

RIDER'S CHOICE NOMINEE

LADY JANE



Think of a lady named Jane and so many characters come to mind. Dick and Jane, Tarzan and Jane, Jane Doe, and most recently Jane the Virgin TV Drama. But ask any UMECRA member and without hesitation they will reply Roberta Harm's Lady Jane!

Starting her racing career in 2011, she has amassed 5,600 miles and is still winning at age 25. A look back at this amazing mare's history. She placed Top Ten in UMECRA's LW Endurance consistently for an unbroken string of years. In 2018 Roberta switched to LD's for HER own sake, not Jane's. The winning streak continued also adding multiple BC's to those rides and placing her in AERC's (in my humble opinion) TOP AWARD.

Roberta clarifies her pulls in the recent years are because of her, not Jane. As she states "I have been riding very unbalanced for 3-4 years and Jane has managed to remain sound despite me flopping around!" I have known this team and competed against them for years and I can not remember a pull because of Jane. I know this is a fact that disturbs Roberta, but there is no need. Horse and Rider stand tall together.

AWARDS:

AERC Endurance: Jane consistently was 3rd LW in the Midwest Regionals in 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016 and a 2nd in 2017 for a total of 3290 miles.

Limited Distance: 2018 to 2023 Regional mileage awards with many BC's for 2340 miles

UMECRA: Jane received LW placings in both endurance and LD from 2012 through 2024. A few rides were out of UMECRA so slightly fewer miles....

In 2020 the team achieved the much pursued Decade Award, and this past year, 2024, they became members of a group most riders can only dream of – The Century Club!

From Debby Weisbecker

I first met Lady Jane in early 2020. The first thing that strikes you about Jane is the calm and serene look about her. She is a gentle soul, and you can see it in her eyes. What those giant gentle eyes

hide is the absolute endurance beast that resides in her heart. She is a horse that knows her job. And that job is to cover ground. Once you are aboard the absolute power she possesses comes out. She is not flighty or skittish, she is just solid and steady. Don't get me wrong, she knows you're up there, and she knows part of her job is to also take care of you. My best example of this is when Roberta let me ride Jane on a night LD. I am very inexperienced riding in the dark. This particular night it also stormed, and I mean hard. So, this poor girl dragged me around for 25 miles in the dark and in the rain. I truly believe the only reason we made it back before morning was Jane. I must add to all of this that Jane is no youngster either. She at 24 is still tearing up the miles. If it is totally left up to her, she will come in before everyone else and with a heart rate that seems like she put in no effort at all. It has been an absolute honor and pleasure to be part of her life. This horse has a heart of gold.

At AHDRA's Big River ride, last ride of the 2024 season, Jane carried Deb Weisbecker, Roberta's amazing friend and Jane's catch rider, to a win in the 30 mile LD. Let's give this horse another Award. One she truly deserves....Rider's Choice!