

MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

November 19, 2019

To: Michigan 4-H Horse Judges and Conditional Judges

From: Karen L. Waite  
Equine Extension Specialist

Subject: Dodge-Miner Friend of 4-H Judges Award

Attached Please find a ballot for the Dodge-Miner Friend of 4-H Judges Award enclosed. In 1980, a special memorial was established to annually recognize a 4-H Horse Show Judge who has given outstanding service to the Michigan 4-H Horse Program. This award was established in honor of Ed Dodge and Thayne Miner.

This ballot was compiled from nominations gathered over the course of the summer, from county horse programs and judges around the state. *Using a new online system, we received 33 nominations which is evidence of how much people appreciate our judges! Many newer names were included this year, as well.* As per the nomination memo, those receiving more than 1 nominations were placed on the ballot. Additionally, the following judges received a nomination and deserve recognition:

DEPARTMENT OF  
ANIMAL SCIENCE

College of  
Agriculture  
and Natural  
Resources

Michigan State  
University  
Karen L. Waite  
Equine Extension  
Youth Specialist  
1250 H Anthony Hall  
East Lansing, MI  
48824-1225

Jessica Bouman  
Sally Jo Bucholtz  
Terri Delbridge  
Marc Delisle (2000 winner)  
Amy Franks (2015 winner)  
Chelsea Erler  
Rich Fitch (2004 winner)  
Laura Jackson  
Casey Lloyd  
Maria Rising  
Karen Waite

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Fax: 517/353-1699  
e-mail:  
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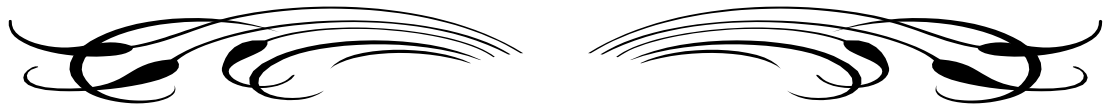
Completed ballots are due to the Equine Extension Specialist no later than **XXXX**. **The award will be presented at the 2020 4-H Horse Judges and Show Managers Conference, January 18, 2020 at The Crowne Plaza Hotel, Lansing**

Thank you very much for your time and consideration. Should you have questions, please contact me at 517/432-0383 or [kwaite@msu.edu](mailto:kwaite@msu.edu).

## **DODGE-MINER FRIEND OF 4-H JUDGES AWARD OFFICIAL VOTING BALLOT**

In 1980, a very special memorial was established to be awarded to a prominent 4-H Horse Judge who has given outstanding service to the Michigan 4-H Horse Program. This award was created in honor of Ed Dodge and Thayne Miner. Both of these individuals devoted countless hours toward the betterment of youth and horses. They both served as judges, clinic personnel and volunteers throughout Michigan. Their love for young people was expressed in their ability to teach, as well as judge.

This award honors a Michigan 4-H Horse Judge that has made outstanding contributions to the Michigan Youth Horse Program. The recipients represent judges who interact with Michigan 4-H youth in the horse area.



PLEASE VOTE FOR ONE:

**Rick Barnes**

Rick been a Michigan 4-H Horse Judge for 6 years. A nominator said “On more than one occasion I have witnessed Mr. Barnes take time out of a bust show day to give personal feedback to an exhibitor, help a new rider through a problem, or even provide encouragement to someone who needs it most. As a parent I’ve appreciated this thoughtfulness ad I know exhibitors do too. It’s clear that Mr. Barnes has a true passion for judging at the 4-H level and Michigan is fortunate to have him on our list.”

**Melissa Gordon**

Melissa has been a Michigan 4-H Horse Judge for 7 years. One of Melissa’s nominators stated that “Missy has been an outstanding mentor to horsemen and women of all ages long before she became a judge. Since earning her card, she has expanded the range of hearts and lives she reaches and is a true epitome of what a good judge, clinician, and trainer should be.”

**Kim Rathsburg**

Kim has been a Michigan 4-H Horse Judge for 2 years. One of her nominators explained “Kim is very professional and fair as a judge. In addition, as an exhibitor you leave encouraged in your project as well as challenged for future improvement. She is an ideal person to model a 4-H judge.

**Amy Wertenberger**

Amy has been a Michigan 4-H Horse Judge for 5 years, serves on the state 4-H Miniature Horse Show Committee, and has made a strong contribution to Miniature Horse activities around the state. One of Amy’s nominators said “Amy has been very valuable in establishing a Miniature Horse program in the eastern part of the state/ I have witnessed other 4-H judges coming to her with questions on how things should be scored or judged. I have also witnessed Amy’s interaction with parents and youth-ALL of which has been positive and productive.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE SEE OTHER SIDE**

**Please state why you feel this person is deserving of this award.**

Please return to Equine Extension Specialist, 1250H Anthony Hall, MSU, East Lansing, MI 48824-1225 by **January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**