

Lake Washington Saddler

November / December 2017



Editor: Caroline Callender

saddler@lakewashingtonsaddleclub.org

The Party's over!

But, what a party it was!!!

Another successful and exciting Annual Awards Banquet took place on November 4th, at our old 'haunt'; the Downtown Courtyard Marriot Hotel in Bellevue. We've been holding our events here for several years and they just keep getting better, don't they?



This year we had 167 attendees, which is close to our all time record of high attendance. Some new things this year were changes in the way we set up the room, to improve the visibility to all tables by having our podium in the middle, rather than at the end of the long, narrow room. We also used a reserved seating system to give attendees the option of requesting to be seated with their friends or barn mates.



The banquet planning committee put in a tremendous amount of effort and energy into making this event a pleasurable experience for all. There is always room for improvement, and we invite feedback on any aspect that you feel needs increased attention. We also warmly welcome suggestions on how to improve those deficiencies.



Here are the folks who made the whole thing happen:

Kim Barber, Candace Boyd, Caroline Callender, Jennifer Duncan , Karen Hall, Liz Hambleton, Suzanne Kagen, Stephanie Nicholson, Karen Perry, Maggie Phillips, Kate Sharkey and Amy Supple.

And here I must speak frankly The auction committee will be needing new members to step in and take on some of the load for next year. It is a big labor of love and an expression of dedication to the club, but having the same persons do this work, year after year, is creating burnout. We need other members to step up and say, “Ok, I’ll chair the auction next year.” Or, “I can do the dessert dash”, or “I will make the centerpieces”. We veterans will help you newbies. We will tell what needs doing, we will even hold your hand, if you like. But, we need others who love this club as much as we do to step up and show it!

Ok. Now that I’ve got that off my chest, I’d like to answer the question that several of you have asked:

“How much money did we make?”

This year, our first as a full 501c3, meant that we could ask our members to consider making cash donations, knowing that they are fully tax deductible. Our ‘Raise the Paddle’ event, the first we’ve ever done, raised \$7,445.00!!! Every cent of this money will be held and dedicated to the maintenance and improvement of the footing at the show arenas at Bridles Trails State Park. We will add this to the approximately \$2,500 we had already set aside. Any of you who have ever built their own riding arena know that it can be very expensive to maintain, and regular maintenance IS required .

This year’s auction had a really impressive array of tack, wine, gift baskets, artwork, jewelry and a wide array of services to bid on. Bidding was hot, and in the end, I hope each one of you came away with something special.

So, the figures are:

Raise the Paddle Cash Donations	\$7,445.00	(dedicated to the footing in arenas)
Auction, Desserts and Games	\$9,687.00	

Total Proceeds **\$17,132.00**

The Annual Banquet is also our annual business meeting. Here are the minutes from that meeting:

The Lake Washington Saddle Club Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet was held on Saturday November 4th at the Marriott Courtyard in Bellevue. There were over 160 attendees. The meeting included a silent auction, a “raise the paddle” fund raiser, dinner, the annual report and year end awards. The theme for the event was “The Gift of Horses”. The evening was planned to celebrate all the gifts our horses give us and how lucky we are to have them and this wonderful Club.

Annual report

2017 Accomplishments

- A key accomplishment for 2017 was the successful change in tax status to a 501c3. This change will allow us to potentially provide even more support to the facilities and operations of Bridle Trails State Park.
- Our first fund raising effort is for arena maintenance which we kicked off with the Raise The Paddle portion of the evening. Members generously donated over \$7,000 during the raise the paddle. We monitor the arena conditions every year and invest in refurbishing it periodically as needed. Each time we need to add sand, or supplement it with some type of filler, it typically costs \$20,000 to \$25,000. We believe that we are getting close to needing to perform some further arena maintenance. The arenas are, literally, the foundation of most of Club's activities and we need to keep them in good shape. The \$7,000 donated during the raise the paddle event, will go toward this goal.
- 2017 Hunter Jumper shows were a huge success, with a capacity crowd and a terrific set of shows this season. Many thanks to the Hunter Jumper Show Team; Kate Sharkey, Liz Hambleton, Jen Kniss, Michelle Jacob, and Peggi Stewart.
- Heather Andreini and Indra Krastins did a terrific job with dressage shows this year. Dressage honored a "100 year pair" which is a rider/horse combination whose combined age is 100 years or more.
- Trail riding events are beginning to get some traction; A team of terrific volunteers, led by event manager, Jennifer Duncan, provided four trail riding events this year that were well attended.
- The Trail Obstacle events are also gaining in popularity. Many thanks to Robin Foster and Candice Boyd for managing these events. These events now have a competitive class which has been a great addition.
- We once again held three terrific clinics for hunter/jumper, dressage and horsemanship
- New this year is LWSC Field Trips which are coordinated by Candice Boyd. This is part of our goal to create more social and educational opportunities for our members. We visited Pegasus Farm, toured Emerald Downs, went to visit Sweet Water Farm to learn about the rare Akhal-Teke horses and visited an Equestrian Center with a barn constructed by Barn PROs. We hope to do more of these activities in the future.
- For the first time we sponsored two classes at Save A Forgotten Equine Rescue's annual horse show and we continue to sponsor the entertainment at the BTPF Party In The Park.

Future Possibilities or Plans

- Acheson demolition is complete and opens new possibilities for creating additional equestrian facilities.
- Continue to provide terrific shows, events and opportunities to learn.
- Continue to support and help maintain Bridle Trails State Park.

Nomination and Election of Board of Trustees

Six Trustee terms are ending and all six would like to serve another 2 year term. The following individuals were voted to serve another term on LWSC Board of Trustees:

- Robin Foster
- Indra Krastins
- Stephanie Nicholson
- Karen Perry
- Maggie Phillips
- Kate Sharkey

The Board Members of LWSC are:

- Candice Boyd
- Caroline Callender
- Jennifer Duncan, President
- Robin Foster
- Karen Hall

- Suzanne Kagen, Vice President
- Indra Krastins, Secretary
- Stephanie Nicholson
- Karen Perry
- Maggie Phillips, Treasurer
- Megan Rasmussen
- Corrie Scalisi
- Kate Sharkey

Here are the winners of the LWSC Annual Awards for 2017:

Service Award: Jennifer Duncan
 Senior Sportsmanship: Caitlin Hubbard
 Junior Sportsmanship: Lorelei Dunn
 Horse of the Year: Lexi Bug owned by Michelle Jacob
 Mother of the Year: Stephanie Nicholson
 Father of the Year: Mike Jacob
 Trainer of the Year: Kim Barber

Here are the recipients of LWSC High Point Awards for 2017

Bunny Coffin Memorial Katherine McGhee - (highest placed junior or amateur in hunter derby)
 Overall High Point Avery Jacob

The following awards were presented to Thoroughbreds who participated in LWSC Shows:

Overall High Point TB Premeditated (owned by Madison Kniss)
 High Point Jumper TB Capilano (Alexis Novak) -
 High Point Hunter TB Hastings (Pamela Watterson) -

A special congratulations to Liz Hambleton, who received LWSC's Lifetime Achievement Award. Liz has contributed many years of hard work, enthusiasm, kindness, knowledge and great fun to LWSC and we love you Liz.

Corporate Gift Matching & Other Ways To Donate

Now that we are a full-fledged 501c3, we are eligible to receive cash donations from business that have gift matching programs. To date as a new 501c3 we received \$2,575.47 in corporate donations. If your employer offers gift matching, you can help LWSC out by logging any of your donations and volunteer hours through your employer's corporate gift matching **tool**. We were excited to receive corporate gift matching both for donations and volunteer hours in 2017 from people whose companies used **Benevity**

(see <https://causes.benevity.org/causes/840-916057959> for more details). If your employer uses a different service that does not yet have our information, please let us know.

If you are an Amazon shopper (and who isn't?) you can shop on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations selected by customers. You can also designate LWSC to receive this benefit or select a charity of your choice. The same Amazon Prime benefits in terms of shipping, pricing, etc., all apply.

2018 Show Season

We are already setting the dates for next year's show/event schedule. Not all of the LWSC have dates, but we have a good start. Take a look at: <http://www.lakewashingtonsaddleclub.org/park-calendar.html>

Custom Painted horse Ornaments



It's not too late to order a custom painted ornament for you horsey friends.

Cut off to order is December 7th. They are \$25/each.

Contact: Caroline_Callender@hotmail.com

