



The Dressage  
Foundation

News 

Building U.S. Dressage Through Your Generosity

2023 EDITION



## Carol Lavell's Lasting Legacy

Carol Lavell  
and Gifted

Photo credit: Bob Langrish



The Dressage Foundation

News ▶

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# Message From TDF President & CEO, Beth Baumert



Olympian Kyra Kyrklund was recently in New England where she was the clinician at the NEDA Fall Symposium. She was very pleased about the state of the sport after the recent incredible performances at the European Championships.

But, I asked, what about the United States? As we tiptoe toward Paris, there's uncertainty in the air. She said, "You have good trainers and good horses, but you need much, much more depth." She is right and this is the TDF challenge.

Think of the density of world famous trainers in England where she has lived for decades—or in Germany. It would be as if Adrienne Lyle, Steffen Peters, Laura Graves, Ali Brock, Robert Dover, Christine Traurig, Charlotte Bredahl, Debbie McDonald, Guenter Seidel, Sabine Schut-Kery and George Williams all lived in New England. (Sorry for those I missed, but it had to end somewhere.) And it would be as if there were local riding clubs for the youth and adult amateurs everywhere, so almost anyone could learn to ride well without owning a horse. And what if the breeders were also everywhere. That kind of depth.

Recently your Dressage Foundation board gathered in Connecticut over three days to work on that very challenge. You can find board member names on this page (left) and pictures on page 19. What a group! They, and the TDF staff, hail from

New England, California, Minnesota, Florida, Virginia, Michigan, Colorado and of course Nebraska, TDF's home base. Twice a year, we get together in person and brainstorm ways of advancing the sport. We're very good planners, but nothing happens without donors. Nothing at all.

Within these pages, notice how donors impact our world of sport. You can see that Carol Lavell (page 3-5) moved mountains. More recently, notice that Margaret Duprey (page 7) is supporting young riders in a big way. Pam Jones (page 14) has expanded the Debbie McDonald Fund, and Janet Foy (page 15) has helped by being a TDF donor for 20 consecutive years! The estate of Cynthia Aspden (page 17) is still helping the development of youth and young adults. These donors and those of you at home are the stars of the show. TDF is donor-driven. That is, TDF funds whatever the donors want funded.

It reminds me of Margaret Mead who said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world: Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." Thank you for being a thoughtful, committed TDF citizen! Let's change our world!

Cheers,

Beth Baumert





# Carol Lavell's Lasting Legacy

When Carol Lavell passed away on March 27, 2023, dressage-related social media and news sites were immediately flooded with stories of Carol, photos of her with Gifted, and memories shared from those who loved her and those whom she inspired. What Carol did for U.S. dressage on the biggest stages in the world was unequivocal. However, what she did for the sport behind the scenes has bolstered her legacy to unmatched heights—Carol made a lasting impact on dressage in our country that will carry on for generations.

For over two decades, Carol and her family helped countless riders through their financial support of The Dressage Foundation's grants. When the \$25,000 Carol Lavell Advanced Dressage Prize was first created, she said, "I hope this Prize will smooth the bumps for deserving riders and horses on the road to their dreams." Then she shared a story about the work, sacrifices, and struggles she overcame to reach the top of the dressage world, highlighting those who helped her along the way.

"For most, obtaining financial support becomes the ultimate hurdle," said Carol. "Some find that this goal can only be achieved by competitive success. Yet, success cannot be without failure along the way: Gifted was last in his first European Grand Prix. I discovered that 'acceptance' was not my strong suit.

"When an international trainer announced at dinner, 'You know, Carol, your horse will never win a medal with you riding,' I got motivation! Being last was past, but it would take more time, more coaching, training, and more dollars.

"The road to the top is very difficult: some ways are bumpier than others, some are more crooked, and some are dead ends. My Olympic dream came true only because my road was



Carol and Tom Lavell

paved with many generous supporters who gave not only dollars, but also tack, equipment, and even discounted transportation."

Carol's focus on helping others wasn't limited to those with Olympic dreams. Through her support of numerous Grant Funds at The Dressage Foundation—including the Carol Lavell Advanced Dressage Prize, the Gifted Memorial Fund for Adult Amateurs, the Major Lindgren Grants for Instructors, the Michael Poulin Dressage Fund, the Edgar Hotz Judges Fund, the Patsy Albers Award, and the Jack Fritz Grants for Young Professionals—she helped thousands of amateurs, youth, young professionals, judges, instructors, and so many more.

May we all aspire to reach our dreams and help to pave the road for others along the way.

# Carol Lavell's Lasting Legacy *(continued)*



Emily Miles and Daily Show

Photo credit: John Borys Photography

## Paving the Road to Grand Prix

When Emily Miles (KS) first learned that she was a recipient of the \$25,000 Carol Lavell Advanced Dressage Prize in 2022, she immediately knew that the Prize would have an immense impact for her and Daily Show, as they continued their Grand Prix journey. Emily shared, “As Carol said, this Prize will help smooth some bumps along the road. I have big dreams and cannot thank TDF and Carol enough!”

Emily's road took her and Daily Show to train and compete in Ocala, Wellington, and Chicago as they gained experience at the Developing Grand Prix Level. She said, “It was on our way back from Wellington when I heard of Carol's passing. I hope that we made her proud and hope we can give back in the same spirit as she exemplified.”

“I want to continue to spread the knowledge, experience, and lessons I learned during my training time. I think the idea of ‘a rising tide raises all boats’ is the cornerstone of The Dressage Foundation, and I couldn't agree more. I hope in this way we can not only benefit from Carol Lavell as individuals, but let it carry on to as many people as possible!”

## Giving Opportunities to Amateurs

Because of the generous support of Carol Lavell and her family for the past 20 years, hundreds of adult amateurs from across the country have been able to take a step away from their busy lives to expand their dressage education.

“The opportunity for focused, immersive study has been a priceless experience that has expanded the connection to my horse and to my knowledge of this beautiful and historic sport,” said 2022 Gifted Fund grant recipient,

*(continued)*



Lin Nelson-Mayson

Photo credit: Huppert Photography



## Carol Lavell's Lasting Legacy *(continued)*

Lin Nelson-Mayson (MN). "I encourage all adult amateurs interested in expanding their growth in dressage to apply for this unique opportunity. The Gifted Memorial Fund for Adult Amateurs is a generous gift to those of us who aspire to improve our riding and deepen the powerful connection we have with our horses."

Now, 10 years later, Reese and her students are still reaping the benefits of the time she spent continuing her own education as an instructor. She recently shared, "I am so thankful to TDF, Carol Lavell, and the Major Lindgren Instructor Grant. In the last 10 years, I've had the honor to coach many students in dressage, eventing, and show jumping, helping each rider achieve their goals, including rider medals and regional and national championships. I've continued to work on my own education by finishing the USDF FEI Instructor/Trainer Certification, along with many more clinics and symposiums. Financial support is a critical part of making those dreams achievable. I'm so grateful for the opportunities the Major Lindgren Instructor Grant provided."

Carol Lavell's support of U.S. dressage was deep and wide. TDF is honored to carry on her legacy of generosity, which will help the U.S. dressage community for generations to come. 🐾



Reese Koffler-Stanfield with student Laura Crowl and Hana

### **Educating the Instructors**

When Reese Koffler-Stanfield (KY) applied for a \$6,000 Major Anders Lindgren Instructor Grant in 2013, she said, "Although I have the privilege of helping my clients and students achieve their goals, my personal riding career and development has faced challenges due to shortage of time and budgetary limitations." The gift of a Major Lindgren Grant changed that.

With the grant, funded by Carol Lavell and her family, Reese was able to train for a concentrated time in Florida with Conrad Shumacher and Kathy Connelly.

On December 2nd, at the United States Dressage Federation's Annual Salute Gala, The Dressage Foundation's Board and staff will have the immense honor of presenting "The Piaffe: Carol Lavell and Gifted" to the USDF Hall of Fame on behalf of Carol Lavell's family.



# The Trip of a Lifetime



2023 Young Rider Dream Program Participants and Chaperones with Adrienne Lyle and Betsy Juliano

*By the 2023 Young Rider Dream Program Participants:  
Ava Dingley (CA), Emily Glover (WA), Anna Graves (WA),  
Emma McKeighen (WA), Jillian Sheppard (MA)*

The January 2023 Young Rider Dream Program trip to Wellington, Florida, was packed full of information, theory, techniques, and advice that all of us will remember and implement for the rest of our lives.

One of the week's recurring themes was the importance of slowing things down in training—ensuring the horses aren't being overworked, keeping the training process efficient, and maximizing the horses' longevity. We were also reminded that even top riders have their fair share of struggles. Patience and tactful riding are essential regardless of what stage you're at in the training process.

From lessons about dressage training to advice about life, here are some of our favorite tips:

- Debbie McDonald – Know your horse inside and out. Inspect them every day and know when they're even the slightest bit off. You're

their voice, so it's your responsibility to advocate for them.

- Adrienne Lyle – You must always think of how you can set the horse up for success.
- Betsy Juliano – Care for the horse and horsemanship are important qualities that sponsors look for in riders.
- Dr. Hilary Clayton – Be prepared to go slowly even if the horse is talented. Just because they can doesn't mean they should.
- Ali Brock – Be persistent and continue pursuing your goals. If the opportunity isn't available now, it doesn't mean it won't be in six months.
- Charlotte Bredahl – Come to shows with a positive, learning attitude. Choose to uplift the people around you. It doesn't go unnoticed.
- Katie Foster – There is so much you can do in the horse world. You will find your niche if you take new opportunities when they arise.
- Jennifer Williams – If you pour energy into one aspect of your life, it doesn't mean that

*(continued)*



# The Trip of a Lifetime

*(continued)*



Learning from JJ Tate

you're taking away from another. It doesn't have to be one or the other. Make time for the things that are important to you.

- Bill McMullin and Bill Warren – Look for new opportunities and experiences when you are a young professional. Don't limit yourself to the things that are comfortable.

We thank TDF, Margaret Duprey, and many other generous donors for supporting such an incredible program. This experience was simply amazing, and we are all dedicated to working towards the standard of riding and horse care that we witnessed in Wellington.



With Bill Warren and Bill McMullin at Global Dressage Festival

# Keep the Dreams Alive

Since 2000, 75 top young riders have been given the opportunity of a lifetime—to travel to Europe or Wellington for a high-level introduction to international dressage. These Young Rider Dream Program participants have come home more committed to the sport than ever before.

MARGARET DUPREY & CHERRY KNOLL FARM'S

**\$100,000**  
Matching Gift Challenge

To ensure that this program will

Young Rider **D**ream Program

continue to give this once-in-a-lifetime learning opportunity to the future leaders of our sport, Margaret Duprey and her Cherry Knoll Farm have offered a \$100,000 matching grant for our Young Rider Dream Program!

So far over \$64,000 has been raised, which Margaret will match dollar-for-dollar. Fundraising will continue and we look forward to reaching the full \$100,000 by the end of this year. Doing so will enable us to make this life-changing program available for years to come.

Invest in the next generation of dressage leaders today, and your gift will be automatically doubled! Give today at [www.dressagefoundation.org/matching-challenge/](http://www.dressagefoundation.org/matching-challenge/) or scan the QR code.

Learn more about the YR Dream Program and donate today!



# The Gift of Time

One of the intangible—but significant—benefits that TDF grant recipients receive is the gift of time. Time to learn. Time to focus. Time to make goals. Time to pursue and renew a passion.

For Megan McIsaac (WI), recipient of TDF's Team Tate Mentorship and Leadership Fund Grant, that "time" meant the opportunity to develop as a trainer, instructor, business owner, and person.

Before leaving Wisconsin to spend three months training in California with Kathleen Raine, Megan said, "I am working on balancing my life between personal time versus professional time, my students' goals versus my own career goals, and simply running a business and developing a 20-acre farm. I feel so fortunate to be able to step away from my business to focus not only on my riding goals and to work with my dressage coach, but to be able to work on the further development of my business and leadership skills."

During her intensive training time, Megan had the chance to put herself first. She discovered the best investment she's ever made—herself!

"My greatest joy is training horses and developing our partnerships. To bring out the best in them motivates me to get up every day and give each horse 120%. However, just because professionals get the pleasure of riding every day, doesn't mean we don't struggle with all the pressures everyone else has."

In addition to training with Kathleen in the dressage arena, Megan shared, "The time spent in California was spent on reflection: what is working internally, what do I need to change within my business, what do I need to change within myself. I was with Kathleen every day, so I asked questions about everything—business, life, competition, ideas, morals, and ethics.

"I did some deep soul searching and made the changes I need to feel proud of my business and I am ready to continue for the next 20 years! Burnout is real, loneliness is real. So are connection, growth, and positive changes!"



Megan McIsaac

Photo credit: John Borys Photography

(continued)



# The Gift of Time

*(continued)*



Having the financial support, therefore the time, to make riding goals a priority is not an opportunity that was lost on adult amateur Deborah McAlexander (TX). As a visually impaired Grade V para-equestrian dressage rider, Deborah has overcome challenges with optimism, hard work, and dedication.

However, she still needed funding to reach her riding goals. Through TDF's Para-Dressage Fund Grant for Blind and Visually Impaired Riders, Deborah was able to dedicate time for 17 lessons with para-dressage coach Kai Handt.

Deborah shared, "This training has helped transform me from being a 'lovely passenger' into a kinder, more effective rider. Because of this ongoing transformation, my horse Noir is happily responding to my improved use of aids and the growing, joyful, unspeakable connection between us. I have received a confirmed classification for competition from the International Blind Sports Federation. My long-term goal is to meet the qualification to represent the United States in future international competitions. Noir and I will chase our dream, catch it, and not look back!" 🐾

# Thanks to you...

*"I am so humbled and grateful to receive TDF's Military Fund Grant. I love to be an example that even with our nomadic lifestyle, it is possible for military service members and spouses to continue their equestrian journey! I am grateful to TDF's donors for the opportunity to ride with Jeremy Steinberg to increase my dressage knowledge and skills, as it would not have been possible without them!"*



Photo credit: Captivation Photography LLC

– Charity Weaver (OK)



Photo credit: Jessica Farren

*"I am honored to be chosen as a recipient of TDF's Shannon Foundation Fund for Judges' Licensing Grant. This grant will go a long way toward easing the financial pressures that are associated with pursuing such a goal. Thank you so much to TDF and its donors for the opportunity that this grant is providing for me to pursue my judge's licensing."*

– Mary Richmond Brown (ID)

# Growing the Grassroots

Just this year, TDF has awarded nearly \$30,000 for educational events in 18 states! These grants have given over 700 riders and auditors of all ages and levels the opportunity to learn more about dressage at an affordable price.



Aloha State DS with Lendon Gray

## Aloha State Dressage Society (HI)

Violet Hopkins Fund Grant  
Youth Clinic with Olympian Lendon Gray

“I really liked all the things they taught us in the lectures. The massage lecture was very informative, and the braiding was amazing too. I liked being able to train with Lendon Gray. That was the best part.” – Youth Rider Participant

## Central Tennessee Dressage Association (TN)

Violet Hopkins Fund Grant  
Adult Amateur Symposium with FEI Trainer Amelia Newcomb

“Amelia quickly pinpointed what each horse/ rider pair needed to work on. She was incredibly



Central TN with Amelia Newcomb

positive and realistic about what the average adult amateur rider can improve in one lesson.”

“The wide variety of horses and riders gave me a lot of insight into what I can do with my own horse.” – Clinic Participants

## Healing Rein Farm/Cayuga Dressage & Combined Training Association (NY)

Lynn Palm Western Dressage Fund Grant  
Clinic with USEF ‘r’ Western Dressage Judge Deb Moynihan

“Thank you for providing me with this opportunity to learn more about Western dressage. I absolutely loved it! The program was awesome—extremely educational and fun. I am joining the group as a result of this program, even though I am four hours away, so I can participate in more programs like this.” – Rider Participant



Cayuga Dressage with Deb Moynihan



# TDF's Grants and Programs – *Building U.S. Dressage Through Your Generosity*

Thanks to your support, the following grants and programs are offered each year.

## **NEW! BREED-SPECIFIC**

- Pure Spanish Horse/P.R.E Grant Fund

## **EDUCATIONAL EVENTS**

- Dancing Horse Fund for Freestyle Events
- Dreitzler International Clinician Fund
- Edgar Hotz Fund for Judges' Education
- Lynn Palm Western Dressage Fund
- Maryal and Charlie Barnett Fund for Instructors
- Michael Poulin Dressage Fund
- Oregon Dressage Society Linda Acheson Fund
- Sally Swift Fund for Centered Riding clinics
- Violet Hopkins Fund for GMO Events

## **FEI/HIGH PERFORMANCE TEAMS**

- \$25,000 Anne Barlow Ramsay Grant for U.S.-Bred Horses
- \$25,000 Carol Lavell Advanced Dressage Prize
- \$25,000 Debbie McDonald Fund
- Patsy Albers Award

## **INSTRUCTORS**

- Amanda Johnson Freestyle Fund
- George Williams Young Professional Fund
- Karen Skvarla Fund for Young Professionals
- Lynn Palm Western Dressage Fund
- Major Lindgren Instructor Education Grants
- Maryal and Charlie Barnett Fund for Instructors
- Region 9 Teaching Excellence Award
- Team Tate Mentorship and Leadership Fund
- Trip Harting Fund for Pony Club Members
- Verne Batchelder Instructor Fund

## **SHOW MANAGEMENT**

- Lloyd Landkamer Show Management Development Fund

## **DRESSAGE TECHNICAL DELEGATES**

- Veronica Holt Dressage Technical Delegate Fund

## **YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS**

- Young Rider Dream Program
- Amanda Johnson Freestyle Fund
- Carolyn Van Cise Fund for Michigan Residents
- Cynthia Aspden Fund for Youth and Young Adults
- Jack Fritz Grants for USDF YR Graduate Program
- Lynn Palm Western Dressage Fund
- Military Grant Fund
- Trip Harting Fund for Pony Club Members and Graduates
- USDF Junior/Young Rider Clinic Series
- USDF Young Rider Graduate Program

## **ADULT AMATEURS**

- Gifted Memorial Fund Grants
- Jane Savoie Fund for Amateurs
- Evie Tumlin Fund Grants for Region 9 Riders
- Lynn Palm Western Dressage Fund
- Military Grant Fund

## **JUDGES**

- Shannon Foundation Fund for Judges' Licensing
- Trip Harting Fund for Pony Club Members and Graduates

## **PARA-EQUESTRIAN**

- Para-Equestrian Dressage Fund
- Para-Equestrian Dressage Fund for Blind and Visually Impaired Riders

## **CENTURY CLUB**

- Recognizing the seniors of our sport





# The Century Club

*Senior dressage riders aren't slowing down and it's going to be a big year for the Century Club!*

As of September 30, 2023:

**88** Teams

have been welcomed into the Century Club



From

**31** states,

**4** Canadian Provinces

States with Most Rides:

California, New York, Pennsylvania

**6** each



Oldest Rider:

**87** years old

#657

Rhoda Kerr (Quebec)



Most Popular Breeds:

- Quarter Horse
- Thoroughbred
- Arabian
- Warmblood



Oldest Horse:

**33** years old

**Gunner**

Team #694:  
with Fran Ferro (OR)



New Breed to Join the Club:

**Spanish Norman Horse**



Principe Curioso PBF (age 31)  
with Carol Ann Mattsson (age 81)  
as Team #633 (CT)



## The Century Club *(continued)*

*“I have relished the journey that loving horses and dressage brings. From then ‘til now, horses have been a blessing to my life. I am so grateful that I can still throw a saddle on and go with my amazing girl, Africa, and for the many friends and memories I have made along my dressage journey. I’ve shoveled enough poop to fill the Empire State Building, but wouldn’t trade that or anything for the joy that horses have brought to my life.”*



– Team # 619: Jane Hays (age 77) and  
Odysseys African Dancer (age 23) from TX

*“Many thanks for giving me the opportunity to meet my latest equestrian challenge!”*

– Team #661:  
Michael Pasquale (age 80) and  
Jammy (age 24) from MA



Norwegian Fjord, Eddie (age 32), pulled double duty on August 5th when he helped two riders join the Century Club!

Eddie is now part of Team # 677 with Lynn Crivello (age 69) and Team #678 with Gail Wegner (age 75), all from IL.



The Century Club is growing at a fast pace, and we need your help! If you would like to help honor the seniors of our sport, please consider a gift today. Your donation will be used to provide much-cherished Century Club ribbons and plaques to new Teams.

**Donate today at  
[www.dressagefoundation.org/support](http://www.dressagefoundation.org/support)  
or scan the QR code**



# Providing Opportunities to Others

By TDF Donor Pamela Jones (WA)

As a kid, I always loved horses, but did not start riding until I became an adult, looking for stress relief from a busy life and career. I returned to my original love of horses when my husband gifted me five riding lessons for my birthday and I fell in love with the sport of dressage. I don't think either of us knew then how much those five lessons would change our lives!



Left to right:  
Debbie McDonald,  
Adrienne Lyle,  
and Pam Jones

Providing opportunities and access to others has always been a core value for our family, as has our passion for animal welfare. I realized that we could contribute to both of these purposes in the horse world by exposing as many people as possible to classical training methods which put the horse's welfare and well-being first. As a dressage rider interested in reading about all things dressage, I learned about The Dressage Foundation (TDF), and it quickly became evident that TDF was doing just that.

My professional background is in finance and accounting so I tend to evaluate contributions to charitable organizations in much the same way I would evaluate investment opportunities in my work:

- Does the organization have a clear mission and vision?
- Does the organization have a track record of successfully implementing their plans and achieving their goals?
- Are the leadership and staff talented and committed to the organization and its ambitions?
- Are they fiscally responsible, cost conscious, and diligent in the use of resources to produce optimal results?

In my due diligence of TDF, as I interfaced with leadership and staff, reviewed literature and financial information, and witnessed all the great work they do, the answer to all of the above questions was a resounding YES!

Debbie McDonald is one of the most generous people I know, going out of her way to help others and provide them with life-changing opportunities. So my ultimate reason for supporting TDF's Debbie McDonald Fund for FEI Riders is to provide opportunities for riders to train in methods consistent with those applied by Debbie; methods based upon the fundamental premise that our horses are kind and willing partners, worthy of our compassion, patience, respect, and careful development.

By providing opportunities to our dressage community through the Debbie McDonald Fund or other TDF programs, and by contributing to TDF in general, we can further expand the reach of TDF and overall exposure and access to correct, compassionate, systematic training methods, creating a trickle-down and multiplier effect to reach as many of us as possible. The ultimate goal being enjoyment, growth, and success for all riders at all levels, and the resulting benefit to our beloved horses.





# Why I Give

*“TDF has so many good grants now to help all walks of dressage life. I love that we can help aspiring officials and adult amateur riders and youth riders achieve their dreams. My special favorite is the Century Club and I plan to join that! It is also so special to me to have Grant Funds that help remember my good friends Carol Lavell, Lloyd Landkamer, and Jane Savoie!”*

– Janet Foy – FEI 5\* Judge and 20-year donor to TDF



# Ways to Give

## Donate Now

Your gift will help riders reach their goals and realize their dreams!

Give by

- > Cash, Check
- > Credit Card
- > Gifts of Stock
- > From your Donor-Advised Fund



> To donate online, scan the QR code or visit [www.dressagefoundation.org](http://www.dressagefoundation.org)

## Become a Sustaining Partner with a Monthly Gift

“Love TDF a Latte!”

Donate the cost of one (or two!) lattes a month and make a big impact.



## From Your IRA

If you're required to take a minimum distribution from your IRA, consider the IRA charitable rollover.



## Give to the Book of Memory

Remember or honor your friends with gifts in their names.

## Leave a Legacy

Planning a legacy gift now will provide for the future of our sport.



*For information on supporting TDF in any of these ways, please contact Jenny Johnson, Executive Director, at (402) 434-8585 or [jenny@dressagefoundation.org](mailto:jenny@dressagefoundation.org), or visit [www.dressagefoundation.org](http://www.dressagefoundation.org).*





# TDF's Legacy Society



THE LEGACY SOCIETY honors and thanks supporters who include TDF in their Will or estate plan, or who establish a gift with TDF that provides income for life (Gift Annuities, Charitable Remainder Trusts). Through their generosity, TDF's Legacy Society members are ensuring that the sport they love will continue to grow and thrive for years to come.

Our Legacy Society members' commitment to helping future generations of dressage enthusiasts is worthy of special recognition and our gratitude.

## Legacy Society Members

### Founding Members – The Boomer Family



Lowell and Gladys Boomer\*

John and Lynn Boomer\* Jim and Lois Boomer\*

Carol Alonso  
 Lois Arnold\*  
 Cynthia Aspden\*  
 Dr. Anne Barlow Ramsay\*  
 Maryal Barnett  
 Karen Blake  
 Barbara Cadwell  
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 Carol and Tom Lavell\*

Michael Matson  
 Sophie Pirie  
 Linda Rands  
 Mike and Kathy Rowse  
 Charli Stevens and  
 W. Craig Geil  
 Anne Sushko  
 Martha Wolfson\*  
 Ronald Woodcock\*  
 Anonymous (2)  
 \*Honored Posthumously

Is The Dressage Foundation named in *your* Will? Please let us know, even if you wish to remain anonymous, so we can thank you personally and speak with you about how your gift will make a lasting impact on the sport you love.

If you have not yet included TDF in your plans, we invite you to join TDF's Legacy Society! Please contact Jenny Johnson, TDF's Executive Director, at (402) 434-8585 or [jenny@dressagefoundation.org](mailto:jenny@dressagefoundation.org) to discuss your legacy gift.







# A Legacy Gift for the Future Generations

Cynthia Aspden was known as the “go-to-woman” throughout her dressage community, giving freely of her time and experience to whomever needed it. As a professional groom and barn manager, she often shared her knowledge with youth riders through free educational clinics.

Before Cynthia passed away, she made it clear that her estate was to be used to help youth riders, as their education is critical for the growth of the sport. When TDF learned of Cynthia’s estate gift, her wishes were honored with the creation of the Cynthia Aspden Youth and Young Adult Development Fund.

For the past eight years, TDF has had the privilege of continuing Cynthia’s legacy. Grants from Cynthia’s Fund have given, and continue to give, dedicated youth riders the opportunity to continue growing in the sport.

## Reaping the Rewards of Cynthia’s Generosity

What may have seemed like a small request at the time—funding to attend one weekend clinic—has reaped years of rewards for one of the inaugural Cynthia Aspden Fund Grant recipients.



Cynthia Aspden

At the time of her application, Kate Tackett (NC) was just starting her career as a young professional. Her request for a grant to ride in a clinic with Scott Hassler gave Kate a chance to gain invaluable tools for teaching and training.

Kate said, “At the time, I was just starting to put together the pieces of Prix St. Georges, and during my rides at this clinic, I was able to understand the quality and precision necessary for riding at the FEI level. Scott taught me to ride in a way that showcased the horse’s strengths and improved her weaknesses, which is something I now help my students to do.”

Kate is paying the grant back in spades by sharing her knowledge with the next generation of dressage riders. She recently shared, “I love working with young riders because of the energy they bring to the sport. They come to each lesson ready to learn and excited about how they can improve with their horses. They ask questions that push me to explain theory in creative ways and help me to think outside the box. Most importantly, in witnessing their passion they provide a constant reminder of why we all fell in love with horses.”

Established in  
2016

23 Grants awarded

Nearly \$20,000  
awarded to riders  
from 16 states



Kate Tackett teaching Pony Club

# TDF's Book of Memory & Honor

## *Honoring Dressage Friends—Past and Present*

TDF'S BOOK OF MEMORY & HONOR is a way for you to remember dressage enthusiasts who have passed away, to honor living dressage friends, or to give special recognition to retired or deceased horses. A donation to the Book of Memory & Honor will provide a lasting tribute to your devoted dressage friends.

**The following individuals and horses have been added to the Book of Memory & Honor from October 2022-September 2023.**

Photo credit: John Borys Photography



Jeni Gaffney, DVM

<b>In Memory of Dressage Enthusiasts</b>	<b>In Memory or in Honor of Equine Friends</b>
Verne Batchelder William T. Boyd III Dallas Bradbury Jeni Gaffney, DVM August "Bubba" Gruen Amanda Johnson Carol Lavell Kay Meredith Sharon Poulin Jane Savoie	Albert, owned by Tina Emmerich  Ico, owned by Janie Pride  Ilja, owned by Janie Pride  Ima Goer Cowboy, owned by Catherine Sims
<b>In Honor of Living Dressage Friends</b>	Noel, owned by Jennifer Shepherd  Northanger Abbey, owned by Jen Clapp  Omen, owned by Fran Kehr  XOXO Rodrigo, owned by Hailey Seals
Austin Dressage Unlimited Century Club Riders – Evelyn Davis, Barbara Kennedy, Carol McKibben, and Carol Schmickrath  Maryal Barnett Beth Baumert Werner and Marjolein Geven  Billy Jackson Dr. Roxanne Jewell Rhoda Kerr George and Louisa Ventricielli	

*We invite you to visit our online Book of Memory & Honor for names of all those who have been honored through the years. It can be viewed at [www.dressagefoundation.org](http://www.dressagefoundation.org). Click on "Support" then "Book of Memory & Honor."*



## Meet TDF's Board and Staff

The Dressage Foundation's all-volunteer Board of Directors are passionate about our sport. Their love for dressage, in addition to various professional backgrounds and experiences, enables them to guide and govern TDF to best serve the needs of the U.S. dressage community.

### Board of Directors:

Beth Baumert,  
*President & CEO*  
Nancy Hutson,  
*Vice President*  
Maryal Barnett,  
*Chair*  
Lendon Gray,  
*Vice Chair*  
Fern Feldman,  
*Secretary*  
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Sarah Geikie  
Rebecca Hafner  
Karin Reid Offield  
Diane Skvarla  
George Williams  
Ralph Dreitzler,  
*Emeritus*  
Michael Poulin,  
*Emeritus*

### Staff:

Jenny Johnson,  
*Executive Director*  
Kimberly Tebrugge,  
*Director of Donor Relations*  
Sara Weiss,  
*Director of Grants and Programs*  
Katrina Sell,  
*Administrative Assistant*


## TDF Welcomes Kimberly Tebrugge to Staff

TDF recently welcomed Kimberly Tebrugge as its Director of Donor Relations. In this newly created position at TDF, Kimberly will help donors realize their philanthropic goals through support of TDF, its grants, and its programs.

With three decades of experience, including as the Chief Communications Officer at the United States Air Force Academy, Kimberly has helped organizations build relationships with donors and customers, and helped those

organizations become beloved brands in their respective sectors. Based in Colorado and Florida, Kimberly is a dedicated dressage rider and is a United States Dressage Federation bronze, silver, and gold medalist.

*"Dressage is my passion, so I'm honored for the opportunity to help further our sport in the United States by joining The Dressage Foundation," Kimberly shared.*

*"Dressage develops us as riders, as well as our horses, and there are tremendous stories to be celebrated within our community."* 





The Dressage Foundation  
1314 'O' Street, Suite 305  
Lincoln, NE 68508



*“I feel an overwhelming sense of gratitude and disbelief for receiving a grant from The Dressage Foundation. I am thankful and honored. Horses are a tough sport and career path, and it takes grit, perseverance, and funding to keep going. Receiving this grant is a prayer answered. Being a young professional, I have to be strategic about where funds go. This grant will help me continue to train my eyes so I can help my students and myself and continue to become a judge in the future. I am so excited to keep learning!”*

– Katrina Natwick (TX),  
Recipient of a Trip Harting Fund  
Grant for Pony Club Members and  
Graduates to participate in the  
USDF L Education Program