

FOUNDATION FEATURE:

Foundation Offers ASSISTANCE AT CONGRESS



photos by Rachel Reilly Photography

The board members of the NSBA Foundation will have a busy time this October as they gather to assist exhibitors and their families participating in the Equestrians With Disabilities and Heroes On Horses classes at the All American Quarter Horse Congress.

NSBA has long had a great partnership with the Congress, and the NSBA Foundation worked with Congress officials to add Equestrians With Disabilities classes to the show schedule, beginning in 2015. "Promoting inclusion of riders of all abilities has long been an important emphasis for NSBA and the NSBA Foundation," noted Dianne Eppers, NSBA executive director. "For a number of years, NSBA had been in support of and approved EWD classes at the weekend horse shows and at the regional level. The addition of EWD classes at the Congress was another step in this process."

The Foundation provides sponsorship as well as in-person support at the Congress. "We provide awareness about the Congress EWD class offering, and we help promote awareness in other breed associations for the EWD riders," noted Lynn Campbell, NSBA Foundation development director.

"On sight, our staff and board members are available to answer questions, as well as include and engage family members and supporters in conversation with other Congress exhibitors and family members. We also work to include donors in EWD activities at the Congress including at a Welcome Luncheon, where they can meet exhibitors and hear their stories. One of our goals is to showcase EWD activities and accomplishments to the horse community at large through recognition and marketing efforts."

When the Heroes On Horses classes were added to the Congress class schedule in 2016, the NSBA Foundation also began assisting with a presentation of Colors and recognition of exhibitors prior to the class.

Be sure to cheer on the exhibitors in both of these events October 12-14 at the All American Quarter Horse Congress! You can support an EWD or Heroes On Horses exhibitor by donating to the NSBA Foundation by visiting the NSBA Foundation section on the NSBA website, and choose the How To Donate link. ■

