

Hi, my name is Tiffany van der Kooi, and I am running for the open position on the KFPS Member Council (Ledenraad).

For background, I have lived in Rockton, Illinois, my entire life. I have had horses for the past thirty-six years and have been blessed to have Friesians the last twenty-three years. I have a degree in Business Management and have worked as the Office Manager of my family's construction business the past twenty-five years.

I am the founder and owner of Black Pearl Friesians L.L.C.. I started this equine business with a small herd of Friesian mares many years ago. I have successfully built the business into a full service stallion station, and we are now home to three KFPS approved stallions shipping fresh and frozen semen all over North America. I have a passion for Friesian horses and for educating people on this incredible breed. Over the years I have built a high quality Friesian herd for competition and pleasure including driving and riding as well as breeding.

With respect to my personal interests and contributions, I compete in dressage and also do demonstrations throughout the year in conjunction with the Great Lakes Friesian Horse Association (GLFHA) and the Friesian Horse Association of North America (FHANA). Dressage is my passion; I am a USDF silver medalist and achieved the Sport Elite status for a few of my Friesians. Given my work on FHANA committees and my chapter activities I have a broad based understanding of our association's priorities, goals, and current challenges. Some of my activities in support of the association include:

- Multiple terms as treasurer for the GLFHA Chapter;
- Representative, Friesian Member Council (FMC);
- Member and secretary of the Inspection Committee;
- GLFHA Inspection Site Host and Inspection mentor;
- FHANA sponsor for multiple events such as the AGM, our magazine, etc.;
- And contributing writer for the FHANA magazine.

These commitments demonstrate my full support to FHANA and its mission. Moving forward, I will continue to focus and foster our common goal **"To promote and preserve the KFPS Friesian Horse in North America."**

My family's involvement with FHANA and the KFPS goes back many years and for many generations. My husband, Willem, was born and raised in Friesland and he and his father are also deeply involved with the KFPS. I am blessed to have immediate family that is fluent in the Dutch language and as a consequence, I too have learned some of their language.

In closing, as a Friesian owner I am passionate about Friesians and the health and wellbeing of both our breed and our association. I stand ready to address our current challenges and help move our organization forward. Please consider me as your next KFPS Member Council representative. Thank you!

Tiffany van der Kooi