



## **Editor's Notes...**

I am one of the few people on the planet that loves snowstorms. When there is a forecast for heavy snow I dance with glee. I carefully prepare my barn with extra hay and shavings and tuck the ponies in my charge in their stalls and hunker down and watch the magical white stuff come down. In years past I have gone for rides in snowstorms but not this year. As many of you know, I have an OTTB, Wesley, who is...special. Special in a "I feel a case of the vapors coming on – dear God it's weather-ing outside Mom!" kind of way. He is to put it plainly...a ginormous baby. But more than that, as I've gotten older I find myself not doing the things that I used to. I have an Eventing background – I'm supposed to have nerves of steel, right? What happened to me? I have a couple of wonderful clients – wonderful women who have been struggling with confidence issues on their horses the last couple of months. My advice to them has been "patient persistence" – persist in your riding and be patient with yourself. And in the process of helping them and often holding their hands, I discovered that being careful is not a fault, it's a matter of respect. A trainer should understand that and while we should also push our students to be more – to ask for more – than they think they can, we should also know when to stop. It is a fine line that we walk when we teach and if we lose that respect for our students, we lose it for our horses as well. You see they're not so different. My job as a horse trainer is to push my equine charges past what they think they can do – to make them something better than most horses are. But I

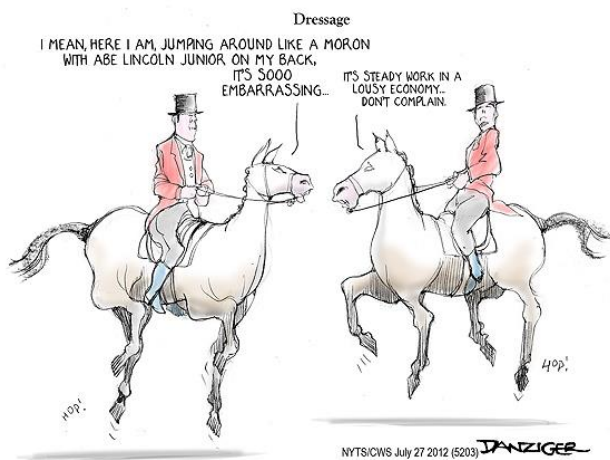
have a greater responsibility to not over-face them and to consider their mental well-being. Occasionally, that gets lost in training. Patient Persistence. It means not pushing a horse too quickly despite their natural ability – or even our clients desire to see the horse they own move up the levels. It means taking our time and doing things the right way. And it means the same thing when addressing our students. Most of us are not going to be the next Charlotte and we most likely aren't going to produce the next Valegro. But what we can do is produce solid, sound and confident horses and riders. Because while we all want to be the next great thing – to be responsible for the next great thing - in reality the daily successes – overcoming the small fears – are the best rewards and the most important rewards.

My students are doing great and I'm so proud of them for taking the small steps every day to improve and become more confident. As for me...I'm OK if Wesley and I don't become snowboarding champions. But if we could manage a flying change at K...now that would be excitement 😊

*-Allison*

## Bootcamp News!

The Midwest Dressage Association is happy to announce our annual members-only Boot Camp on April 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. The cost this year is \$150 and includes two nights stabling and lunch both days. Camping is \$30/night for electrical and water hookup and \$15/night for non-hookup. The MDA Boot Camp has become hugely popular over the last few years. Get your application in by April 1 as spots fill quickly. This is a great opportunity to get a final tune-up before show season!



## Don't Forget!

The annual MSU Horse Expo is March 9, 10, and 11. There is great shopping and demonstrations. Don't miss this great opportunity to learn more about other organizations, including ours!

## Rabies: What Every Horse Owner Should Know

*-D. Craig Barnett, DVM, Merck Animal Health October 10, 2017*

When it comes to a fatal disease like equine rabies only one tip counts: Vaccinate! Equine rabies is a fatal disease. If a horse contracts rabies there is no second chance, and each year we are reminded of its impact.

With fewer than 100 cases of rabies reported in horses, donkeys and burros every year, it's easy to disregard the disease. But while the incidence of equine rabies in the United States is low, the fatality rate is high – 100 percent. Furthermore, there is always the significant and serious potential for any infected animal to transmit the disease to humans. That's why rabies vaccination is considered a core vaccine recommended by the American Association of Equine Practitioners – every horse should be vaccinated, every year.<sup>[2]</sup>

## What is rabies?

Rabies is a virus that causes a neurological disease that can affect all mammals. When an animal is bitten, the virus migrates to the brain where it causes inflammation, known as encephalitis. It is rapidly progressive and invariably fatal. The incubation period – the time between the virus' entry into the body and the onset of clinical signs – averages 2 to 9 weeks, but may be as long as 15 months.

Veterinarians often state that rabies can look like anything. While some horses exhibit intermittent or continuous signs of aggression, most infected horses are depressed or stuporous. Some may become anorexic and refuse to drink, while others will continue to eat

and drink until shortly before death. Obscure lameness and incoordination are relatively common early signs of rabies.

Be extremely cautious and call your veterinarian immediately if your horse has any of the following signs:

- Incoordination (ataxia)
- Urinary incontinence
- Poor performance
- Difficulty swallowing
- Lameness
- Colic
- Bizarre behavior ranging from stupor to aggression and self-mutilation
- Abnormal vocalization
- Paralysis

There is no definitive test to diagnose rabies in a live animal. A rabies diagnosis is often made only after death during postmortem examination of the brain. Rabies generally progresses quickly, so if undiagnosed neurological signs have not rapidly progressed within the first five days, rabies is most likely not the cause.

## Risk factors

We see an increased incidence of rabies infections in horses and other livestock in the late summer and fall when wildlife populations peak. Horses contract rabies through the bite of an infected (rabid) animal, such as a raccoon, fox, skunk or bat. A horse's curiosity can get the best of him, with bites typically occurring on the horse's face and muzzle or lower limbs. Most exposures aren't noticed and most bite wounds aren't found. Since wildlife may enter barns (especially at night), both horses in stalls and those on pasture are at risk of exposure.

Due to the serious threat for human exposure when handling a horse with rabies, any suspected case of equine rabies should be handled as if it were positive until proven

otherwise. You may become infected with the rabies virus through contact with saliva or brain/nervous system tissue from a rabid animal. Individuals who have been in contact with a horse since the onset of clinical signs should immediately consult with their physician regarding medical treatment.

## Prevention is critical

Few diseases are more feared than rabies, and for good reason. One of the scariest things about the disease is that it is one of the hardest to recognize in horses. And while the odds are low your horse will get rabies, the odds are virtually zero that he will recover if he contracts the disease.

The importance of vaccination of companion animals, including horses, against rabies cannot be overemphasized. Fortunately, safe and highly effective vaccines are available, including EquiRab®, the only rabies vaccine designed, developed and labeled specifically for horses.

[1] Equine Disease Communication Center ([equinediseasecc.org](http://equinediseasecc.org))

[2] AAEP Core Vaccination Guidelines ([www.aaep.org](http://www.aaep.org)) Copyright © 2017 Intervet Inc., d/b/a Merck Animal Health, a subsidiary of Merck



# Midwest Dressage Association

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## **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>

### **Tack/Equipment –**

78" Horze 200gm black 1200d blanket. Worn 2 months. \$65

Large Horze 200gm hood. \$35

78" Horze 400gm black 1200d blanket (worn 3 days) \$75

Purchase all three of the items above for \$160. Professionally cleaned and vacuum-bagged. Located in Oxford/Clarkston area. Contact Nancy Bryant at 248-632-2045

Schleese Air Wave 2008 saddle for sale. 17.5-inch seat. This saddle has only been adjusted by Schleese saddle fitters. Pictures are available, just email me at [metaphor929@gmail.com](mailto:metaphor929@gmail.com). Asking \$2700.00 plus shipping. I am willing to meet buyer; to avoid shipping costs, within a 50- mile radius of Oxford, MI. Pam Wrona 316-680-9730

### **Stable Listings-**

#### **Blue Water Dressage Stables**

Training, Lessons

989-777-7471

[pam@bluewaterdressagestables.com](mailto:pam@bluewaterdressagestables.com)

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

#### **Brilliant Reflection Farm**

Brain and Barbra Reis

Ortonville, MI 48462

248-670-9031

[blondmane@yahoo.com](mailto:blondmane@yahoo.com)

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

Lessons, Boarding, Rehab, Schooling Shows

#### **Allison McKenzie Sporthorses**

Training, Lessons, Breeding, Boarding

Manchester, MI 48158

[amsporthorses@yahoo.com](mailto:amsporthorses@yahoo.com)

[www.allisonmckenzie-sporthorses.com](http://www.allisonmckenzie-sporthorses.com)

734- 276-8967

#### **Lone Willows Farm**

Ingrid Baranski

Casco, MI 48064

586-306-6275

[www.lonewillowsfarm.net](http://www.lonewillowsfarm.net)

### **Reflection Arabians**

Indoor and Outdoor arenas

Jim and Nancy Lapeer

Dryden, MI

### **High Point Farm**

Alison Allen

Oxford, MI

248-410-0684

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

All day turnout and quality feed

Stalls cleaned daily

Lesson plans available

### **Freestyle Farm**

Lisa Caloia BHSAI

Oxford, MI

248-462-2949

Boarding, Lessons, Clinics

Oversized stalls, Large grass pastures

Indoor and Outdoor arenas, Climate

Controlled Observation Room

### **Summerwood**

Teah Weyers Bankes

Hartland, MI 48353

248-887-3819 or 248-408-7842

Training-Grand Prix

Work with Pony Clubbers

### **Deisig Dressage**

Janelle Deisig

Frankenmuth, MI 48734

989-598-6850

[Janelledeisig@yahoo.com](mailto:Janelledeisig@yahoo.com)

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

Dressage training, sales, trailer-in lessons

### **Sky High Farm**

Lapeer, MI 48446

248-890-2426

[jenmaull@yahoo.com](mailto:jenmaull@yahoo.com)

<http://skyhighfarm.vpweb.com>

Boarding and Dressage Training

### **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.

## **2018 Calender of Events**

**Please check the MDA website and Facebook Pages for the most current calendar listing of events and meetings.**

### **March**

**4** – Midwest Dressage Association board meeting. 1:00pm. Comeback Inn, Milford, MI.

**9-11** – Michigan Horse Expo. Michigan State University Pavilion

**17** – Willowbrooke Farm Dressage Schooling Show, Plymouth, MI. Contact Jennifer Blades willowbrookefarm@aol.com or 313-938-9221

**31** – Brilliant Reflection Farm Dressage Schooling Show, Ortonville, MI. Intro-Second Level. Jockey Club TIP approved show. For more information visit [www.brilliantreflectionfarm.com](http://www.brilliantreflectionfarm.com)

### **April**

**14** – Willowbrooke Farm Dressage Schooling Show, Plymouth, MI. Contact Jennifer Blades willowbrookefarm@aol.com or 313-938-9221

**14-15** – Dressage at Albion College. Albion, MI. Contact Horse Show Office at [www.horseshowoffice.com](http://www.horseshowoffice.com) (USDF)

**14-15** – MDA Bootcamp, Oxford, MI. Contact Will Davis 810-287-2011 or visit the MDA website for registration forms and information

**28** – Brilliant Reflection Farm Dressage Schooling Show, Ortonville, MI. Intro-Second Level. Jockey Club TIP approved show. For more information visit [www.brilliantreflectionfarm.com](http://www.brilliantreflectionfarm.com)

**29** – Woodbine Dressage Schooling Show, Chelsea, MI. Contact Julie Christopher at [woodbinefarmhorseshow@gmail.com](mailto:woodbinefarmhorseshow@gmail.com) or Sari Clapperton at [sariclapperton@hotmail.com](mailto:sariclapperton@hotmail.com) or visit [www.woodbinefarms.com](http://www.woodbinefarms.com) (MDA)

## May

**12** – Wyn Farm Schooling Dressage, Williamston, MI. Visit [www.wynfarm.com](http://www.wynfarm.com) or call 586-703-7690.

**13** – Wyn Farm Schooling Dressage, Williamston, MI. Visit [www.wynfarm.com](http://www.wynfarm.com) or call 586-703-7690.

**19-20** – Mid Michigan Dressage at Rattlewood Farm, Oxford, MI. Visit [www.midmichigandressage.webs.com](http://www.midmichigandressage.webs.com) (MDA)

**20** – Woodbine Dressage Schooling Show, Chelsea, MI. Contact Julie Christopher at [woodbinefarmhorseshow@gmail.com](mailto:woodbinefarmhorseshow@gmail.com) or Sari Clapperton at [sariclapperton@hotmail.com](mailto:sariclapperton@hotmail.com) or visit [www.woodbinefarms.com](http://www.woodbinefarms.com) (MDA)

## June

**1-3** – Dressage at Waterloo, Grass Lake, MI. Visit [www.horseshowoffice.com](http://www.horseshowoffice.com) (USDF)

**9** – Wyn Farm Schooling Dressage, Williamston, MI. Visit [www.wynfarm.com](http://www.wynfarm.com) or call 586-703-7690.

**10** – Wyn Farm Schooling Dressage, Williamston, MI. Visit [www.wynfarm.com](http://www.wynfarm.com) or call 586-703-7690.

**10** – Woodbine Dressage Schooling Show, Chelsea, MI. Contact Julie Christopher at [woodbinefarmhorseshow@gmail.com](mailto:woodbinefarmhorseshow@gmail.com) or Sari Clapperton at [sariclapperton@hotmail.com](mailto:sariclapperton@hotmail.com) or visit [www.woodbinefarms.com](http://www.woodbinefarms.com) (MDA)

**15-17** – Dressage at Waterloo, Grass Lake, MI. Visit [www.horseshowoffice.com](http://www.horseshowoffice.com) (USDF)

**23-24** – Mid Michigan Dressage Schooling Show, Rattlewood Farm, Oxford, MI. Visit [www.midmichigandressage.webs.com](http://www.midmichigandressage.webs.com) (MDA)

## July

**8** – Woodbine Dressage Schooling Show, Chelsea, MI. Contact Julie Christopher at [woodbinefarmhorseshow@gmail.com](mailto:woodbinefarmhorseshow@gmail.com) or Sari Clapperton at [sariclapperton@hotmail.com](mailto:sariclapperton@hotmail.com) or visit [www.woodbinefarms.com](http://www.woodbinefarms.com) (MDA)

**7** – Wyn Farm Schooling Dressage, Williamston, MI. Visit [www.wynfarm.com](http://www.wynfarm.com) or call 586-703-7690

**8** – Wyn Farm Schooling Dressage, Williamston, MI. Visit [www.wynfarm.com](http://www.wynfarm.com) or call 586-703-7690

**13-15** – Dressage at Waterloo, Grass Lake, MI. Visit [www.horseshowoffice.com](http://www.horseshowoffice.com) (USDF)

**21-22** – Mid Michigan Dressage Schooling Show, Rattlewood Farm, Oxford, MI. Visit [www.midmichigandressage.webs.com](http://www.midmichigandressage.webs.com) (MDA)

**26-27** – MDA Rider's Seat Clinic with Tom Nagel – forms online now

**28-29** – MDA Rider's Seat Clinic with Tom Nagel – forms online now

**28-29** – Michigan Summer Dressage at Wyn Farm I & II. Visit [www.horseshowoffice.com](http://www.horseshowoffice.com) (USDF)



## August

**3-5** – Dressage at Waterloo, Grass Lake, MI. Visit [www.horseshowoffice.com](http://www.horseshowoffice.com) (USDF)

**11-12** – Mid Michigan Dressage Schooling Show, Rattlewood Farm, Oxford, MI. Visit [www.midmichigandressage.webs.com](http://www.midmichigandressage.webs.com) (MDA)

**12** – Woodbine Dressage Schooling Show, Chelsea, MI. Contact Julie Christopher at [woodbinefarmhorseshow@gmail.com](mailto:woodbinefarmhorseshow@gmail.com) or Sari Clapperton at [sariclapperton@hotmail.com](mailto:sariclapperton@hotmail.com) or visit [www.woodbinefarms.com](http://www.woodbinefarms.com) (MDA)

**11** – Wyn Farm Schooling Dressage, Williamston, MI. Visit [www.wynfarm.com](http://www.wynfarm.com) or call 586-703-7690.

**12** – Wyn Farm Schooling Dressage, Williamston, MI. Visit [www.wynfarm.com](http://www.wynfarm.com) or call 586-703-7690.

**23-26** – Dressage at Waterloo Summer Finale, Grass Lake, MI. Visit [www.horseshowoffice.com](http://www.horseshowoffice.com) (USDF)

## September

**8-9** – Mid Michigan Dressage at Rattlewood Farm, Oxford, MI. Visit [www.midmichigandressage.webs.com](http://www.midmichigandressage.webs.com) (MDA)

**8** – Wyn Farm Schooling Dressage, Williamston MI. Visit [www.wynfarm.com](http://www.wynfarm.com) or call 586-703-7690.

**9** – Wyn Farm Schooling Dressage, Williamston, MI. Visit [www.wynfarm.com](http://www.wynfarm.com) or call 586-703-7690.

**14-16** – Dressage at Waterloo Autumn Classic, Grass Lake, MI. Visit [www.horsehowoffice.com](http://www.horsehowoffice.com) (USDF)

**16** – Woodbine Dressage Schooling Show, Chelsea, MI. Contact Julie Christopher at [woodbinefarmhorseshow@gmail.com](mailto:woodbinefarmhorseshow@gmail.com) or Sari Clapperton at [sariclapperton@hotmail.com](mailto:sariclapperton@hotmail.com) or visit [www.woodbinefarms.com](http://www.woodbinefarms.com) (MDA)

**28-30** – Great Lakes Region Dressage Schooling Show Championships, Rattlewood Farm, Oxford, MI. Visit [www.midmichigandressage.webs.com](http://www.midmichigandressage.webs.com)

**29-30** – Mid Michigan Dressage Schooling Show, Rattlewood Farm, Oxford, MI. Visit [www.midmichigandressage.webs.com](http://www.midmichigandressage.webs.com) (MDA)

## October

**11-14** – USDF Region 2 Dressage Championship, Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington, KY.

## November

**9-12** – USDF Finals, Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington, KY.

**Shows highlighted in green are participating shows for the MDA Year End Awards. All scores earned will go towards year end awards in the schooling show division.**

**Shows highlighted in yellow are USDF recognized shows. These shows count towards USDF year-end awards as well as MDA year end awards in the recognized division.**

**Midwest Dressage Association Participates in the Tribute Partners  
Program to Raise Funds for Educational Events  
Please Support the MDA**

This program provides funding to non-profits for educational events. Members can participate by donating the proof of purchase tags off of Tribute® feedbags or by submitting invoices of bulk Tribute® feed to MDA.

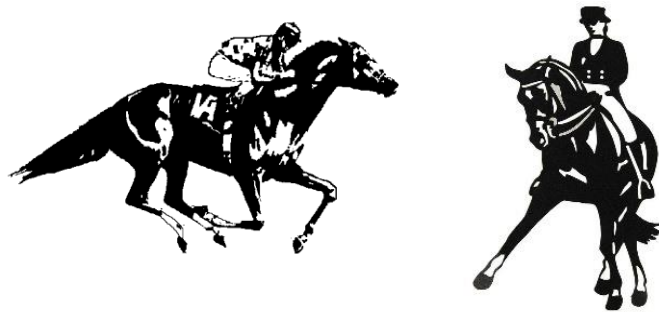
If you are sending copies of invoices, please black out sensitive information like your name, address, credit card info and phone number. Send your documentation to:

Midwest Dressage Association  
C/o Michigan Equine Therapy  
29155 Northwestern Hwy #540  
Southfield, MI 48034



**Thank you for your support!**

# 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)