting CD, which started Gracie and me on the path of this new adventure. Since Western Dressage shows were also held locally, we rode in both of these disciplines.

Life changes started unfolding. Retirement was soon approaching, plans were made to move out of CA, our home of 30+ years needed to be ready to sell, then the move to Southern Utah (the winner of the nationwide search for horse property) and finally settling in to a home that needed finishing. Through that

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process, Gracie had many years off from riding. St. George area, where we live, has a lot of trails and I have been an active member of Back Country Horsemen of Utah – Southwest Chapter. It's a service organization whose main mission is helping preserve and improve trails on public lands. We are an active organization.

Sue struck an interest in getting back to riding. She started taking a lesson with various trainers, looking for "the right one." I would go along to watch and help evaluate. After trying several we met Gail Veley, someone with the experience and training style that we found compatible for Sue. She had decades of dressage and eventing background, including using Thoroughbreds off-the-track. I wasn't looking for a trainer but I figured this was someone who can help me with Gracie doing something we previously enjoyed besides just trail riding.

Fast forward a year or two and here we are, standing in the registration office at our first H4H/SSWD western dressage show. Since then, my girlfriend Gracie and I have been having a grand time learning new skills and improving our test scores. Gracie is now 23 and going strong and I've been retired for 8 years. Those ladies in the show office probably now know me as that old guy, with an old horse and a couple of old saddles who just likes to go dancing with his horse.

The people I've met in our little Western Dressage world have been some of the nicest people you would ever want to know. I'm so thankful to know each and every one of you.- Lin & Gracie



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HOPE 4 HOOVES SLIVER STATE WESTERN DRESSAGE 2026 LIVE SHOW STANDINGS				
JUNIOR THERAPEUTIC RIDER DIVISION (LEADLINE)	HORSE	2026 SHOW SERIES POINT TOTAL	SHOW COUNT + # Q (3)	# OF SCORES COUNT + Q
JOSEPHINE PODESTO	CARBONERO MAC	217.631	1 not yet Q	3 not yet Q
JUNIOR RIDER DIVISION	HORSE	2026 SHOW SERIES POINT TOTAL	SHOW COUNT + # Q (3)	# OF SCORES COUNT + Q
SOPHIE MCCAULEY	AMERICAN HUSTLE	331.289	2 not yet Q	5+ TESTS
SHELBY HAGENBEEK	HOT SHOT ASUDD	330.500	3 Q	5+ TESTS
JOCELYN BRATTAIN	HAITIANO YM	326.324	3 Q	5+ TESTS
JOCELYN BRATTAIN	TDR BRILLIANT IN BRASS	316.854	3 Q	5+ TESTS
ANGELINA RYBICKI	GYPSY	262.826	1 not yet Q	4 not yet Q
MEGAN FREED	MIDNIGHT RUCKUS	243.596	1 not yet Q	4 not yet Q
MEGAN FREED	LENGUAJE XVI	130.750	1 not yet Q	2 not yet Q
MEGAN FREED	AMERICAN HUSTLE	118.500	1 not yet Q	2 not yet Q
MEGAN FREED	FIONA	108.750	1 not yet Q	2 not yet Q

HOPE 4 HOOVES SLIVER STATE WESTERN DRESSAGE 2026 LIVE SHOW STANDINGS				
AMATEUR RIDER DIVISION	HORSE	2026 SHOW SERIES POINT TOTAL	SHOW COUNT + # Q (3)	# OF SCORES COUNT + Q
SHARON FIATO	POPPY JOSE	361.497	3 Q	5+ TESTS
VALERIE PORTER	LITTLE DOC SAN PEPPY	355.250	3 Q	5+ TESTS
LIN HOKANA	GOLD NUGGET AMBER	353.973	3 Q	5+ TESTS
SAVANNAH STURM	STOLEN MELODY	353.230	2 not yet Q	5+ TESTS
PATRICIA KELLERHOUS	ANGEL	337.253	3 Q	5+ TESTS
STEPHANIE MARKOVICH	FOREVER SHAMELESS	332.750	3 Q	5+ TESTS
LISA GABALDON	KROS MY PEACH	331.584	3 Q	5+ TESTS
KATHY MALDONADO	A PAINTED DRAGON	328.170	3 Q	5+ TESTS
STEPHANIE MARKOVICH	QHF DOC LIGHTNBARYSZE	323.750	3 Q	5+ TESTS
HEIDI BROWN	RAYA	318.822	2 not yet Q	5+ TESTS
AGIGAIL SQUIER	SKIPS GARNETT	265.565	1 not yet Q	4 not yet Q
JACQUELINE MATHEW	SOL RM	265.150	1 not yet Q	4 not yet Q
EDIE HURTENSTEIN	VILAYN	260.530	1 not yet Q	4 not yet Q
HEIDI BROWN	ARROW STRIKES THE HEAR	251.753	1 not yet Q	4 not yet Q
LLOYD LAURA	PRIMVERA DEL SUR	126.881	1 not yet Q	4 not yet Q
TERRI STURM	FARAGAMO GCH	112.963	1 not yet Q	2 not yet Q

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OPEN RIDER DIVISION	HORSE	2026 SHOW SERIES POINT TOTAL	SHOW COUNT # Q (3)	# OF SCORES COUNT + Q
CAROLYN HEATON	REBEL MERRY	359.259	2 not yet Q	5+ TESTS
DANIA SPOR	KM INVESTED IN BO	355.576	1 not yet Q	5+ TESTS
ANN MARIE AVANSINO	LEGENDS GUN SMOKE	354.451	1 not yet Q	5+ TESTS
ANNETTE SPINETTI	CARBONERO MAC	348.234	3 Q	5+ TESTS
AMM	RONALDO UP	339.623	3 Q	5+ TESTS
ANNETTE SPINETTI	LINCOLN	339.600	3 Q	5+ TESTS
TONYA SKINNER	CHEX MARCS THE SPOT	338.527	3 Q	5+ TESTS
CAROLYN HEATON	KINGS TUFFMAN	338.092	2 not yet Q	5+ TESTS
LINDY CHRISTENSEN	LENGUAJE XVI	335.507	3 Q	5+ TESTS
TONYA SKINNER	FRIEND DO VOUGA	334.866	3 Q	5+ TESTS
DANIA SPOR	DIVA BV	327.645	2 not yet Q	5+ TESTS
ANNETTE SPINETTI	BESAME MUCHO DE MENDOZA	277.726	1 not yet Q	4 not yet Q
AMINA BELNAP	CAPITOL ENZO	216.741	1 not yet Q	4 not yet Q
ANGELA MOUNTAIN	STOLEN FANTASY	191.800	1 not yet Q	3 not yet Q
LINDY CHRISTENSEN	AMERICAN HUSTLE	136.708	2 not yet Q	2 not yet Q
ANNETTE SPINETTI	OLE' DE MENDOZA	127.500	1 not yet Q	2 not yet Q



AMERICAN
QUARTER
HORSE
ASSOCIATION
WESTERN DRESSAGE

