



# Midwest Dressage Association February 2016

## **RECOGNIZED QUALIFICATIONS: THIS TIME, THE BRITISH HORSE SOCIETY ASSISTANT INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATE**

by MDA reporter Jan Macafee

Last month we looked at the German Bereiter exam, which shares with the BHSAI a general toughness and pressure to turn out well-rounded, truly qualified professional horse people. Nothing is left to chance and every aspect of horsemanship is covered. The qualifications are internationally recognized -- in Germany, government supervised, (there you cannot hang out a horse business shingle without the certificate) -- and those who go through the training and pass, never regret the time and effort it took.

Several Michigan riders have the British version, including Sue Snethkamp, Catherine Haddad and Barbra Reis. Generally, young people chose this path when they know they are going to spend their life with horses and need something early on to prove to the world that they know what they're doing. Barbra is the one we will be talking to here and she explains how it all came about.

"I was attending Centenary College in Hackettstown NJ studying for a BS in Equine Studies. As part of this program, in the first semester of my senior year, I accepted an option of spending a semester in England. It was to study further at Porlock Vale Equestrian Center in Somerset, and do the exam for the BHSAI. Because I already came in with three years of college completed, I had much of the requisite training in place. I was given credit for this, so did not have to do the two year's or more long apprentice-type slog required by those straight out of high school."

"Those of us who chose to go," Barbra continued, "stayed from September through December. It was 1986 and I tell everyone who will listen that it was the best learning experience in the world and the hardest three months of work in my life! There were almost militaristic overtones to the level of discipline required. You did what you were told. Not only the physical labor of working in the "yard" - the name there for the stable area - cleaning stalls, feeding, tack cleaning, neatness, usual routine, but they also added horse health, lameness, nutrition, first aid, wrapping, clipping and braiding. Then lectures, three to five hours a day. It was very intense on every level."

"Back then the cost was \$4,000, but that included a place to stay, full board and included all fees for the program. We were frequently exhausted. We only had one day off a week, a time to catch up on sleep and laundry. It was all like boot camp for a horse crazy girl."

The training was packed with learning, involving lessons twice daily, dressage, jumping, correct lunging with a student, hacking over mores and fields. You were taught how to fall. And you were expected to get back on again without a fuss, mounting from the other side of the horse just to prove you could.

Barbra talks of a charming and different world in which she would ride a given horse down the roads

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

## February 2016

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## 2016 MDA Board and Committees

### Officers

**President**  
Will Davis II  
willdavis@aol.com

**Vice President**  
Ingrid Baranski  
ingridbaranski@gmail.com

**Secretary**  
Lisa Machala  
MichiganEquineTherapy@gmail.com

**Treasurer**  
Lisa Pinkos Howle  
mlphowle@gmail.com

### Board Members

Julie Fleming  
judgejulie33@aol.com

Allison Gaughan-McNab  
FGFsporthorses@yahoo.com

Denise Gentile  
dar-den@comcast.net

Tonya Grant  
evekko10@yahoo.com

Shawn Ragsdale  
shawnragsdale@comcast.net

Barbra Reis  
blondmane@gmail.com

Beth Schaub  
beschaub@frontier.com

## 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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

SAVE THE DATE!!!!

April 9 & 10, 2016

Symposium with Janet Foy

Sponsored by the Midwest Dressage Association with a grant from The Dressage Foundation at Visual Equestrian, LLC



**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.

Foy has earned a dedicated following over many years teaching popular clinics alongside US Olympians Steffen Peters and Debbie McDonald, and her vast knowledge of the sport of dressage and trademark sense of humor propelled her first book *Dressage for the Not-So-Perfect Horse* to bestseller status. Now, for her eagerly awaited follow-up, she’s responded to the hundreds of dressage questions she’s received in an easy-to-engage-with Q-and-A format. Readers find no-nonsense answers to everything from understanding how horses learn the movements to really “getting” the importance of the outside rein to gaining coordination and achieving “throughness.” As always, Foy’s enthusiasm emanates from her words, and her drive to provide solid understanding is one in a million.



# “Dressage Thru the Levels” with Janet Foy

Hosted by the Midwest Dressage Association

**April 9 & 10, 2016**

At Carole and Tonya Grant's Farm, 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:  
Barbara Reis, 490 Reseman Lane, Oronville, MI 48462

Questions? Contact Barb at [bloudmane@gmail.com](mailto:bloudmane@gmail.com) or 248-670-9031

*You will receive a confirmation email.*

## MIDWEST DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION ESSAY CONTEST

This essay contest is open to all current MDA members.

One \$50.00 cash prize will be awarded to one winner in each of the following categories.

Jr./Young rider

Adult Amateurs

Professional Members

All submitted essays will be published in the MDA Newsletter.

Winners will be announced and awarded at the 2016 MDA Awards Banquet.

### Essay Guidelines:

Submissions may be made Dec 1- 2015 through Nov 1, 2016

### Essay Topic:

How Has Your Relationship with Horses Shaped Your Life?

### Judging Criteria:

Originality, Creativity, Correct use of language, vocabulary, structure and spelling.  
Appropriateness to essay topic

### The Judge:

Is an established horse person who has worked with a broad range of ages, types and styles of horses, but has been mainly concentrated in the world of Dressage. In addition to being highly respected in the dressage community, they are well spoken and well written.

### Submitting an Essay:

you may E-mail to Barb Reis at [blondmane@yahoo.com](mailto:blondmane@yahoo.com)  
or mail a hard copy to  
Barb Reis  
490 Rissman Lane  
Ortonville, MI. 48462

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to the blacksmith in town to have shoes reset. "It was considered normal to ride to the village. The roads were blacktop, the local traffic took notice of you and expected to see horses. The blacksmith was there with his own building and a live fire forge - he didn't come to you - and this was typical of British life then. I'm sure it is still the same in some of the smaller places in the UK."

As in Germany, the exams take place over several days and include written as well as practical displays of expertise in all aspects of riding and teaching. What Barbra took away from it all was the difference in horse culture in England versus what she sees here.

«Not always of course, but often, a horse here is a commodity, something you own as property. In the UK horses were part of the family, and the people exuded a real passion for their animals. There was an old-world affinity for having them in your life. There was a sturdy, cheerful expectation that you did things with horses, rode them places, not always in fenced areas because people don't live in terror there that someone might fall off if they were allowed out into the real world of open acreage or roads. It was encouraged to get out and do it. Go gallop with the group. Jump natural obstacles. Tough luck if you fall off. Just get back on and try again.»

"Of course it is a very much less litigious society, in the UK," Barbra acknowledged. "The threat of being sued in America has changed things here for the worse, putting a damper on boldness and courage. I remember this immersion in a different culture with great affection and still hold on to the values and attitudes that were so carefully taught."

#### PERSONAL ADDENDUM

Your reporter needs to add a personal piece to this story, since I have direct experience with exactly these teaching methods. I trained in Australia for several years with a woman who held her BHSAI and she was memorable enough to be part of this story. Her name was Heather, and she was resident

in Perth, the most isolated city of its size in the world. In the 1960's and 70's it was a veritable horsey hotbed, since in those days there was plenty of room to keep horses, and they were everywhere. Heather, always correctly attired in jodhpurs and elastic side ankle boots, topped by a tweed jacket and soft fedora earned respect where ever she went ad both instructor and judge.

Most of us were heavily involved with riding before we met her. I, driving and riding pacers, riding one and leading two along the beach, working race horses, converting off the track thoroughbreds into something that could go in the show ring, heaps of experience but lacking professional finesse. At that time we were all competing pretty show hacks in the British tradition. They were usually thoroughbreds, with lovely heads, sometimes crossed with Arabians, most went in double bridles and they were judged on their looks, manners, soundness and training. They had to be in self carriage, light and obedient, move beautifully, perform individual work outs when called in from a circle by the judge. In every way they were dressage horses although actual dressage competition did not start there until the early 70's. With Heather as my coach, I went on to win the champion hack on someone else's horse, at the Perth Royal Show, the biggest and most prestigious event in the state, a year before moving to Michigan.

Her instruction was specific; a lady's hack should be elegant, correct and a pleasure to ride. The contact to the bit should always be there but never heavy. Manners mattered. Horses must stand in a line with others without objection. They should be ridden with sufficient tact so as to be free of mannerisms. You won't win on horses who open their mouth, stick out their tongue or wring their tail. As a rider, don't pull back and here's what to do instead. Never lead a horse through doorways with stirrups hanging. Always do the front of blanket up first, undo it last. Never let a horse go unless it is facing you and the gate is in your hand.

Heather was careful and wise and among other things that stick in my mind was the ritual of mounting and dismounting which I still teach to the letter and was straight from the BHSAI hand book.

The horse had to stand, mounting block or not. The rider gathered up the reins from both sides of the neck without a twist, and they were held short, part way up the neck of the horse, along with a handful of mane. The rein was short enough so that just a turn of the wrist would add pressure to the bit and the horse would be forced into a halt. There was no negotiation. The other hand was often placed on the withers, along with another handful of mane -- or else on the opposite side of the saddle so one was pushing down as you mounted, rather than pulling the saddle towards you. Two hands on the saddle were never allowed. The horse must wait, always, until you found your stirrups, had reins in both hands and was asked to move off.

This was just one of many sound, sensible little things I had drummed into me without ever having the chance to earn a certificate. Forty years later this foundation is still with me.



Barbra Reis at Porlock Vale Equestrian Centre, Somerset, England

Jan McAfee in Australia





# UNITED STATES *Dressage* FEDERATION

## Group Membership (GM)

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### **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](#).



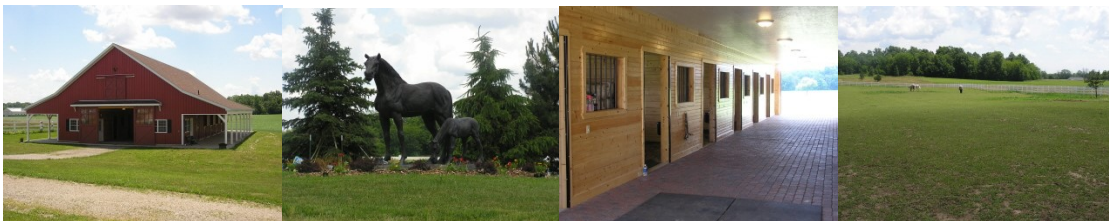
## Breakthrough Dressage is currently accepting horses in training at Bronze Mare Farm



### 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 Professionals Grant Program

This Grant program has been established to assist those who are professional members of the Midwest Dressage Association meeting the following requirements in furthering their education in the following area's teaching, training, and judging.

The MDA board of directors shall set aside from the general fund the sum of \$1,500.00 (three grants of \$500.00 each) at the beginning of each calendar year for the sole purpose of being awarded in the form of Qualified Grant Money to those applicants meeting the following requirements:

A minimum of 2 years consecutive membership (in good standing) with the MDA

4 hours of volunteer time documented with the MDA with in the 12 months preceding the filing of a grant application

A letter of recommendation from one student

A letter of recommendation from a professional horseperson - (Trainer, Instructor or Judge)

Approved educational opportunities would include the following:

All clinics, seminars, and educational programs offered and or sponsored by the following Midwest Dressage Association, the United States Dressage Federation, United States Equestrian Federation. And those educational opportunities brought before and approved by the MDA Board of directors on a case by case basis.

Maximum grant to be awarded to any one person shall be limited to \$500.00

\* Board may approve any grant request for less then the applied for amount.

No one person can receive more then one grant per calendar year.

Should said recipient fail to attend specified event all grant moneys are to be refunded to MDA within 30 days after the date said event.

Additional funds may be placed and/or added to the Professional Grant Fund through donations, fund raisers, etc.

- Terms & Conditions subject to change on an annual basis.

## Midwest Dressage Professional Grant Work Sheet

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Years: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer Hours: \_\_\_\_\_ Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

A letter of Recommendation from Student

Students contact information Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact # \_\_\_\_\_

A letter of recommendation from a professional Horseperson  
(Trainer- Instructor or Judge)

Sponsors Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact #: \_\_\_\_\_

Event Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Event Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe the educational event:

How does this event help you achieve your riding goals?

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- All requests should be filed 60 days prior to the event date, to ensure the MDA Board has time to review requests. Thank you.

Please Mail completed work sheets / requests to:

Will Davis II  
9518 Brookway Ct.  
Goodrich, MI 48438

Contact # 810 287 2011

MINUTES OF THE MDA BOARD  
December 2, 2015 6:30 PM

Held at Highland House Restaurant, Highland, MI

Board members in attendance: Chair Will Davis, Ingrid Baranski, Tom Bird, Lisa Machala, Beth Schaub, Lisa Howle, Julie Fleming, Susan Snethkamp and Val Dean. Guests: Shawn Ozkar-Ragsdale. The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:30 PM

Comments from the Chair: Will Davis stated that he received a questionnaire from the USDF asking for opinions about a permanent location for national championships and if a location in California would be a good choice.

Secretary's Report: Tom Bird presented the minutes from the November 4, 2015 board meeting. Copies of the minutes were previously emailed to the board for their review and comment. One spelling correction was requested. Motion by Tom Bird that the November 4, 2015 minutes be approved with corrections. Seconded by Lisa Howle. Approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Lisa Howle reported that Directors and Officers Insurance was purchased as of November 30, 2015. She indicated that the checking account statement was emailed to the board for their review and that the check book balance at the end of November was \$18,489.82. Unchanged is the CD savings account of \$6,684 and a regular savings account of \$4,250. Motion by Tom Bird to accept the November 2015 financial report. Seconded by Ingrid Baranski. Approved by voice vote.

Memberships: Julie Fleming reported that the new and renewed membership is currently 45, with 16 professional, 25 adult amateur, 2 juniors and 2 life members. She said the new computer for membership activities requires a MS Office software license and presented the three options available from Microsoft. Motion by Tom Bird to accept the membership report and approve the purchase of a perpetual MS Office License for \$150.00. Seconded by Lisa Machala. Approved by voice vote.

Education: Will Davis said that he had spoken to Barb Reis about the proposed Janet Foy clinic scheduled for the spring of 2016. The clinic will be hosted by Tanys Grant at her farm and that the dates will be April 9 and 10, 2016. The proposed auditors fee for this symposium will be \$40.00

per day. A budget for this symposium will be presented early in 2016. There was also discussion about the proposed Dressage Boot Camp and that as many as 10 local professionals have shown interest in being involved in the program.

Executive Committee: Will Davis stated that a request was made mid-month by Julie Fleming for a replacement computer needed for maintaining membership records and membership processing. She reported the current one crashed when working on a spreadsheet and data was lost. Prior to the crash it took 20 minutes to process entries, something that should have taken seconds. The executive committee was polled and there was support for a new computer. Motion by Tom Bird to confirm the decision of the executive committee for the purchase of a new laptop computer for membership records at a cost of \$366.75. Support by Ingrid Baranski. Approved by voice vote.

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 survey that was sent to members and that 60 were returned with responses. She said it will be resent in December and the responses will be tabulated for the annual meeting in January, 2016.

Will Davis stated that the 2016 MSU Horse Expo booth has been reserved and paid for. He also said that two publications have contacted him about placing ads: Saddle Up Magazine; and, the Great Lake Pony Club Omnibus. Motion by Tom Bird that a \$50 ad be placed in the Pony Club Omnibus. Supported by Lisa Machala. Approved by voice vote. In a final note, Davis asked the board to consider dividing the marketing and promotions into their separate categories because the two are so diverse as to be able to stand alone.

Awards Banquet: A final report for the banquet was not available, however there were 122 meals served and over \$850 was raised on the raffle. There was feedback from those attending that it was an excellent venue for the annual awards. Motion by Tom Bird that Addison Oaks Conference Center be reserved for the 2016 awards banquet. Seconded by Val Dean.

Approved by voice vote.

Professional Advisors: Val Dean reported that there is a professional advisor meeting scheduled in April 2016 at Cranberries Restaurant and there has been increasing interest by area professionals in these meetings.

Nominations: Lisa Howle stated that the ballots are in the newsletter and can be mailed back to the committee before the annual meeting or brought to the annual meeting.

Scholarship: Will Davis reported that the scholarship applications will be available on line.

Awards: Beth Schaub said a final awards report will be completed and part of the annual report. There were details remaining, such as mailing out awards for the no-shows. There was discussion about the lead time required to compile the awards given the awards banquet is in November, a date earlier than in the past. The current October 31 deadline does not give sufficient time and should be moved to an earlier October date. It was pointed out that the membership year ends on November 30<sup>th</sup>, but the show year is different and is from October 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30 of the following year. Motion by Beth Schaub that the rider report forms be due on October 1<sup>st</sup> of the awards year. Seconded by Ingrid Baranski. Approved by voice vote. There was discussion about changing the criteria for some of the awards so that volunteer work could be honored in some way, as the issuance of credits with a monetary value has become a problem. Lisa Machala made a motion that the criteria for the Jean Brown Award be based on an individuals volunteer hours, a change from the current criteria. Seconded by Tom Bird. There was discussion about needing a detailed criteria, such as a certain minimum number of hours, etc. to be worked out before publishing the Directory in the spring. Approved by voice vote.

Historian: no report

Directory: There was discussion about the 2016 Directory and setting of a publishing target date. Motion by Lisa Howle that a publishing target date of March 1, 2016 be set for the MDA Directory. Seconded by Ingrid Baranski. Approved by voice vote.

Newsletter: no report

Volunteers: There was a discussion about MDA members volunteers and if there could be alternatives that would benefit the organization. Will Davis suggested that if MDA members volunteered at his show, payment could be made to the MDA that would reflect the hours volunteer worked. The rates, etc. would have to be worked out but it could be a revenue generator for the organization. Motion by Tom Bird to table this concept and discussion to a future meeting. Seconded by Val Dean. Approved by voice vote.

Video Library: no report.

Website: no report.

Old Business: There was discussion about making a detailed review of the 2015 Directory and making sure that required corrections were noted and made for the 2016 edition.

New Business: Will Davis stated that the USDF Region 2 budget was on line for review. The next meeting of the MDA Board and the Annual Meeting was approved for Sunday, January 17, 2016 at 4:00 PM at Cranberry's Café, 10250 Hegel Road, Goodrich, MI. Motion by Tom Bird to Adjourn. Seconded by Susan Snethkamp. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tom Bird, MDA Secretary

**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:

Individual MDA Membership:	\$51.00
USDF annual member dues:	-\$20.00
Monthly Printed / mailed Newsletters*	-\$24.00*
Annual Awards per member	-\$ 8.00
<b>Balance:</b>	<b>-\$ 1.00</b>

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

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*Perfecting Comfort and Performance for Horse & Rider Since 2004*

*Licensed, Certified, Insured*

## Round the bend... by Cheryl Farner



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.

Office Use Only:  
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

### February 2016

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

25 - MDA Movie night at Brilliant Reflection Farm in Ortonville, MI. Free to Members, pizza and refreshments. Starts at 7:00pm. RSVP to Barb at 248-670-9031 or blondmane@yahoo.com.

### 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.

### April 2016

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

9 & 10 - **Janet Foy «On 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](tel:810-287-2011)

### May 2016

1 - Dressage schooling show at Woodbine Farm, 9976 Liberty Rd, Chelsea, Mi 48118, [Woodbinefarms.com](http://Woodbinefarms.com) . Western Dressage is also offered.

3 - **MDA Board Meeting, 2pm, McPhees Restaurant**, 650 S. Ortonville Rd. Ortonville, MI 48462. Members welcome.

15 - Dressage schooling show at Woodbine Farm, 9976 Liberty Rd, Chelsea, Mi 48118, [www.Woodbinefarms.com](http://www.Woodbinefarms.com) . Western Dressage is also offered.

15 - Justamere Equestrian Center schooling shows. Contact Kathy at 586-489-3020, [kathysday@wideopenwest.com](mailto:kathysday@wideopenwest.com), [www.justamere.info](http://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](http://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](http://www.summerseriesdressage.com) or call 561-358-9594.

### June 2016

5 - Justamere Equestrian Center schooling shows. Contact Kathy at 586-489-3020, [kathysday@wideopenwest.com](mailto:kathysday@wideopenwest.com), [www.justamere.info](http://www.justamere.info)

7 - **MDA Board Meeting, 2pm, 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 - Dressage schooling show at Woodbine Farm, 9976 Liberty Rd, Chelsea, Mi 48118, [www.Woodbinefarms.com](http://www.Woodbinefarms.com) . Western Dressage is also offered.

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](http://www.summerseriesdressage.com) or call 561-358-9594.

26 - Justamere Equestrian Center schooling shows, Call 586-489-3020, [kathysday@wideopenwest.com](mailto:kathysday@wideopenwest.com), [www.justamere.info](http://www.justamere.info)

## **July 2016**

**9-10** - MidMichigan Dressage Schooling Shows at Rattlewood Farms, Oxford, MI. <http://midmichigandressage.webs.com/>  
**17** - Dressage schooling show at Woodbine Farm, 9976 Liberty Rd, Chelsea, MI 48118, [www.Woodbinefarms.com](http://www.Woodbinefarms.com) . Western Dressage is also offered.

**17** - Justamere Equestrian Center schooling shows, Call 586-489-3020, [kathysday@wideopenwest.com](mailto:kathysday@wideopenwest.com), [www.justamere.info](http://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](http://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](http://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, Call 586-489-3020, [kathysday@wideopenwest.com](mailto:kathysday@wideopenwest.com), [www.justamere.info](http://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](http://www.summerseriesdressage.com) or call 561-358-9594.

**28** - Dressage schooling show at Woodbine Farm, 9976 Liberty Rd, Chelsea, MI 48118, [www.Woodbinefarms.com](http://www.Woodbinefarms.com) . Western Dressage is also offered.

**28** - Justamere Equestrian Center schooling shows, Call 586-489-3020, [kathysday@wideopenwest.com](mailto:kathysday@wideopenwest.com), [www.justamere.info](http://www.justamere.info)

## **September 2016**

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

**18** - Dressage schooling show at Woodbine Farm, 9976 Liberty Rd, Chelsea, MI 48118, [www.Woodbinefarms.com](http://www.Woodbinefarms.com) . Western Dressage is also offered.

**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 at 586-489-3020, [kathysday@wideopenwest.com](mailto:kathysday@wideopenwest.com), [www.justamere.info](http://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](http://www.summerseriesdressage.com) or call 561-358-9594.

## **November 2016**

**20** - MDA Annual Awards Banquet, Addison Oaks County Park, 11:30am - ?

Midwest Dressage Association

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



**The Dressage Foundation...**  
*Making a Difference in the Dressage Community!*

Grants and scholarships are available for young riders, adult amateurs, instructors, trainers, groups, and more.

**You can make a difference by helping us support dressage-related education across the country!**

*Dressage camp hosted by the Southwest Chapter of Virginia Dressage Assoc. Funding provided by The Dressage Foundation.*

Visit [www.dressagefoundation.org](http://www.dressagefoundation.org) or call (402) 434-8585 to donate or learn more about available funding.

1314 'O' Street, Suite 305, Lincoln, NE 68508  
Email: [info@dressagefoundation.org](mailto:info@dressagefoundation.org)  
Donations of all sizes are greatly appreciated!