



Midwest Dressage

Association

March 2016

Diary of a Working Student: By Britney Stevens

My alarm clock rings urgently in my ears. The sun is just barely making its appearance. The urge to roll over and pull the covers over my head and drift back to sleep sounds heavenly. But why waste my time when my real idea of heaven is just a few steps out my back door? My name is Britney Stevens, and I live at Southview Farm, where the past five years I have been a working student for Grand Prix Dressage Trainer, Sandra Tull. I'm about to share with you what it's like to be a working student in the Dressage world.

Now if you're wondering what exactly a working student is, it's exactly what it sounds. Working to learn. For my work, I receive lessons or training. You become a working student for the sole purpose of learning. If you want to improve, and exceed in your riding, it's a great opportunity. Of course you can learn by paying for lessons. But sadly we live in a world where not everyone can afford to spend extra cash at leisure, and pay the bills. Being a working student is so great because it works out for both sides. Both are receiving a service that want or need. I can't tell you how many times I was so thankful when checking the pocketbook after putting all those hours in.

Now I haven't always been a horse lover. I wasn't fortunate enough to be born into it. I most definitely wasn't "born in a barn." Born in Flint, raised in Burton, MI. I lived in a subdivision where your next door neighbor was just a few feet away. Horses were just another animal to me. Embarrassing to admit, my obsession was polar bears. Then one day in third grade we watch the timeless classic movie, "Black Beauty." This is what started it all. I was hooked. These animals were to majestic and beautiful. The movie really

pulled at my heart strings. As soon as I came home I told my parents all about my new found love for these animals. They just shrugged me off thinking it was just another phase I was going through.

They assumed I would grow out of it. I didn't even own a horse, let alone even been close to one, but that still didn't stop me from wearing dorky shirts with them plastered all over it. I used to check out horse breed books from my elementary school library and study them, and keep a notebook with any horse facts I knew in it. I finally talked my parents into letting me take one lesson a month at a local stable in Grand Blanc. I started out riding western...and in tennis shoes. But to me this was the greatest experience in my young life. I thought I was some rodeo roping cowgirl. I'd brag to my friends about how I was a real "horseback rider." But in all reality I was just trying to figure out how to steer the lazy lesson pony around the cones, at a walk. I eventually moved up to lessons twice a month. Then found a local 4-H group that let me use one of their horses to show in walk-trot. And yes, of course I was still a rodeo roping cowgirl.

I'll never forget the day I was in my friend's barn during a 4-H meeting, and her mom told me that my Dad was thinking about getting me my own horse if I really enjoyed riding. The tears streamed down my face, I thought I was going to collapse from being struck with overwhelming happiness. The hard part was finding a right horse. A friend of mine was leasing a horse named Peaceable Assembly, aka Nike out in Ortonville. I was informed by her that he was for sale. Nike was a bay welsh pinto that was

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The Midwest Dressage Association
is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit

March 2016

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2016 MDA Board and Committees

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Committees

The Board welcomes members to assist
on these committees. Please contact the
Committee Chairperson.

Awards - Beth Schaub
Banquet - Denise Gentile
Directory - Julie Fleming

Education
Barbra Reis/Ingrid Baranski

Historian - Will Davis

Membership
Julie Fleming/Allison McNab
Newsletter/Website- Barbra Reis

MDA Wearables
Tonya Grant/Allison McNab

Nominations
Ingrid Baranski/Tonya Grant
Denise Gentile

Professional Advisors

Shawn Ragsdale

Marketing & Sponsorship

-Lisa Machala

Video Library -

Volunteers - Will Davis

Classified Ads must be submitted to
the newsletter editor via email and in
Word format.

Advertisements must be submitted via
email in either PDF or JPEG format.

Deadline for Advertising AND
Classified ads is the 15th of the previ-
ous month. All ads MUST be prepaid
prior to publication.



MDA Newsletter Advertising Rates

Advertising Submissions are due to the Newsletter Publisher by the 15th of the month preceding the publication date.
Payment must be made in full prior to placement of the ad. All member rates reflect at 20% discount of retail price.

	1 month		3 Month Rate		6 month		12 Month	
	Retail	Member	Retail	Member	Retail	Member	Retail	Member
1/4 page	40.00	32.00	90.00	72.00	150.00	120.00	240.00	192.00
1/2 page	60.00	48.00	120.00	96.00	210.00	168.00	360.00	288.00
full page	90.00	72.00	150.00	120.00	390.00	312.00	660.00	528.00

“DRESSAGE THROUGH THE LEVELS “
SYMPOSIUM WITH JANET FOY
April 9 & 10, 2016

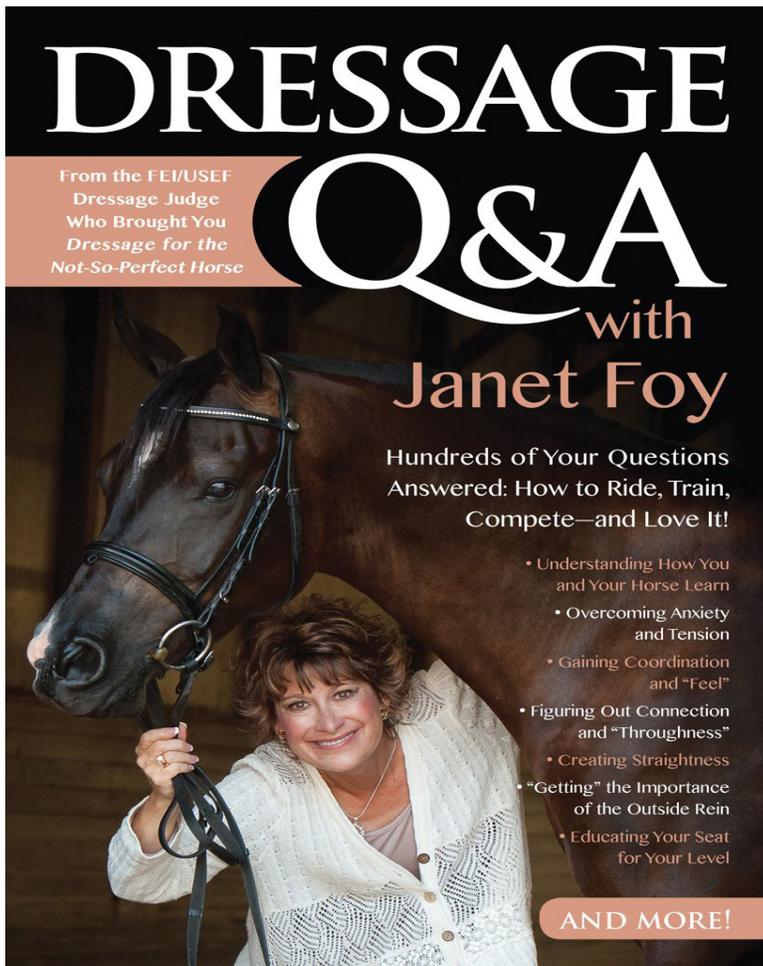
Hosted by the Midwest Dressage Association with a grant from The Dressage Foundation

PRESENTING SPONSOR - Sporthorse Saddlery
at Visual Equestrian, LLC, Fenton, MI

What is the difference between a Symposium and a Clinic?

The main purpose of the symposium format is to educate the audience through living examples of theory. This is done through using the rider as an illustrative extension of the instructor's theory. Riders are chosen by their current ability to solidly illustrate the theory and their education becomes secondary to the audience's experience.

For example: if the lesson is to teach the audience the bio-mechanics of flying changes and how they are achieved, a pair with great simple changes and inconsistent flying changes cannot be used. However a pair that can land big, straight, solid changes, that can do them repetitively, on various lines would be used instead.



**Dressage Q&A ,Hundreds of Your
Questions Answered:
How to Ride, Train, and Compete--and
Love It!**

USEF "S" and FEI 4* Dressage Judge Janet Foy issued an invitation to the dressage population: "Ask me your toughest dressage questions; ask me about the things about riding, training, and competing that you just don't understand; or, just ask me the questions you're always afraid to ask because you don't want to look like you don't know what you're doing!" The result was an outpouring of queries, from riders at every level, and from both those who just ride for fun as well as those who show.



“Dressage Thru the Levels” with Janet Foy

Hosted by the Midwest Dressage Association
and
Presenting Sponsor Sporthorse Saddlery

April 9 & 10, 2016

At Visual Equestrian, LLC, 5390 Pleasant Hill Drive, Fenton, MI 48430

AUDITOR REGISTRATION

OPENING DATE FOR AUDITOR APPLICATION IS JANUARY 7, 2016 BY POSTMARK. DEADLINE FOR SIGN-UP IS MARCH 31, 2016 BY POSTMARK. THERE ARE NO WALK-INS. A WAIT LIST WILL BE STARTED ONCE ALL SEATS ARE RESERVED.

ONE FORM PER PERSON.

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ MDA Membership #: _____

MDA members must include a photocopy of their 2016 membership card in order to receive the membership discount – NO EXCEPTIONS.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, APRIL 9 & 10, 2016

_____ MDA member \$50 per person _____ Non-Member \$75 per person \$ _____

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2016

_____ MDA Member \$ 30 per person _____ Non-Member \$50 per person \$ _____

_____ Saturday Afternoon Reception - \$20 per person – includes munchies, beverages, cash bar, book-signing, photo opportunities and autographs with Mrs. Foy. \$ _____

SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 2016

_____ MDA Member \$30 per person _____ Non-Member \$50 per person \$ _____

Total \$ _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MIDWEST DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION

Please postmark between January 7, 2016 and March 31, 2016 and send to:

Barbra Reis, 490 Rissman Lane, Ortonville, MI 48462

Questions? Contact Barb at blondmane@gmail.com or 248-670-9031

You will receive a confirmation email.

Winter is here!!!

Tips for Surviving by Valerie Dahl-Dean

With frigid temps, below zero wind chill, ice and snow, it can be very difficult getting horses outside for their much needed rest and relaxation. When winter conditions make regular turnout a problem, here are a few suggestions to help keep your equine companion amused.

- Give up to 3 ears of shell corn on the cob in their feeder or on the floor. Once horses become familiar with the corn, they will enjoy chewing off the kernels. Omit corn or other grains in consideration of feed value. An added benefit is that corn and the chewing action can be good for their teeth.
- Spray liquid molasses on the inside of their feeder pan, on a jolly ball, or any other horse safe plastic object. Your horse will spend endless hours licking up every last speck of the sweet treat.
- Insert a treat, apple pieces, carrot pieces or any other yummy into a piece of strong PVC pipe about 18-24 inches long. Your horse will spend plenty of time trying to get the treats out while he stands in his stall. A plastic milk jug can be used as well, but the hole must be made slightly larger to release the treat. Once they discover the noise it makes, they may even entertain themselves just shaking the jug!
- Use hay bags and use more than one hung in opposite corners of the stall. If hiding treats in the hay bags, be sure the hay bags aren't the type that the treats could get stuck in the corner of the bag. You can also toss treats under or in their hay pile on the floor.
- Hang more than one salt blocks or hang one and have one on the floor.
- Put a flake of good quality hay into a plastic feed sack (the kind that processed feed comes in) and put it in the stall. Your horse will eventually begin exploring the contents of the bag. Not only does it stimulate their curiosity, it helps to get them used to tarps, paper, white things and the like.
- Secure a plastic unbreakable mirror to a solid wall in the stall. Your horse may be comforted by the image of another horse or he may not like it at all. You know your horse best. Figure out what works for him or her.
-

We all know that some horses don't like to drink as much water in the winter. Of course warm tepid water can help but if you are still struggling to get that needed hydration then here is a few tips.

- Add a little extra salt into your feed or even in the water or use electrolytes.
- Unwrap a few peppermints and toss them into tepid water. The softer mints work best for this. Once they gain a taste for the peppermint water, you can simply add a drop or two of peppermint oil into their water whenever you need.
- Try adding an envelope of Kool-Aid (orange or red works best) and ½ a cup of sugar to a bucket of tepid water. You can add more or less sugar depending on your needs. Keep in mind how serious a colic episode can be versus the effects of a little sugar. Getting your horse to drink is what is important. This trick can also help if your horse dislikes the taste of water while you are away at horse shows or clinics.

If your horse has grown tired of his now several month old hay, first check to ensure that it has not gone moldy, had a weed or worse an unwanted rodent wrapped up in the bale. If all is well with your hay and your horses' finicky attitude is just a case of hay boredom, switch things up a bit! Open a clean fresh bale of first cutting hay, spread it apart and sprinkle some powdered molasses, powdered malt or even a little bit of salt on the flakes. Another trick is to add wet molasses, liquid Kool-Aid and sugar or even diluted peppermint oil. Sometimes just a new smell or flavor can brighten up your horse's attitude at feeding time.

I hope one or more of these suggestions will help you solve your horses' winter blues. In the mean time, stay warm and enjoy the season, spring is right around the corner!!!

Continued from page 1

shown in almost everything, but mainly speed. I was looking for an all-around horse. The first time I trotted this guy, I was disgusted! It was so bouncy, or was it just me? It may have occurred to me that this horse was way too advanced for me, but I didn't care. I liked the way he looked. I liked the way any horse looked. I wanted to get the ball rolling on this purchase.

The first summer I showed this beast of mine was horrendous. He thought every hunt seat class was a barrel course. I cried at every single show admitting that I was so close to just selling him and giving up. But I stuck with it. It was a fight, but after a few years of the battle, I took control and made him listen. I was finally getting somewhere. As soon as I felt I had control of my horse, my parents told me that since I was 18, it was time to get a job and pay for him, or get rid of him. That's when I received a message from Sandy herself, asking if I was interested in a working student position.

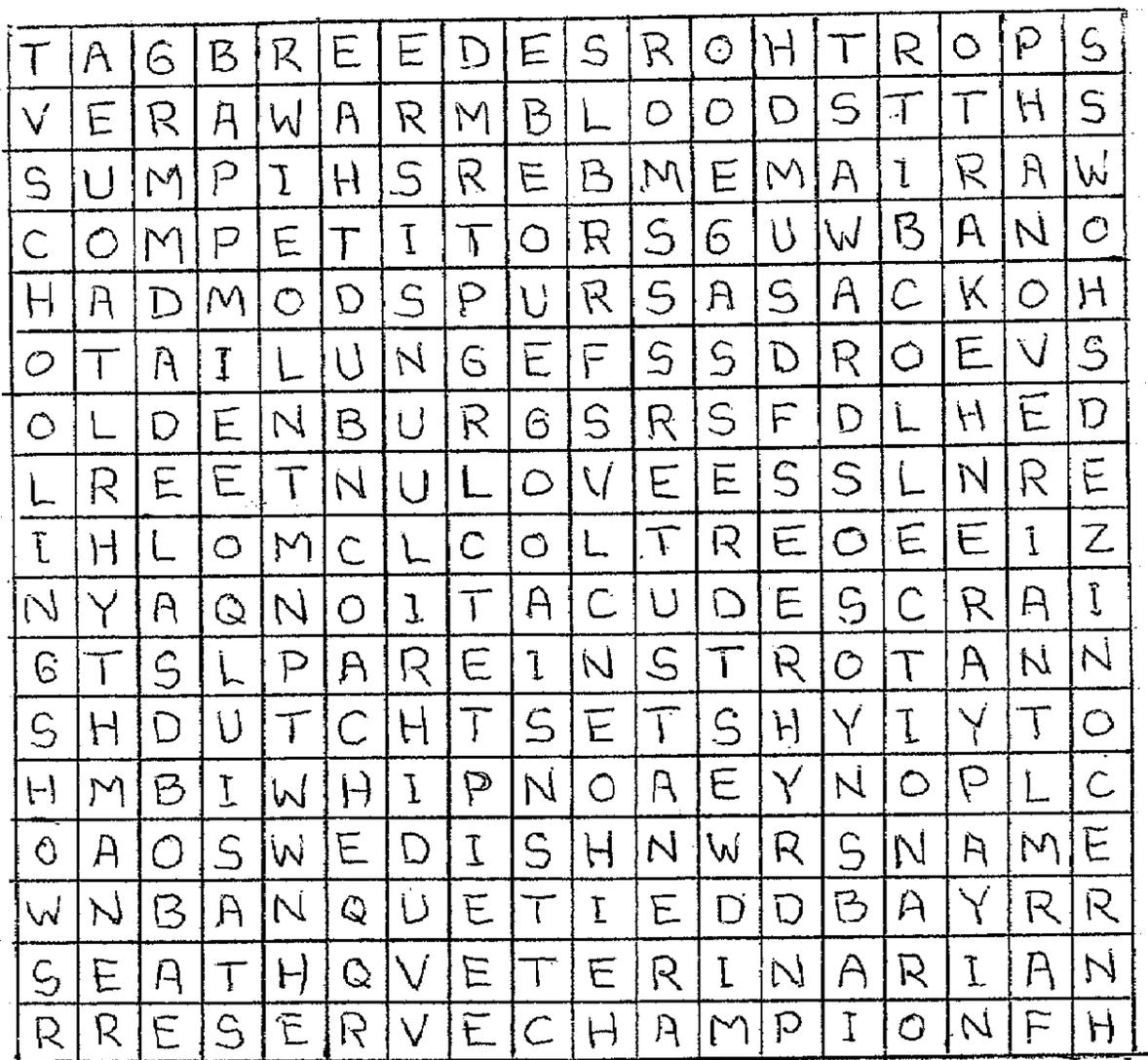
I brought my horse to Southview Farm. I remember everyone telling me to walk my horse into the arena so they can see him. I was so embarrassed, what if they laughed and thought he was just a silly little pony? But they loved him. Coming into a barn with big fancy show horses is very intimidating, especially for a girl who has only known 4-H, with her little welsh cob. The working part was just equally as hard. I was 17, maybe 18, and I've never worked a day in my life. I don't think I've ever washed dishes before, ran a vacuum, or swept a floor. I was a city kid who had everything handed to her. How does one work for something they have? What a silly question, but it was a true dilemma for me. I had to be taught how to use a push broom, and every time I swept the aisle, it felt like every ounce of energy and life was sucked out of me. I thought that I deserved an award, because hey, sweeping takes a lot out of you, ya know? Especially for a young girl, the smallest tasks seemed so big. It would take me 25+ minutes to clean a stall. I couldn't believe that they actually did this to all the stalls every single day. I looked up to my fellow coworkers, greatly. I believed that they were the hardest working

people I've ever seen in my life, and I gave them so much props for doing it. But as time went on, it got easier, I got a little faster. I can't tell you how many times I've got the pep talk from Sandy or Francis, telling me I had to do better because I was too slow, or not through enough. Some days it seemed downright impossible. I was certain I had the hardest job in the world. I was constantly in fear of everything, constantly crying because I felt not good enough and constantly sore from head to toe from the labor.

As time went on, it became second nature. I wasn't so sore anymore, I wasn't so frustrated. I received many compliments from those around me. I started to see how I was being shaped as a person. I was changing, physically and mentally. Not just in my work, but in my riding. Sandy has never been negative, but only uplifting, in my lessons. I thought riding was just walk, trot, canter, and then change direction. I was introduced to a whole new world with this extraordinary Dressage trainer. I was learning how to put my horse into frame, how to get him to become more responsive to me, how to keep him engaged, and consistent. Since the beginning of my journey till now, I've never stopped learning about my riding, because none of us do. Nike and I have changed as a pair completely, and by that I mean we have done a complete 180. I started winning at shows, and would get upset if I didn't win. I won every dressage class at the county shows, and I won Dressage Grand Champion in 2012 for Genesee County 4H. I went to the state show and won classes with 25 entries. I was awarded in the top 5 out of 60 riders. I was now that girl that all the younger kids looked up to and admired. I was the girl at shows that had the cool show horse that everyone wanted. And none of that would have happened if it wasn't for sticking with it, and busting my butt in the barn and in the arena for lessons. I have become of those Dressage people. I could show with everyone else at Waterloo. I had become a real rider in the Dressage community. It's still hard to believe that I am, from looking back at the wimpy kid with the speed horse 5 years ago. And I give it all to being a working student. Sandy, no matter how

many times she may have gotten frustrated with me, never gave up on me, or my horse. She was there through thick and thin, and always looks out for the well-being of us both. That goes for in and outside of the barn. The most important part of being a working student is who you are working for. When you have someone as hardworking and talented as Sandy, it makes the experience one that's unforgettable. The early mornings, the long days, the late night rides, are all worth it in the end. There are still days that I struggle, even years later, but I take one look at my horse, and I remember what I do it for. I do it for him. I do it to fuel my passion, and to make my trainer proud. I hope that reading this reminds you what you work for as well in your journey as a Dressage rider. I pray that it inspires you to stay in the game and never give up. You're capable of doing anything you set your mind too, even if it seems impossible. Don't lose the battle, go out and win it with every intention of becoming a star.

WORD SEARCH BY VALERIE DEAN





UNITED STATES *Dressage* FEDERATION

Group Membership (GM)

GENERAL INFORMATION

USDF has over 100 affiliated dressage clubs, or Group Member Organizations (GMOs), across the United States and Canada. These clubs submit their membership rosters to the USDF office. By joining a GMO, you automatically become a dues-paying group member of USDF. A complete listing of GMOs in your area can be found on the [USDF website](#).

USDF DISCOUNTS:

- [USDF Store](#) – 10% discount
- Discounted rate at USDF events

RESOURCES:

- 10 issues of *USDF Connection*
- Access to the [online USDF Connection](#) magazine
- *USDF Member Guide*
- Full access to [eTRAK](#), USDF's online learning center for dressage and equine education
- Full access to [USDFscores.com](#), the Official USDF source for the most accurate and complete dressage scores

ELIGIBLE TO:

- Compete at USEF-licensed/USDF-recognized competitions without paying the USDF non-member fee
- Participate in the [USDF Rider Award Program](#)
- Participate in the Horse and Rider Together (HART) Program

MEMBER PERKS:

- [DressageClinic.com](#) (15% discount on membership)
- [Dressage Extensions](#) (\$10 off any purchase of \$100 or more – one time use)
- [DressageMeetingOnline.com](#) (15% discount on membership)
- [DressageTrainingOnline.com](#) (25% discount on membership)
- [FarmVet](#) – **New for 2016!** (5% discount – some exclusions apply)
- [MyDressageStats.com](#) (One free month of membership)
- [Premier Equestrian](#) (5% discount on all Premier Equestrian items)
- [Ride Alert](#) (Complimentary first year family membership and 40% discount on wristband IDs)
- [USRider](#) (Join USRider with no activation fee for a savings of \$29 off the normal new membership rate)

IMPORTANT GM INFORMATION

- The USDF membership year is December 1 through November 30.
- USDF GM is issued directly through a GMO, not by joining USDF directly.
- Only individuals that renew their USDF Participating Membership, Business Membership, or Group Membership before December 31 will receive the yearbook issue of *USDF Connection*.
- For information on rider/handler/owner/horse eligibility for specific programs, please visit the [USDF website](#) or the online [USDF Member Guide](#).

Breakthrough Dressage is currently accepting horses in training at Bronze Mare Farm



Training with Jessie Myers

- Training from Intro to Grand Prix
- USDF Bronze and Silver Medalist
- Students have received USDF Bronze and Silver Medals and received top honors in USDF Regional and National Competitions
- Training and lesson programs customized to help you achieve your specific goals
- Numerous competition opportunities available at both schooling and recognized shows
- Lessons available on schoolmaster
- Trailer ins welcome

- Bronze Mare Farm is a 90 acre equestrian facility in picturesque Saline Township.
- Extremely convenient to the Ann Arbor area.
- Quality construction, large exterior windows on every stall, heated tack room and restroom facilities, hot water washrack, well insulated 80 X 120 indoor arena, 80 X 200 outdoor arena and 3 board vinyl fencing.
- 3 feedings per day, spacious turnouts, personalized care.



Board and training packages are now available!

To tour the farm or for any questions, please contact

Jessie at 734-730-5181

Visit us on **facebook** or at

Breakthroughdressage.com

Midwest Dressage Association

Dressage Boot Camp

May 21-22, 2016

Rattlewood Farms, Oxford, MI

What is a boot camp you ask?

Well this will be a weekend packed with all things Dressage!

Participants will arrive Friday evening to settle in and get their schedules.

Weekend participants will be working in groups of two, three or four
in mounted and unmounted sessions.

Session Topics:

Correct rider position

Every thing lateral

Mind – body- spirit

Ask the Vet

Lunging

Am I insured? Do I need it?

Improving my Test Scores

MDA is very pleased to offer this fun educational weekend thanks to several highly qualified equine professional trainers, instructors and business owners from around southeastern Michigan donating their time for the weekend.

Cost is \$100.00 includes all sessions, lunch both days and stabling.

Pre-registration is required. Limited RV hook ups available for \$30.00 per night.

Registration forms may be found on the MDA website

Closing date is May 9, 2016

This event is open to MDA Members only!

Midwest Dressage Association

Dressage Boot Camp

May 21-22, 2016

Closing date May 9, 2016

Riders Name _____ Date of Birth _____
Address _____ City _____
State _____ Zip _____ Phone#_(_____) _____
Email: _____@_____

Name of Horse _____ Age _____ Sex _____

Brief History:

Please provide a description of your riding level and abilities. What are your strengths and weakness?

Tell us about your horse, his/her show experience, training level and or issues.

Mail completed form and check
made out to *Midwest Dressage Association for \$100.00* to:
Will Davis, 9518 Brookway Court, Goodrich, MI 48438

MINUTES OF THE MIDWEST
DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION BOARD

January 6, 2016 6:30 PM
Held at White Horse Inn Restaurant
Metamora, Michigan

Board members in attendance: Chair Will Davis, Ingrid Baranski, Tom Bird, Lisa Machala, Beth Schaub, Lisa Howle, Julie Fleming and Denise Gentile

Guests: Barb Reis, Tanya Grant, Dave Schaub

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:30 PM

Comments from the Chair: none.

Secretary's Report: Tom Bird presented the minutes from the December 2, 2015 board meeting. Copies of the minutes were previously emailed to the board for their review and comment. Motion by Tom Bird that the December 2, 2015 minutes be approved. Seconded by Lisa Howle. Approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Lisa Howle reported that she sent out three reports for the Board to review as well as the profit/loss statement for the month of December. She stated her concern, that not being an accountant, she could not include in the annual report a full accounting for the past year. She said that the accountants will be reviewing the books in preparation for the IRS return as required by the MDA non-profit status. The membership will have access to that report. She said that for the 2015 year the estimated expenditures exceeded revenues by \$8,039.34. The current checkbook balance is \$18,800. Motion by Tom Bird to accept the December 2015 financial report. Seconded by Denise Gentile. Approved by voice vote.

Committee Reports:

Memberships: Julie Fleming reported that the new and renewed membership is currently 112 with 37 professional, 63 adult amateur, 9 juniors

and 3 life members. She commented that last year, renewal reminder post cards were sent out to individuals that had been members within the past five years. There were about 900 entries on that list and the cost of mailing was \$336. Discussion focused on getting new quotes for a mailing decision at the next meeting. She also asked about membership logo pins, noting that there are not many left and whether the MDA should continue this practice. Discussion focused on the expense and whether another alternative might be suitable, such as MDA decals. Motion by Julie Fleming that the pins not be reordered. Seconded by Denise Gentile. Approved by voice vote.

Education: Ingrid Baranski said that she had spoken with some area dressage professionals about the dressage boot-camp project and they offered their support for the project. Will Davis said that he would set the date and location for the boot-camp and noted the sessions would have to reflect a variety of levels in order to have a wide appeal to the membership. Barb Reis addressed the Janet Foy symposium and the general organization that will be needed, such as providing lunches for the auditors, securing riders of various levels, the fees for MDA members and non-members, publicity for the symposium (including event sponsors) and an afternoon reception.

Executive Committee: no report

Product Sales: Will Davis reported that there will be a year end report on product sales and there will need to be new product purchased for the new year.

Marketing and Promotions: Lisa Machala stated that the proof of purchase rebate program with Kalmbach Feeds, the maker of Tribute feeds, is now underway and the Midwest Dressage Association has a rebate account. She also reported on the continuation of the membership survey that and that there are now 180 responses. She said they will be tabulated for the annual meeting in January, 2016 and gave a brief

overview of the results. She said that written comments were provided on about 50 returns and about half positive and half negative. She said that it would be useful to show the membership how their annual dues are allocated and that the survey results should be put on line for the members to read.

Awards Banquet: Denise Gentile reported that she has booked and made a deposit at the Addison Oaks Conference Center with a scheduled date of November 20, 2016 for the Awards Banquet. The center will hold the same price as in 2015 and the cost for attending needs to be set by the Board.

Professional Advisors: no report.

Nominations: Lisa Howle stated that the ballots have been distributed through the newsletter and returns will be accepted now and at the annual meeting later in the month.

Scholarship: no report

Awards: Beth Schaub presented the final awards budget and the cost was \$3,034.01 which was \$432.96 above the estimate. She said that there were some unexpected costs for embroidery, ribbons and shipping. She asked for ideas about awards for 2016. There was discussion about the awards eligibility for riders on horses owned by non-MDA members. It was noted that for some USDF classes the horse also has to be a registered with the USDF to be eligible for an award.

Historian: no report

Directory: Julie Fleming said that she was looking for changes and updates for the directory with a target printing date of early April 2016. There was discussion on the number of awards and qualifications for awards. There can be differences between the recognized shows where the standards are set by the USDF and the schooling shows where the MDA establishes the award criteria. The issue discussed was for schooling shows and classes for juniors and

young riders and how the award criteria could encourage a greater level of participation. Motion by Lisa Howle that minimum qualification scores be eliminated for juniors and young riders for schooling shows to be eligible for annual awards. This action is supported by feedback seen in the recent membership survey. Seconded by Lisa Michala. Approved by voice vote. The discussion about by-laws and any changes would be a topic for the new MDA Board which will convene after the annual meeting.

Newsletter: Barb Reis stated that items submitted for the newsletter need to be printer and camera ready. She also noted that there is a lot of viewing of the electronic newsletter in addition to the hard copy that is sent to members. She said it may be time to address the issue of who wants just the electronic copy – something that would be a real cost savings to the MDA.

Volunteers: no report

Video Library: no report.

Website: Barb Reis said that the two concerns about the use of Pay-Pal and being able to renew memberships on-line are very complicated and as yet unresolved.

Old Business: Will Davis reviewed a letter to be sent to the members regarding the suspension of the MDA Bucks program. Motion by Lisa Machala that the letter be approved and sent to the current and past members dating back five years and that the letter be signed by the MDA Board and not just the chairman. Seconded by Beth Schaub. Approved by voice vote. Will Davis reminded everyone of the Annual Meeting at Cranberries in Davison on January 17, at 4:00 pm and that the annual reports would be presented at that time.

New Business: none

The next meeting of the new MDA Board will be on Sunday, February 7 at the Highland House on M-59 in Highland, Michigan at 2:00 PM. Motion by Tom Bird to Adjourn. Seconded by Lisa Howle. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Treat Your Favorite Horse or Rider to Therapeutic Bodywork



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Horse & Rider Wellness Clinics

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MDA members receive 10% discount on services!

Call or Text Lisa @ **248.921.6322**

Visit www.MichiganEquineTherapy.com for program details

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MDA ITEMS OF INTEREST

MDA ESSAY CONTEST

Open to all MDA members
\$50 cash award for each category:
Jr/YR, Adult Amateur and Open

We are asking our members to help us reduce monthly costs by opting out of receiving a printed copy of the MDA newsletter. It is available online for you to read and print.

Here's a synopsis of where your membership money goes:

MDA PROFESSIONAL GRANT PROGRAM

Three grants of \$500 each are available for a professional to further their education in teaching, training and judging

Individual MDA Membership:	\$51.00
USDF annual member dues:	-\$20.00
Monthly Printed / mailed Newsletters*	-\$30.00*
Annual Awards per member	-\$ 8.00

Balance: -\$ 7.00

More information on the MDA Website

*Amount varies depending on printing volume, and whether we qualify for bulk non-profit mailing rates

The Midwest Dressage Association &



Are joining together in a Partners Program

The Midwest Dressage is participating in the fund raising program developed by Tribute Feeds. To get involved collect Tribute proofs of purchase from Tribute feed bags and mail them to us. We will receive:

- \$.25 for each bag proof of purchase
- \$10 for each ton of bulk feed purchased



Please forward your Tribute Horse Feed proof of purchase (off of the bags) or photocopies of invoices for bulk Tribute purchases. If you are submitting photocopied invoices, please black out any sensitive information like name, phone, and credit card info.

Submit proof of purchase tags to:

Midwest Dressage Association
C/O Michigan Equine Therapy
29193 Northwestern Hwy #540
Southfield MI 48034

Classified Ads

MDA Member

2 issues - FREE - 60 words or less: -
\$10.00 - 60- 80 words
Non-member/ per 2 issues \$20.00: - 60 words or less

Free member ads will run for two issues only.
One free ad per member at a time.
Submit Ad and payment by 15th of the month.
Website posting included.

Free Stable Listings: include contact info, city and three lines. Ads subject to editing.

Newsletter/Website Editor:

Barbra Reis
blondmane@gmail.com or 248-670-9031

Check payable to MDA
and send to:

Barbra Reis, 490 Rissman Lane, Ortonville, MI 48462

Email ad to:
blondmane@gmail.com

Horses for Sale or Lease

Ever wish you could raise your own foal? I have a great opportunity to by now, in utero. No worries or expense of getting a mare in foal. The work has been done for you. I have 4 mares available bred to Irish sport horses. A Hanoverian (Main Verben stud book): a Trekahner, warmblood X, and a Thourghbred. LIVE FOAL GUARANTEE. No vet bills until the foal is born. Call for details!!!
Contact Bo'Valie Farm 810-664-0058

Instruction and Training

Your Ad Here!

Tack for Sale

Help Wanted

Your Ad Here!

Stable Listings

Bo'Valie Farm
Valerie Dahl-Dean
4596 W Oregon Rd
Lapeer MI 48446

810-664-0058
Boarding, Training, Lessons in house or trailer in. Full and half leases available. Breeding mares and sale horses available. Grass Pastures and Indoor and Outdoor arenas. Specializing in rehab for physically and mentally stressed sport horses.

Brilliant Reflection Farm
Brian & Barbra Reis
490 Rissman Lane
Ortonville, MI 48462

248-670-9031
www.brilliantreflectionfarm.com
Lessons, Boarding, Rehab for equine (TheraPlate, Spectra Laser Therapy), Schooling Shows, Turn-out, Indoor/Outdoor arenas.

Deisig Dressage
Janelle Deisig
7330 E. Curtis Road
Frankenmuth, MI 48734

989-598-6850
Janelledeisig@yahoo.com
www.deisigdressage.com
Dressage training, sales, trailer in lessons

Far Gone Farm
Allison Gaughan-McNab
923 Sharon Hollow Road
Manchester, MI 48158

9734-276-8967
fgfsporthorses@yahoo.com
Boarding, Lessons Training, Breeding, Sales

Lone Willow Farms
Ingrid Baranski
5781 Hessen Road
Casco, MI 48064

586-306-6275
www.lonewillowfarms.net

Reflection Arabians
Jim & Nancy Lapeer
3332 Lake George Road
Dryden, MI

Sky High Farm
1759 Smith Road
Lapeer, MI. 48446
248-890-2426
jenmaull@yahoo.com
http://skyhighfarm.vpweb.com.
Boarding & Dressage Training

Southview Farm
Sandra Tull
8023 N. Center Road
Mt Morris, MI 48458
810-397-0387
sandytulldressage.com
Dressage training, Coaching at shows, Sales, Trailer in welcome
Will travel for lessons, Hosting clinics with Internationally known clinicians

Summerwood
Teah Weyers Bankes
3589 Fenton Road
Hartland, MI 48353
248-887-3819 or 248-408-7842.
Training - GP dressage. Work with pony clubbers.

Visual Equestrian LLC
Tonya & Carole Grant
5390 Pleasant Hill drive
Fenton, Michigan 48430
248-219-0410
Dressage training, Sale horses and ponies, Pony program, Clinics
Trailer in lessons welcome

Will Davis Training Center
@Rattlewood Farms
Oxford, MI

810-387-2011
Boarding, Training, Lessons, Clinics with international trainers, home to MidMichigan Dressage shows



Midwest Dressage Association

Membership application

December 1, 2015—November 30, 2016

Membership Information: Renewal (MDA #): _____ New Member : _____

Name: _____ Date of Birth _____

Farm/Business Name: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Rider Status: Open Adult Amateur Junior/Young Rider (*Must be under 21 as of 12/1/2015*)

If a rider status is not selected, applicant will be considered as Open for all MDA purposes including year end awards. Adult Amateur status is limited to riders who meet the guidelines of USEF GR808.

Family Memberships: *Only the primary member will receive monthly newsletters and yearly directories.*

Name: _____ Date of Birth _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Rider Status: Open Adult Amateur Junior/Young Rider (*Must be under 21 as of 12/1/2015*)

Name: _____ Date of Birth _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Rider Status: Open Adult Amateur Junior/Young Rider (*Must be under 21 as of 12/1/2015*)

I would like to be listed in the MDA Directory with the following services:

Boarding Facility Training Facility Trainer (will travel) Judge Other: _____

Member these services apply to: _____

I **DO NOT** want my information printed in the MDA Directory

*All Members receive a membership card and lapel pin, monthly newsletters, a yearly directory, and a group membership to United States Dressage Foundation (USDF) for the membership year. **The effective date of membership is the postmarked date of the application.** MDA is not responsible for late, delayed, or misdirected mail. Please allow three weeks for processing of MDA application and USDF group membership.*

TOTALS: Adult Amateur/Open (\$51) \$ _____

Junior (\$41) \$ _____

Family Members (\$21 X ____) \$ _____

Non US Mailing address (add'l \$15) \$ _____

For Questions, please contact: Julie Fleming

membership@midwestdressage.org

I would like to donate to: (tax deductible) Please indicate amt.

<i>Office Use Only:</i>	
PM: _____	CK: _____
AMT: _____	

MDA Annual Awards \$ _____

MDA Educational Clinics \$ _____

TOTAL PAID: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to **MDA** and send to Julie Fleming, 9480 W. Grand River Rd., Fowlerville, MI 48836

Calendar of Events

March 2016

6 - MDA Board Meeting, 2pm, McPhee's Restaurant, 650 S. Ortonville Rd. Ortonville, MI 48462. Members welcome.

11- 13 - Michigan Horse Council Expo, East Lansing, MI. MDA will have a booth there and is looking for volunteers. Contact Will Davis at 810-287-2011.

20 - Dressage Schooling Show at Brilliant Reflection Farm. No show clothes required! Intro thru 2nd Level tests, Eventing dressage tests and Western dressage tests. For prize list and entry form go to: <http://www.brilliantreflectionfarm.com/dressage-schooling-shows-2016.html> .

April 2016

1 thru 3 - Charles de Kunffy symposium presented by GLASS-ED and Albion College. For more details, visit www.albion.edu/heldcenter, call the Held Center at (517)629-0836 or email equestrians@albion.edu.

3 - MDA Board Meeting, 2pm, Highland House, 2630 E Highland Rd, Highland MI 48356. Members Welcome!

9 & 10 - Janet Foy "Dressage Thru the Levels" Symposium. Forms for auditing and riding on our website. Contact Barb at 248-670-9031 or blondmane@gmail.com to inquire about sponsorships, advertising and vendor information.

16-17 - Patrick Burssens clinic at Rattlewood Farms Oxford MI. Auditors welcome \$15.00/ \$20.00 includes lunch. Contact Will Davis 810-287-2011

23-24 - Melissa Allen clinic at Southview Farm. Melissa is one of only five USDF FEI Certified Instructors! Riding and auditing information at www.sandytulldressage.com or contact Sandy at 810-397-0387 or ftull01@comcast.net

24 - Dressage Schooling Show at Brilliant Reflection Farm. No show clothes required! Intro thru 2nd Level tests, Eventing dressage tests and Western dressage tests. For prize list and entry form go to: <http://www.brilliantreflectionfarm.com/dressage-schooling-shows-2016.html> .

May 2016

1 - Dressage schooling show at Woodbine Farm, 9976 Liberty Rd, Chelsea, Mi 48118, Woodbinefarms.com . Western Dressage is also offered.

3 - MDA Board Meeting, 6:30pm, McPhees Restaurant, 650 S. Ortonville Rd. Ortonville, MI 48462. Members welcome.

14-15 - Lauren Sprieser clinic at Southview Farm. Her clinic in December was a huge success, and riding slots are filling fast! More information at www.sandytulldressage.com or contact Sandy at 810-397-0387 or ftull01@comcast.net

15 - Woodbine Dressage Summer Series, 9976 Liberty Rd. Chelsea, Mi. Intro through Second Level plus Test of Choice and Western Dressage. Three show arenas (2 Large, 1 Small). Champion and Reserve awarded at each show (for each level) and Year End Awards Dinner in October. For more information please go to www.woodbinefarms.com or call 502-314-3411.

15 - Justamere Equestrian Center schooling shows. Contact Kathy Biondo at 586-489-3020, kathysday@wideopenwest.com, www.justamere.info

22 - Summer Series Dressage Schooling Show, Shiawassee County Fairgrounds, Corunna, MI. Offering Training, First & Second Levels, Upper Levels Upon Request, Test of Choice, Western Dressage, Dressage Seat Equitation, 4H & Pony Classes, Open, Adult Amateur, Junior & Pony & 4H Divisions, Year End Awards in Each Level & Division, Year End High Score Each Level, High Score at Each Show. For Prize List & Entry Form go to www.summerseriesdressage.com or call 561-358-9594.

28 - Summer Series Dressage Schooling Show, Groveland Equestrian Center, Ortonville, MI. Offering Training, First & Second Levels, Upper Levels Upon Request, Test of Choice, Western Dressage, Dressage Seat Equitation, 4H & Pony Classes, Open, Adult Amateur, Junior & Pony & 4H Divisions, Year End Awards in Each Level & Division, Year End High Score Each Level, High Score at Each Show. For Prize List & Entry Form go to www.summerseriesdressage.com or call 561-358-9594.

June 2016

5 - Justamere Equestrian Center schooling shows. Contact Kathy Biondo at 586-489-3020, kathysday@wideopenwest.com, www.justamere.info

7 - MDA Board Meeting, 6:30pm, Highland House, 2630 E Highland Rd, Highland MI 48356. Members Welcome!

11-12 - MidMichigan Dressage Schooling Shows at Rattlewood Farms, Oxford, MI. <http://midmichigandressage.webs.com/>

12 -Woodbine Dressage Summer Series, 9976 Liberty Rd. Chelsea, Mi. Intro through Second Level plus Test of Choice and Western Dressage. Three show arenas (2 Large, 1 Small). Champion and Reserve awarded at each show (for each level) and Year End Awards Dinner in October. For more information please go to www.woodbinefarms.com or call 502-314-3411.

26 - Summer Series Dressage Schooling Show, Groveland Equestrian Center, Ortonville, MI. Offering Training, First & Second Levels, Upper Levels Upon Request, Test of Choice, Western Dressage, Dressage Seat Equitation, 4H & Pony Classes,

Open, Adult Amateur, Junior & Pony & 4H Divisions, Year End Awards in Each Level & Division, Year End High Score Each Level, High Score at Each Show. For Prize List & Entry Form go to www.summerseriesdressage.com or call 561-358-9594.

26 - Justamere Equestrian Center schooling shows, Contact Kathy Biondo at 586-489-3020, kathysday@wideopenwest.com, www.justamere.info

July 2016

9-10 - MidMichigan Dressage Schooling Shows at Rattlewood Farms, Oxford, MI. <http://midmichigandressage.webs.com/>

17- Woodbine Dressage Summer Series, 9976 Liberty Rd. Chelsea, Mi. Intro through Second Level plus Test of Choice and Western Dressage. Three show arenas (2 Large, 1 Small). Champion and Reserve awarded at each show (for each level) and Year End Awards Dinner in October. For more information please go to www.woodbinefarms.com or call 502-314-3411.

17 - Justamere Equestrian Center schooling shows, Contact Kathy Biondo at 586-489-3020, kathysday@wideopenwest.com, www.justamere.info

24 - Summer Series Dressage Schooling Show, Shiawassee County Fairgrounds, Corunna, MI. Offering Training, First & Second Levels, Upper Levels Upon Request, Test of Choice, Western Dressage, Dressage Seat Equitation, 4H & Pony Classes, Open, Adult Amateur, Junior & Pony & 4H Divisions, Year End Awards in Each Level & Division, Year End High Score Each Level, High Score at Each Show. For Prize List & Entry Form go to www.summerseriesdressage.com or call 561-358-9594.

31 - Summer Series Dressage Schooling Show, Groveland Equestrian Center, Ortonville, MI. Offering Training, First & Second Levels, Upper Levels Upon Request, Test of Choice, Western Dressage, Dressage Seat Equitation, 4H & Pony Classes, Open, Adult Amateur, Junior & Pony & 4H Divisions, Year End Awards in Each Level & Division, Year End High Score Each Level, High Score at Each Show. For Prize List & Entry Form go to www.summerseriesdressage.com or call 561-358-9594.

August 2016

6-7 - MidMichigan Dressage Schooling Shows at Rattlewood Farms, Oxford, MI. <http://midmichigandressage.webs.com/>

7 - Justamere Equestrian Center schooling shows, Contact Kathy Biondo at 586-489-3020, kathysday@wideopenwest.com, www.justamere.info

20 - Summer Series Dressage Schooling Show, Groveland Equestrian Center, Ortonville, MI. Offering Training, First & Second Levels, Upper Levels Upon Request, Test of Choice, Western Dressage, Dressage Seat Equitation, 4H & Pony Classes, Open, Adult Amateur, Junior & Pony & 4H Divisions, Year End Awards in Each Level & Division, Year End High Score Each Level, High Score at Each Show. For Prize List & Entry Form go to www.summerseriesdressage.com or call 561-358-9594.

28 - Woodbine Dressage Summer Series, 9976 Liberty Rd. Chelsea, Mi. Intro through Second Level plus Test of Choice and Western Dressage. Three show arenas (2 Large, 1 Small). Champion and Reserve awarded at each show (for each level) and Year End Awards Dinner in October. For more information please go to www.woodbinefarms.com or call 502-314-3411.

28 - Justamere Equestrian Center schooling shows, Contact Kathy Biondo at 586-489-3020, kathysday@wideopenwest.com, www.justamere.info

September 2016

3-4 - MidMichigan Dressage Schooling Shows at Rattlewood Farms, Oxford, MI. <http://midmichigandressage.webs.com/>

18 - Woodbine Dressage Summer Series, 9976 Liberty Rd. Chelsea, Mi. Intro through Second Level plus Test of Choice and Western Dressage. Three show arenas (2 Large, 1 Small). Champion and Reserve awarded at each show (for each level) and Year End Awards Dinner in October. For more information please go to www.woodbinefarms.com or call 502-314-3411.

28 - Will Davis Training Center will be hosting the ISR Oldenburg inspection at Rattlewood Farms, Oxford, MI. Contact Will at 810-287-2011.

October 2016

16 - Justamere Equestrian Center schooling shows, Contact Kathy Biondo at 586-489-3020, kathysday@wideopenwest.com, www.justamere.info

29 - Summer Series Dressage Schooling Show, Groveland Equestrian Center, Ortonville, MI. Offering Training, First & Second Levels, Upper Levels Upon Request, Test of Choice, Western Dressage, Dressage Seat Equitation, 4H & Pony Classes, Open, Adult Amateur, Junior & Pony & 4H Divisions, Year End Awards in Each Level & Division, Year End High Score Each Level, High Score at Each Show. For Prize List & Entry Form go to www.summerseriesdressage.com or call 561-358-9594.

Midwest Dressage Association

c/o Barbra Reis
Brilliant Reflection Farm
490 Rissman Lane
Ortonville, MI 48462

