



## **August 2019 Editor's Notes...**

Regionals...they're here! Waterloo Dressage will once again host the Region 2 finals and based on how successful they were the last time they were here, it looks to be an awesome show! All of the GMO's in our area are excited to offer their services and volunteers but of course the Midwest Dressage Association will lead the rest of the field. I am excited to see how our membership will step up and exhibit the kind of leadership and heart that we are known for. Kevin Bradbury and his team have been hard at work to make sure this show goes perfectly and with everyone pulling together it certainly will. For some the fact that they are not riding at Regionals is something of a disappointment. I get that – this season didn't quite go according to the plan I laid out over the winter. Lameness, the sudden loss of a horse – it's part of the bad stuff that we all experience in this sport. I thought that it would be hard to even go to a show without actually showing, and to some extent it is. But the more I worked as a ring steward and just coached I realized that being on the sidelines is actually kind of fun. When I coach at shows I'm able to give my students my full attention 100% of the time without worrying about my own ride times. I get to help them with the small details that sometimes get overlooked. I was reminded that something like reviewing how to make a perfect braid or making sure their stirrup irons are polished is part of making them not just better riders but also better horsemen in general. I

love chatting with the competitors at Waterloo when I ring steward and hearing their stories and seeing their hard work pay off. When we're all in the warm-up arena we only see the riders on the horses – we don't notice the faces and we can't see their journeys. When you work behind the scenes you get to see them – you get to appreciate what it took for that person to get to the point that they're at and that is pretty awesome.

So congratulations to all of the riders that will be competing at Regionals this year – your hard work paid off! We all can't wait to cheer you on! And for those of us who will be on the sidelines – take it all in and enjoy all of the things that make this sport fun. Enjoy watching and learning but most all – enjoy being part of a great sport. And remember, the best part of being on the sidelines is that you don't have to wear white pants!!!

-Allison

## Midwest Dressage Association Board of Directors



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## ***Barnett Fund Awards Grants to Two Instructors***

The Dressage Foundation's Maryal and Charlie Barnett Continuing Education for Dressage Instructors Fund has awarded grants to two individuals to attend the United States Dressage Federation's Instructor/Trainer Program.

Kelsey Dunlap (NC) and Erin Miles (MI) each received a \$1,500 grant to further their education as instructors.

Kelsey plans to use the grant to attend the Testing Session in Omaha, NE, in October. She said, "I would like to thank TDF and its donors for this opportunity to participate in the Instructor/Trainer Program. My goal has always been to teach and train in a clear, methodical way and I believe this program will give me the tools to improve and progress my training not only to benefit me personally, but my students as well!"

Erin will use her grant to attend the Workshops hosted by the Midwest Dressage Association in early 2020. She shared, "I am so excited to receive the Maryal and Charlie Barnett Continuing Education for Instructors grant to participate in the USDF Instructor/Trainer Program. This grant will help me in achieving my goal of becoming a certified dressage instructor and developing my career. I am so thankful to the generous donors who make these grants possible. They make education more obtainable for so many."



(Photo - Erin Miles credit CJ Carpenter Photography)

Interested instructors can apply for a grant to attend any portion of the Instructor/Trainer Program, including the workshops, pre-certification and testing. Individual grants are awarded twice per year and the next deadline for applications is February 1, 2020.

*For more information about the Maryal and Charlie Barnett Continuing Education for Dressage Instructors Fund or The Dressage Foundation, please contact Jenny Johnson at (402) 434-8585 or visit [www.dressagefoundation.org](http://www.dressagefoundation.org).*

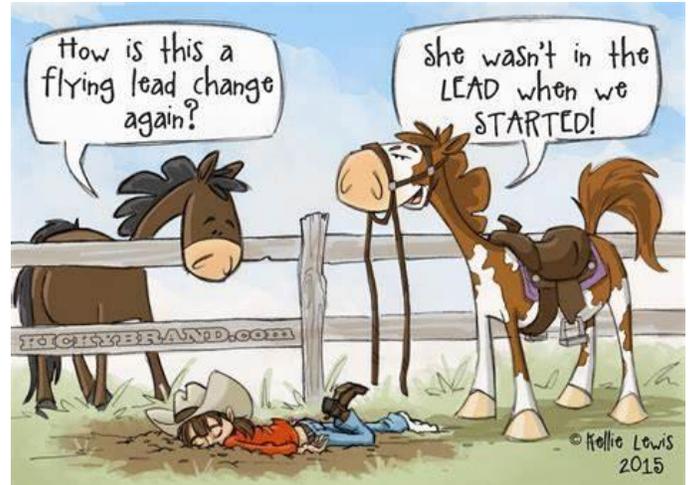
## Breaking News!

USDF is excited to introduce the new USDF Regional Schooling Show Awards Program. This program starts December 1, 2019 and offers regional recognition to USDF Group Members competing in participating non-USEF-licensed/non-USDF-recognized competitions.

All non-USEF-licensed/non-USDF-recognized competitions are invited to participate in this program. To participate, simply submit the online application and \$25 participation fee to USDF at least 30 days prior to the start of the competition. The program year will be December 1 through November 30.

An online competition calendar will list participating competitions on the USDF website. Participating competitions must submit a copy of their prize list to USDF no later than 14 days prior to the competition and competition results must be submitted to USDF within 21 days of the end date of the competition.

At the links below, please find an advertisement promoting the USDF Regional Schooling Show Awards Program, available in color and grayscale options. Feel free to use this advertisement to promote this program on your website and in association with any participating competitions.



***I learned why out riding alone is an oxymoron: An equestrian is never alone, is always sensing the other being, the mysterious but also understandable living being that is the horse.***

*Jane Smiley*



counseling demonstrates our long commitment to equestrian safety and welfare, both in the competition arena and beyond.”

Learn more about the mental health first aid resource and the many other US Equestrian member benefits by visiting our Membership Benefits page. To access the full list of membership benefits and all the US Equestrian MemberPerks, join US Equestrian today.

## ***US Equestrian Adds Member Benefit: Free Mental Health First Aid***

As part of our commitment to members and their wellbeing, US Equestrian is partnering with the McLaughlin Young Group to offer free, confidential counseling services for mental health first aid.

US Equestrian members will now be able to access professional counseling services for emotional or other personal issues for up to three visits or sessions through a third-party licensed provider. All providers are state-licensed, with a graduate degree and five years of post-graduate clinical experience. These experienced professional clinicians are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and 365 days a year. Members can reach a counselor by calling 1-800-633-3353.

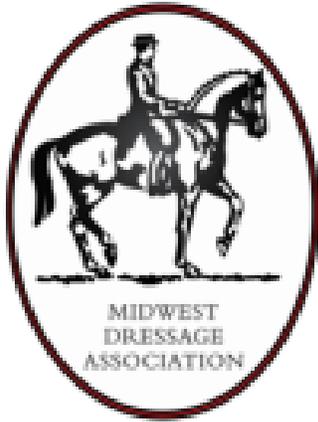
This membership service is provided by McLaughlin Young, a specialist in providing services to non-profit organizations.

“Our members’ safety and wellbeing is of paramount importance to us, and we are pleased to offer this new mental health resource as a valuable benefit to US Equestrian members,” said US Equestrian Chief Executive Officer Bill Moroney. “Providing our members access to free, confidential, professional

## ***US Dressage Team Takes Silver in Lima!***



The U.S. Dressage Team was a three-member squad and consisted of Nora Batchelder and her own and Andrea Whitcomb’s Faro SQF, Jennifer Baumert and Betsy Juliano LLC’s Handsome and Sarah Lockman and Gerry Ibanez’s First Apple.



**Join us at our next Board of Directors meeting on Wednesday September 4, 2019 at 6:30 pm at the Comeback Inn at 1451 S. Milford Road, Highland, MI 48357**

## ***Fall Health Tune-Up – Strengthening Your Horse’s Immune System***

***By Duane E. Chappell, DVM, Merck Animal Health***

Though the days may be getting shorter and cooler, your time in the saddle this fall can be rewarding. However, this season also brings a host of disease considerations. Complicating matters, horses that have been traveling, training or competing all summer may have reduced immune function. So, while the last thing on your mind may be a visit with your veterinarian, now is the time to get it on the schedule.

Of course, there’s no magic trick that can keep horses from becoming sick, but we can do several things to make sure their immune system is functioning as efficiently as possible as winter approaches.

### **Consistent Veterinary Care**

If you own a performance horse, you’re accustomed to having your veterinarian do regular performance and soundness checks, but don’t overlook basic healthcare needs. The same applies to recreational riders. All horses should be seen by a veterinarian at least annually for a physical and dental exam, vaccinations and deworming evaluation. During this exam, your veterinarian can give you guidance on the following items that can really make a difference in your horse’s natural ability to ward off illness.

### **Vaccinations**

Last year alone, 377 horses were diagnosed with West Nile virus (WNV) in the United States. That means more than 300 owners had to watch their horses struggle with this unforgiving disease and potentially lose their battle. As a veterinarian, nothing is more heartbreaking than watching an animal suffer from a disease; one that can be prevented through a simple vaccination.

Mosquito populations tend to peak in the late summer and fall, which is why fall is often the time when we see more cases of mosquito borne diseases, including Eastern and Western Equine Encephalomyelitis (EEE/WEE) and WNV. A fall EEE/WEE and WNV vaccine booster may be warranted for horses residing in or traveling to areas where EEE/WEE and WNV are prevalent.

In addition, for horses traveling and coming in contact with many different horses and environments, booster vaccinations may be warranted to help prevent highly contagious diseases such as equine influenza virus (EIV) and equine herpesvirus (EHV).

Although vaccines should be our first line of defense against the diseases mentioned, they can't be the end-all-be-all.

### **Biosecurity is a year-round consideration**

While vaccination is still the best means of protection against infectious disease, a practical biosecurity program can broaden the level of protection. Basic steps you can take to help prevent the spread of disease include:

- When you're away from home:
- Minimize nose-to-nose contact with other horses.
- Don't share items, including lead lines, halters, water buckets or tubes of oral medications.
- Monitor your horse's temperature daily so you'll know what's "normal" for him. Deviations from normal might signify an infectious illness. Contact your veterinarian if you note a rise in temperature.
- Regularly clean your tack, equipment and stalls.
- Practice good hand hygiene. (Hand sanitizers work well in the absence of soap and water.)
- When you're at home:
- Separate and monitor horses after returning home (two weeks is a good rule of thumb).
- Isolate new horses and monitor them daily for fever and signs of infectious disease.
- Include all horses in your vaccination program. A single unprotected horse in a herd can serve as a reservoir of infection to others.
- Practice good hygiene and cleanliness.

#### **Deworming**

Fall is a prime time of parasite transmission in much of the country. Parasite transmission is not as high during the very hot and/or cold times of the year and, thus, these are not the ideal time to deworm.

Work with your veterinarian to determine the optimal deworming program for your horse.

With parasite resistance on the rise and no new deworming drug classes on the horizon, we must make sure we are deworming the right horse at the right time with the right product. A fecal egg count test may be recommended to determine the optimal timing and choice of dewormer.

### **Nutrition**

Keep your horses on a balanced diet that consists of high-quality forage to give them the best chance to stay healthy. Also pay attention to minerals and vitamins they receive through forage and feed analysis and add supplements if needed.

In addition, maintaining the horse at an ideal body condition score and allowing for adequate exercise can go a long way in avoiding common problems in horses that are over- or underweight.

Your veterinarian may also perform a dental exam to make sure your horse is able to properly chew and process his feed.

### **Reducing Stress**

Horses who travel, train and compete are under a lot of stress, whether they show outward signs or not. While stress is a part of life for all living creatures, there are things we can do to help minimize stress and thus, reduce its potential negative effects on the horse's immune system. Sue McDonnell, M.S., Ph.D., founder and head of the equine behavior program at the University of Pennsylvania's New Bolton Center, offers these practical tips for reducing stress for the traveling horse.

- Take care to ensure the horse trickle feeds – eating small amounts frequently. Wet the hay

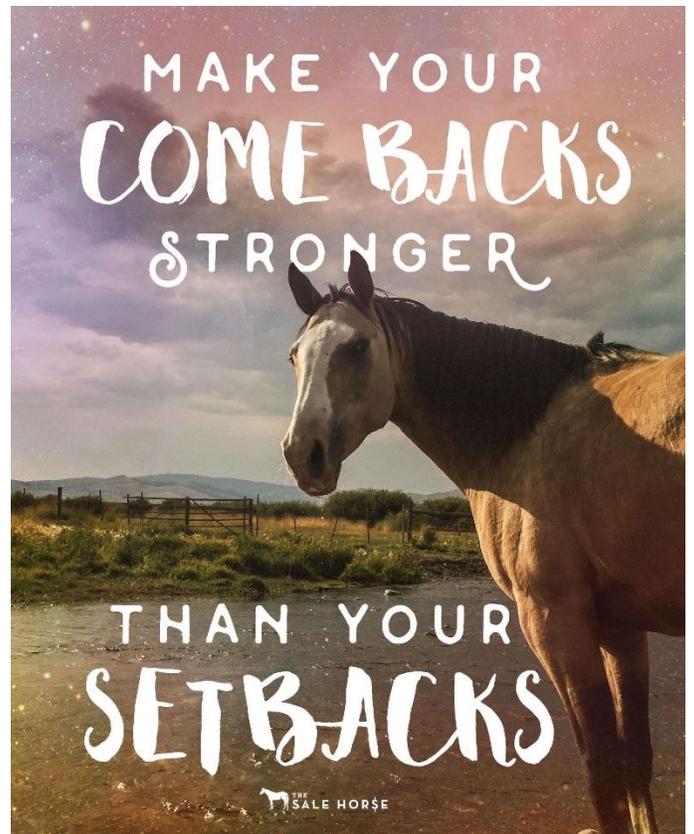
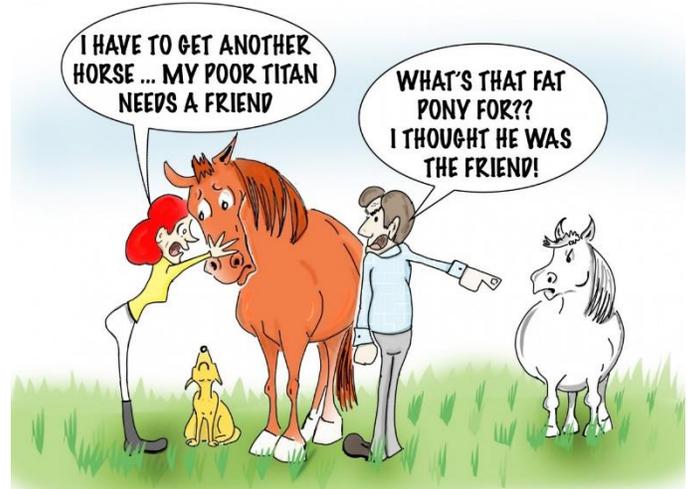
and offer water at least every couple of hours. Empty bellies for most horses are stressful both psychologically and physically.

- Take a stable travel companion, even a mini or pony mascot.
- If your horse uses a toy or treat at home, take the same one he's currently using with you, both for use in the transport vehicle and in the temporary stable.
- Take water from home in a container that doesn't impart a chemical odor or flavor, and the home water bucket, feed tub and hay net. Anything you use at home that is easily portable will reduce the effects of a new environment and may serve as what is known as a safety signal. Be sure to disinfect these items when returning home to help prevent introduction of disease.

#### Take-Home Message

Fall can be the best time of year to spend quality time with your horses. Remember, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of fall fun and happy trails with your horse. By scheduling your fall wellness exam with your veterinarian, you can make sure this opportunity isn't interrupted due to illness. For more information, visit [GetVaccinatingRight.com](http://GetVaccinatingRight.com).

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# 2019 Calendar

## September

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

[www.wynfarm.com](http://www.wynfarm.com)

**8 – Grosse Pointe Schooling Dressage.** Grosse Pointe Equestrian. 655 Cook Road, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236. [www.gphuntclub.com](http://www.gphuntclub.com)

**11-15 – USDF Region 2 Regional Championships at Waterloo Hunt Club.** 11500 Glenn Road, Grass Lake, MI 49240. [www.horseshowoffice.com](http://www.horseshowoffice.com)

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

[www.woodbinefarms.com](http://www.woodbinefarms.com)

**20-22 – Great Lakes Regional Schooling Show Championships – Rattlewood Farm.** 1935 Ray Road, Oxford, MI. [www.midmichigandressage.webs.com](http://www.midmichigandressage.webs.com).

## October

## November

**22-23 – Annual Awards Banquet and Educational Weekend.** Meet and Greet, Guest Speakers, and 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Award Banquet Celebration. Black Tie Event. Auburn Hill Marriott Hotel, 3600 Centerpoint Pkwy, Pontiac, MI. Contact Will Davis at [WillDavis@aol.com](mailto:WillDavis@aol.com).

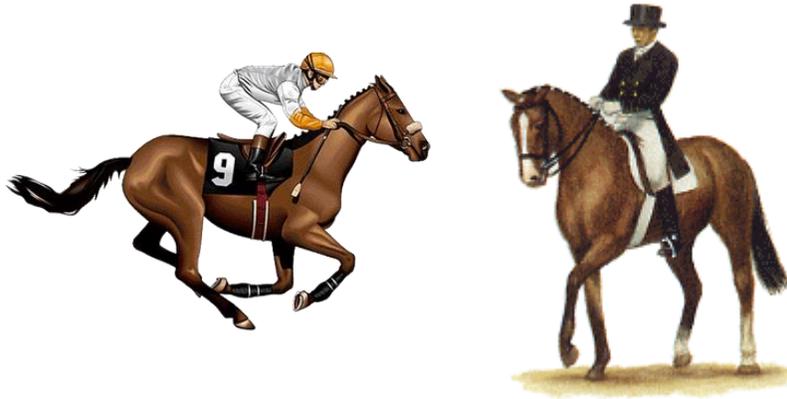
Legend:

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-The-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](mailto: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](mailto: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

***The following items are for sale from Nancy Bryant. Items located in Clarkston, Ortonville, or Oxford, Michigan. Phone (248) 632-2045***

Custom Saddlery Wolfgang Signature Solo 17.5 Black Short thigh block saddle. Ridden in for four months on one horse. Excellent condition. Comes with cover, new stirrup leathers, new stirrups and two new girths. Fitted to a narrower horse but the beauty of a Custom saddle is that it can be fitted on site to your horse same day, no shipping out your saddle to be adjusted. \$2700 new plus \$300 in fittings. Asking \$2200 firm. Comes with bonus schooling saddle pads.

Stubben bridle style 3200, new with tags. Black flash noseband with leather stop stud reins. Horse size. Red chain link browband insert. New \$175, asking \$100.

Neue Schule Turtle Tactio with Flex Loose ring snaffle bit. 16mm mouthpiece, 70mm rings, 5.75. Worn 2 weeks. New \$217. Asking \$200.

Dover Black Sheepskin Lined Saddlepad. Used one season. New \$80. Asking \$50. Good condition.

Brown leather and elastic side reins, used a few times. Asking \$25

Weatherbeeta Navy fleece cooler – size 78 with cute colorful hedgehog pattern. Worn 4-5 times. Clean. New \$65. Asking \$55.

Horseware Mio Turnout Sheet. Size 78. Navy with tan trim. New condition. Asking \$40.

Horseware Mio Combo Fly-Sheet. Size 84. Neck attached. Has snags from Velcro but in usable condition. New \$60. Asking \$40.

Amigo Bravo 12 Plus Deluxe 84" Black Heavyweight Winter Blanket, 400gm with detachable 200gm hood. Worn one season. Clean and waterproofed. Fixtures to attach to any compatible Rambo liner. Allows you to increase weight with one blanket. New \$250. Asking \$200.

Shoofly Horse Leggings. Set of 4 large bright orange. Never search for boots in the pasture again! Like new. Worn two weeks. New \$50. Asking \$40.

Dressage Sport Boots. All in New/Good condition.

DSB Silver Patent Gloss with black fleece lining. Two large, Two extra large. Four boot set. Good condition. New \$110. Asking \$70.

DSB White Patent Gloss with white fleece lining. Two medium. Two large. New condition. Four boot set. New \$110. Asking \$90.

DSB Black Dressage Sport Boots with black fleece lining. Two large, two extra large. Good condition. Four boot set. New \$100. Asking \$60.

ASB White All Sport Boot Set. Two medium. Two large. \$110 new. Great condition. Asking \$70.

PRI Dressage Pads. Wool lined – no foam. Assorted colors. \$20 each.

### **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](http://www.visualequestrian.com)

Tonya Grant (248) 219-0410



## **Stable Listings-**

### **Allison McKenzie Sporthorses**

Training, Lessons, Breeding, Boarding

Manchester, MI 48158

amsporthorses@yahoo.com

www.allisonmckenziezsporthorses.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

### **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](mailto:amsporthorses@yahoo.com) You MUST be an MDA member to have your facility listed!***



