



March 2019 Editor's Notes...

In my career as a trainer, I have had the opportunity to introduce many kids to the sport of Dressage. I know many of my fellow trainers choose to focus on the adult riders and I enjoy teaching adults as well, but there's something about teaching young kids that I love. They are a blank slate – they have no preconceived notions about how they are supposed to look, they haven't ridden enough to be frustrated and worried, and basically, they're in it just for the sheer fun and freedom of being on a horse. But kids are also tough critics – if they don't think you're giving them 100% then they quickly lose interest. I teach one little girl who told me the other day that I'm the best trainer she's ever had. I asked her why and she replied that it's because I don't spend the entire lesson on my phone and I don't yell at her. What a shame that there are trainers out there who think that yelling at a kid or ignoring them during a lesson is the way to teach them. The future of Dressage depends upon these young people continuing on in the sport, so it's our job as trainers to help make that journey as positive as possible. Kids don't want to be yelled at – heck, I don't know a lot of adults that do either. And don't discount the importance of giving their lessons the same effort as an adult amateur. These kids are the ones that may go on to participate in Young Rider programs or even grow to be professional equestrians

themselves. Don't tune out when during their third lesson you're still trying to help them grasp posting – remember that even Charlotte and Laura started that way as well! Not all of these little munchkins will go on to great glory as high-level Dressage riders but if we as trainers give them everything we have – if we make it fun and keep them interested – not only will we create a strong new generation of riders, but we'll make a positive impact on their lives. And speaking from experience – if they have fun we will too!

-Allison



Midwest Dressage Association Board of Directors



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Carolyn Van Cise Fund Grant Awarded to Eleanor Millerschin

(Article from the USDF Foundation, March 5, 2019)

The Dressage Foundation is pleased to announce that the Carolyn Van Cise Memorial Sportsmanship Fund Grant has been awarded to Eleanor Millerschin of Rochester Hills, Michigan.

Eleanor is a member of Midwest Dressage Association and a graduate of Michigan State University, where she was on the MSU Dressage Team and worked in the Horse Teaching and Research Center. Eleanor intends to use the \$500 grant for a clinic with Jacquie Brooks this fall.

"I'm honored to receive this grant in memory of Carolyn Van Cise," said Eleanor. "I am excited to have this opportunity to expand my education and share what I learn with others in the dressage community. Thank you to Carolyn's friends and family for establishing this grant and to all TDF donors for supporting riders and encouraging further education and good sportsmanship."

She continued, "I was fortunate to audit a clinic with Jacquie last year and was very impressed by the changes and growth in all the horses and riders who participated. Beyond possessing a wealth of knowledge, Jacquie was genuinely interested in educating the riders and auditors, and I can't wait to ride with her."

Carolyn Van Cise was active in Michigan's dressage community for many years as a trainer, instructor, judge, and mentor. Dressage was her passion and she served as a role model for those she knew. The Carolyn Van Cise Memorial Sportsmanship Grant is awarded annually to a rider under age 25 who is a current Michigan resident and best exemplifies the qualities that Carolyn found most important in life, including the characteristics that demonstrate positive sportsmanship principles.

Recipients of this grant will receive \$500 to be used towards expenses associated with attending a specific educational eventing or dressage event of their choice.

For more information about the Carolyn Van Cise Memorial Sportsmanship Fund or The Dressage Foundation, please contact Jenny Johnson at (402) 434-8585, by email at jenny@dressagefoundation.org, or visit www.dressagefoundation.org.



Photo by Carissa J. Carpenter

Lois Yukins Test Riding Clinic a Huge Success!

On March 16 the Midwest Dressage Association hosted judge and test writing committee member Lois Yukins at Topline Dressage for a test riding clinic. While the weather wasn't exactly cooperative everyone's spirits were high as members listened to Lois explain the changes to the USDF Dressage tests. With volunteer riders on hand to demonstrate how the tests look when ridden, Ms. Yukins not only critiqued the horses performing the tests but also pointed out places where changes had been made to each test. It provided a great opportunity for the members of the audience to watch a test through the eye of the judge and understand some of the comments that are often written on tests.



Despite the cold, attendance for the test riding clinic was impressive!

Between rides Ms. Yukins was kind enough to take questions from auditors about what judges want to see from horses and riders. She emphasized the need to encourage stretch, relaxation and suppleness, especially at the

lower levels. For the upper level tests, she encouraged forward riding and maintaining a consistent tempo. The demo riders were all good sports for taking on the responsibility of performing the new tests as well as being given "mini lessons" in front of the crowd. She further explained that even though a lot of the changes made to the tests were relatively minor, many of the movements now hold greater value due to changes made to some of the coefficients. Auditors were treated to an amazing lunch courtesy of MDA board member Will Davis, who never fails to provide great food whenever and wherever needed and it was certainly appreciated on this cold day!

The MDA Board of Directors would like to thank Lois Yukins for offering her knowledge and expertise as well as the amazing volunteer riders. And tremendous thanks go to Judy Kelly for offering her facility, Topline Dressage, to us for this clinic. We very much appreciate the hospitality!



MDA President Nancy Bryant, Lois Yukins, and the owner of Topline Dressage, Judy Kelly.

March Board of Directors Meeting

The March Board of Directors meeting was held March 3 at 2:00pm. Present at the meeting were Nancy Bryant, Allison McKenzie, Cheryl Figures, Will Davis, Lindy Thompson, Kathy Monaghan, Jean Coleman-Henderson. Tonya Grant phoned in. Absent were Milanna Jones, Beth Schaub, and Alexis Levitt.

The subject of mailing out our newsletters was discussed. Mailing out the newsletter brings an added expense to the organization. In the future we will provide the option of having the newsletter mailed if members indicate so on their membership applications provided the member pays an additional fee of \$25.00.

It was also decided that the newsletter will now include more detailed minutes from board meetings.

Logistics for the Lois Yukins clinic were finalized and preparations for the annual MDA Bootcamp were discussed. Bootcamp will be held at Rattlewood Farm under the direction of Will Davis. He is still finalizing the line-up of instructors. The event will be held May 11-12. Committee reports were given and accepted. The next board meeting will be on Sunday April 7 at the Comeback Inn in Milford at 2:00pm. All MDA members are welcome. Please notify a board member if you wish to attend.



MDA Dressage Boot Camp at Rattlewood Farm Application Form

*May 11-12, 2019
Closing date May 1, 2019*

Riders Name _____ Date of Birth _____
Address _____
State _____ Zip _____ Phone# _____

Name of Horse _____ Age _____ Sex _____

Brief History:

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

Tell us about your horse, its show experience, training level and or issues.

*NOTE you must be a M.D.A. member

* Stalls will be available Friday after 3:00 p.m.

* Everyone will need to arrive and check in Friday evening as we will be starting early Saturday morning.

Will Davis

9518 Brookway Ct

Goodrich, MI 48438

USDF Youth Education Opportunities

something for everyone

USDF Region 2 Presents

Jr/YR Clinic
featuring
ANNE GRIBBONS



Jr/YR Clinic Rider Deadline:
March 1

Youth Outreach Clinic
featuring
ROSALIND KINSTLER



Outreach Clinic Rider Deadline:
March 8

Saturday, April 13, 2019
Sunday, April 14, 2019
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Majestic Farm
Batavia, OH

Auditors of all ages are welcome.
All auditing will be at the Jr/YR Clinic

Auditor pre-registration ends on March 29, 2019.

Walk-in registration will also be available on-site.

2019 Calender

April

7 – MDA Board of Directors meeting. 2:00. Comeback Inn, Milford, MI.

13 – Willowbrooke Farm Dressage Schooling Show at Willowbrooke Farm. 7461 Brookville Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. www.willowbrooke-farm.com

20/21 – Dressage at Albion College. Nancy G. Held Equestrian Center. Albion College, Albion, MI. www.horseshowoffice.com

27 – Brilliant Reflection Farm Dressage Schooling Show. Brilliant Reflection Farm, Ortonville, MI. Contact Barb Reis (248) 670-9031 or blondmane@yahoo.com

28 – Woodbine Dressage at Woodbine Farm. 9976 Liberty Road, Chelsea, MI 48118. www.woodbinefarms.com

27/28 – Dressage at Albion College. Albion College, Albion, MI. www.horseshowoffice.com

May

5 – Grosse Pointe Schooling Show. Grosse Pointe Equestrian. 655 Cook Road, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236. www.gphuntclub.com.

11/12 – MDA Bootcamp. Rattlewood Farm. 1935 Ray Road, Oxford, MI 48371. www.midwestdressage.org

11 – Summer Dressage Schooling Show at Wyn Farm. 3100 Noble Road. Williamston, MI 48895. www.wynfarm.com

18/19 – Mid-Michigan Dressage Schooling Show 1 and 2 at Rattlewood Farms. 1935 Ray Road, Oxford, MI 48371. <http://midmichigandressage.webs.com/>

19 – Woodbine Dressage at Woodbine Farm. 9976 Liberty Road, Chelsea, MI 48118. www.woodbinefarms.com

31- June 2 – Dressage at Waterloo. Waterloo Hunt Club. 11500 Glenn Road, Grass Lake, MI 49240. www.horseshowoffice.com

June

8/9 – Mid-Michigan Dressage Schooling Shows 3 and 4 at Rattlewood Farms. 1935 Ray Road, Oxford, MI 48371. <http://midmichigandressage.webs.com/>

8 – Summer Dressage Schooling Show at Wyn Farm. 3100 Noble Road, Williamston, MI 48895. www.wynfarm.com

9 – Woodbine Dressage at Woodbine Farm. 9976 Liberty Road, Chelsea, MI 48118. www.woodbinefarms.com

14-16 – Dressage at Waterloo at Waterloo Hunt Club. 11500 Glenn Road, Grass Lake, MI 49240. www.horseshowoffice.com

23 – Grosse Pointe Schooling Show. Grosse Pointe Equestrian. 655 Cook Road, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236. www.gphuntclub.com

July

7 – Woodbine Dressage at Woodbine Farm. 9976 Liberty Road, Chelsea, MI 48118. www.woodbinefarms.com

13 – Wyn Farm Summer Dressage Schooling Show at Wyn Farm. 3100 Noble Road, Williamston, MI 48895. www.wynfarm.com

12-14 - Dressage at Waterloo at Waterloo Hunt Club. 11500 Glenn Road, Grass Lake, MI 49240. www.horseshowoffice.com

20/21 – Mid-Michigan Dressage Schooling Shows 5 and 6 at Rattlewood Farms. 1935 Ray Road, Oxford, MI 48371. <http://midmichigandressage.webs.com/>

27/28 – Michigan Summer Dressage at Wyn Farm. 3100 Noble Road, Williamston, MI 48895. www.horseshowoffice.com

August

2-4 – Dressage at Waterloo at Waterloo Hunt Club. 11500 Glenn Road, Grass Lake, MI 49240.

www.horseshowoffice.com

11 – Grosse Pointe Schooling Dressage. Grosse Pointe Equestrian. 655 Cook Road, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236. www.gphuntclub.com

10/11 Mid-Michigan Dressage Schooling Shows 7 and 8 at Rattlewood Farms. 1935 Ray Road, Oxford, MI 48371. <http://midmichigandressage.webs.com/>

10 – Wyn Farm Summer Dressage Schooling Show at Wyn Farm. 3100 Noble Road, Williamston, MI 48895. www.wynfarm.com

15-18 – Dressage at Waterloo at Waterloo Hunt Club. 11500 Glenn Road, Grass Lake, MI 49240.

www.horseshowoffice.com

25 – Woodbine Dressage at Woodbine Farm. 9976 Liberty Road, Chelsea, MI 48118.

www.woodbinefarms.com

31-Sept. 1 – Mid-Michigan Dressage Schooling Shows at Rattlewood Farms. 1935 Ray Road, Oxford, MI 48371. <http://midmichigandressage.webs.com/>

September

7 – Dressage Summer Schooling Show Wyn Farm. 3100 Noble Road, Williamston, MI 48895.

www.wynfarm.com

8 – Grosse Pointe Schooling Dressage. Grosse Pointe Equestrian. 655 Cook Road, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236. www.gphuntclub.com

11-15 – USDF Region 2 Regional Championships at Waterloo Hunt Club. 11500 Glenn Road, Grass Lake, MI 49240. www.horseshowoffice.com

15 – Woodbine Dressage at Woodbine Farm. 9976 Liberty Road, Chelsea, MI 48118.

www.woodbinefarms.com

October

November

22-23 – Annual Awards Banquet and Educational Weekend. Meet and Greet, Guest Speakers, and 50th Anniversary Award Banquet Celebration. Black Tie Event. Auburn Hill Marriott Hotel, 3600 Centerpoint Pkwy, Pontiac, MI. Contact Will Davis at WillDavis@aol.com.

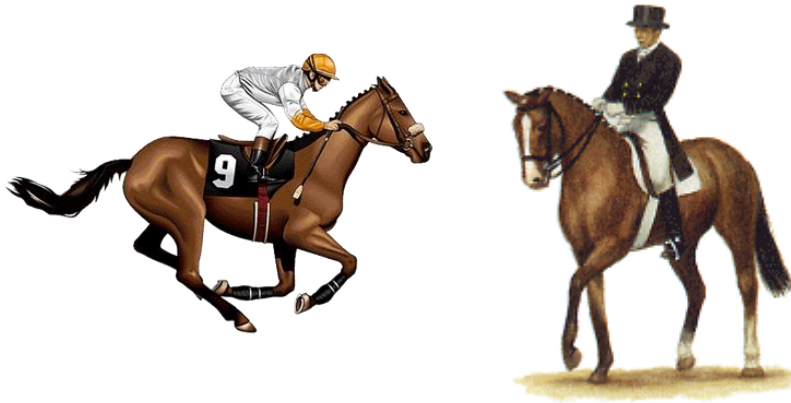
Legend:

MDA Recognized Schooling Shows in purple

USDF Recognized Shows in green

MDA Educational Events in yellow

The Encore Award



This award recognizes the achievements of Off-Track Thoroughbreds in the sport of Dressage. This is a year-end high-point award that will be given to an OTTB competing at any level that has achieved the highest overall percentage for the competition season. Owners/Riders must provide a copy of the horses' Jockey Club papers or a picture of a verifiable lip tattoo and three tests ridden under three different judges at any one level from a recognized or schooling show. Rider and/or owner must be a current MDA member. This award is sponsored by Allison McKenzie.

**Please send the application and paperwork to:
Allison McKenzie
9867 Sharon Hollow Road
Manchester, MI 48158**

Horse Name: _____

Owner/Rider Name: _____

Owner/Rider Address: _____

Owner/Rider Phone: _____

Owner/Rider Email: _____

Questions? Contact Allison at 734-276-8967 or amsporthorses@yahoo.com

Tribute Partners Program



The Tribute Partners Program allows MDA to earn money for educational events. Every proof of purchase tag (found on the bottom of the feedbag) is worth \$.25. Invoices for bulk feed are also eligible for this program. In the first year of participation, MDA earned over \$500 because members contributed their feed bag tags!

Instructions:

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, credit card info.

Submit proof of purchase tags to:
Midwest Dressage Association
C/O Milanna Jones
284 South Tilden Street
Pontiac, MI 48341

If you have questions about this program, please contact Milanna Jones at 248 534 6415.

Classifieds...

Horses for Sale or Lease –

Several experienced dressage horses available for partial or full lease at Brilliant Reflection Farm in Ortonville, MI. Contact us for more information at blondmane@yahoo.com or 248-670-9031.
<http://www.brilliantreflectionfarm.com/horses-available-for-lease.html>

Saddles/Tack For Sale

2014 17" Bruno Delgrange medium tree with silver accents on cantle and flap. Medium flap length.
\$3000. Please contact Leslie Richardson at (810) 287-0053

Employment/Working Student

Visual Equestrian Dressage LLC and Tonya Grant have an amazing opportunity open. We are looking for a dedicated local horse lover who aspires to become a professional someday. We have a full-time working student position currently open. Must have transportation, riding clothes, and a very good work ethic. Opportunity to show and travel and lots of opportunity to ride. Must be hard-working and willing to do a lot of grooming in exchange for riding. Applications will be accepted by email or phone.
Riding interviews open in April.
Visual Equestrian Dressage LLC - www.visualequestrian.com
Tonya Grant (248) 219-0410



Stable Listings-

Allison McKenzie Sporthorses

Training, Lessons, Breeding, Boarding

Manchester, MI 48158

amsporthorses@yahoo.com

www.allisonmckenzie'sporthorses.com

734- 276-8967

Lessons, Boarding, Breeding, Sales

Brilliant Reflection Farm

Brian and Barbra Reis

Ortonville, MI 48462

248-670-9031

blondmane@yahoo.com

www.brilliantreflectionfarm.com

Lessons, Boarding, Rehab, Schooling Shows

High Point Farm

Alison Allen

Oxford, MI

248-410-0684

www.highpointdressage.com

All day turnout and quality feed

Stalls cleaned daily

Lesson plans available

Deisig Dressage

Janelle Deisig

Frankenmuth, MI 48734

989-598-6850

Janelledeisig@yahoo.com

www.deisigdressage.com

Dressage training, sales, trailer-in lessons

Sky High Farm

Lapeer, MI 48446

248-890-2426

jenmaull@yahoo.com

Boarding, Lessons, Clinics

http://skyhighfarm.vpweb.com

Boarding and Dressage Training Indoor and Outdoor arenas

The Levy Farm

Shawn Ozker Ragsdale

Metamora, MI 48455

248-318-0725

Training, Lessons, Clinics

Novice-FEI

Visual Equestrian LLC

Carole and Tonya Grant

Fenton, MI 48430

248-219-0410

Dressage Training, Sale Horses and Ponies

Pony Program, Clinics, Trailer-in Lessons

Will Davis Training Center

Oxford, MI

810-287-2011

Boarding, Training, Clinics with

International Trainers, Home to Mid-Michigan

Dressage Shows.

Equestrian Enrichment

Kim Robbins

Meadowland Farm

Davison, MI

248-830-6523

Training, Clinics, Sale Horses, Trailer-in Lessons

Bronze and Silver Medalist.

Kimrobbinsdressage.com

******In order to have your facility listed in the newsletter, please email Allison at amsporthorses@yahoo.com You MUST be an MDA member to have your facility listed!***



Midwest Dressage Association Membership Application

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

Name: _____ DOB: _____

Farm/Business Name: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Family Memberships: Only the primary member will receive yearly directories.

Name: _____ DOB: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Rider Status: Open Adult Amateur Junior/Young Rider (*Must be under 21 as of 12/1/2019*)

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,

I would like to be listed in the MDA Services Directory: (Must be received by Feb 1 of the current year)

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

.....

All information is also available on the MDA Website

<input type="radio"/> Mastercard <input type="radio"/> Visa Credit Card # _____ Expiration: ____ Zip Code ____ CVV# ____	TOTALS: Adult Amateur/Open (\$51) \$ _____ Junior/Young Rider (\$41) \$ _____ Family Members (\$21 each add member) \$ _____ Credit Card Fee (\$2.50) ONLY \$ _____ I would like to donate to (tax deductible), please indicate amount. <input type="radio"/> MDA Annual Awards \$ _____ <input type="radio"/> MDA Educational Clinic \$ _____ TOTAL PAID \$ _____
<input type="radio"/> I DO NOT want my information printed in the MDA REDBOOK	Please make checks payable to MIDWEST DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION and mail to MDA Membership, Nancy Bryant 25 Louck Street # 15, Oxford, MI 48371 PayPal payments may be sent to MDA.DRESSAGEORG@gmail.com -Please indicate member name in notes section. PayPal payments may take several days to process. Credit Card payments are processed on the day received. Please provide the card holders name if not the same as the member.
Office Use Only: Postmark: _____ CK: _____ AMT: _____ Date Electronic Payment Received: _____	All Members receive a membership card, monthly e-newsletters, and a USDF/GMO group membership to the United States Dressage Foundation for the membership year. The effective date of MDA membership is the postmarked date (if mailed) or payment receipt date (if submitted electronically). MDA is not responsible for late, delayed, or misdirected mail or payments. Please allow three weeks for processing of MDA application and USDF group membership.
I grant the Midwest Dressage Association permission to use any photographs that have been taken or may be taken of me or in which I may be included with others. Such photographs may be used, reused, published, and republished in whole or in part, individually or in connection with other material, in any and all media now or hereafter known, including the internet, and for any purpose whatsoever, specifically including illustration and promotion. I have read this request and fully understand its contents. This release shall be binding upon me and MDA for the current membership year.	
Signature authorization for credit card payment and for permission to use photographs	_____

