

George Williams Biography  
Revised May 17, 2010

George Williams is a prominent figure in international dressage competition whose career highlights with Chuck and Joann Smith's grand prix mare, Rocher, include: three-time Dressage at Devon Grand Prix and Grand Prix Freestyle, 2005 United States Equestrian Federation/Collecting Gaits National Grand Prix Champion, team bronze at CHIO Aachen, 5th at the 2003 World Cup in Sweden, United States Dressage Federation Grand Prix and Grand Prix Freestyle Horse of the Year as well as being named Dressage Horse of the Year by the Chronicle of the Horse. Mr. Williams has been studying dressage since 1973; he traveled to Germany to enroll at the Reitinstiute von Neindorff where he earned his German Bronze Rider Medal. He was later a resident trainer and rider for The Tempel Lipizzans in Wadsworth, IL for 20 years. Mr. Williams has trained in Germany with the former US Dressage team coach and Olympic gold medalist, Klaus Balkenhol, on numerous occasions. He currently is active as the President of USDF, a member of the United States Equestrian Federation Dressage Committee, a member of the USEF High Performance Eligible Athlete Committee, a member of the USEF Board of Directors, and is Chair of the USEF High Performance Dressage Committee. Mr. Williams was co-winner of the USEF William Steinkraus Equestrian of Honor award for his success in 2005. He was a contributing author to the USDF's booklet on arena footing, Underfoot, and his accomplishments and training techniques have been featured in many publications.

From the summer of 2000 until the spring of 2009 Mr. Williams rode and trained for the Smiths at their Gypsy Woods Farm in Richwood, OH. On May 1, 2009 he started to ride and train for Elizabeth Juliano's Havensafe Farm of Middlefield Ohio and Wellington Florida. In addition he continues to teach and coach with Williams Dressage LLC.

In his first season competing the Oldenburg gelding, Don Bailey, owned by Betsy Juliano competition highlights included a Reserve at the 2009 USEF Developing Horse Championships and First place in the Prix St Georges at the 2009 ABIC/USDF Region 1 Championships. In 2010 the pair's success has continued with wins in the Prix St Georges at the Gold Coast Opener CDI and in the Intermediaire 1 at the Wellington Classic CDI,