

# Season Kickoff Edition

## Message From the Board

Hello, members! The board has been working hard over the winter to bring you a 2025 full of opportunities to practice and improve your horsemanship! As the club grows, so does our ability to offer you more of these opportunities for fun and learning, so be thinking about setting some goals and strategizing about how to achieve them! This year, these opportunities will come in the form of playdays, clinics, and the Round Up (our August show). Other types of get-togethers are on the docket as well. Our first event, Boot Camp, is scheduled for March 9. See the Upcoming Events section below for details.

## Upcoming Events

- Bootcamp - March 9, Waverly Community Center
  - Registration 11:30am
  - Lunch & Intros 12:00
  - Activities 12:30-2pm
  - [REGISTER HERE](#)
  - All are welcome - you need not be a member!
  - \$15/person for lunch and supplies; PayPal @NECowboyDressage **Please be sure to use the Family & Friends option!**
  - Alternatively, you can use this QR code:



## Increase Your Skills

If you're on the mailing list for this newsletter, you probably already know what Cowboy Dressage is. But don't skip reading this article for a pre-season refresher - it will really get you back in the groove! ALSO, if you'd like to share Cowboy Dressage with friends by forwarding this newsletter (hint, hint), this is a great way to start! This article does a fantastic job of showcasing our discipline's focus on partnership, soft feel, kindness, and accessibility to all horses and riders.

[Cowboy Dressage - Equus Magazine, March 2017](#)

## Featured Horse



Shutan Al Khamsa, 2007 Arabian Gelding



This edition's horse spotlight will be Hope Lewis' gelding, Shutan, affectionately known as "Shrimp." Shutan is a 17 yr old black purebred Arabian and has been with Hope for nine years now. Standing just shy of 14 hands, he's a small horse that packs a big punch! Light, lively, and blessed with a Fabio inspired mane, everyone who sees him falls in love. Purchased as an 8 yr old unstarted, recently gelded project horse, he has blossomed into a loyal and steady partner. Hope started him under saddle herself, and the pair have traveled together from the basics to trail riding extensively to now pursuing Cowboy Dressage.

"I love how calm, but also sensitive and willing he is," Hope shared. "I had to learn to ride with a quiet seat, because he would feel it when I was tense." That sensitivity pays big dividends in their partnership, as Shutan is a very people-oriented horse that truly seeks a bond with his person. In return, Hope has focused on riding to a higher level in order to bring out the best in their partnership both in and out of the ring. When you see them at the practices and shows this year, be sure to stop and give Shutan a pat, as he is always up for new admirers!

*Would you like your horse to be featured in our newsletter? We'd love to hear about them! Email me at [westfoldequine@gmail.com](mailto:westfoldequine@gmail.com), and I'll get in touch with you to get all the details.*

Alisa Mullen, CDWN Board Member

## Event Recap

Unfortunately, we were unable to reschedule the holiday cookie exchange originally scheduled for December 15 - but we will be looking for more opportunities to get together as a club, both with and without our horses!

## Events Calendar

- Bootcamp - March 9, 2026 - 11:30am - [REGISTER HERE](#)
- Playdays (At Salt Creek Wranglers' Arena\*\* unless noted otherwise)
  - April 12
  - May 25
  - June 7
  - July 12
  - September 14
  - Please note that to practice at Salt Creek Wranglers' Arena you must be a member there for insurance purposes. [Join here](#).
- Clinics
  - ~~June 14 & 15~~ - **JUNE 21 & 22** Lazy K Arena, Grand Island. Clinician: Susan Dockter
  - July 5 - Trail Clinic - Blair. Clinician: Scott Wehrmann
- Show: The Round Up!
  - August 8 & 9, Lancaster Event Center, Lincoln

We will be adding to this list as we add events, so keep checking back! Dates are subject to change due to weather and other unforeseen events, so please check back please watch [our website](#) and/or [Facebook page](#) for updates as each one approaches!

## Thank You to Our Sponsors

We want to thank FullField Ag in Seward for hosting the 10-person board for our planning meeting last month. We've outgrown the kitchen table!

## How to join

If you haven't officially joined us yet this year, it's time! [Membership and Important Links](#) **Please be sure to fill out the liability form as well as the membership form to complete the process.**

Do you have a friend who would like to join in our fun? Feel free to forward this newsletter so they can easily join our ranks. Membership is only \$20/person or \$30/family.

## Cowboy Dressage World Resources

There is a ton of information about Cowboy Dressage available! From a calendar of sanctioned shows and clinics to the rules and guidelines for shows and the tests you can ride, it can all be found on the [Cowboy Dressage World website](#).

See attached document for board contact info - please reach out!