



Editor's Notes...

Ahh...horse show season is upon us! Essentially if you show at Open Dressage shows it goes something like this: The fancy European warmbloods show up with their fancy European names that usually contain a "von" or a "der"something like Volkswagen von der Audi. They wear shoes designed by Versace and wear saddle pads that have 100,000 thread count. Then the Friesian group shows up with their flowing manes, tails and feathers gleaming from the effects of being paid thousands of dollars to star in their own Pantene commercials. They are also the ones that don't have names so much as letters and numbers...like R2D2 and CP3O. The Spanish and Mexican breeds usually try to make it but with all this talk about a giant wall no one is sure anymore. Of course, the commoners in the Dressage world like to try to throw off the balance of power and toss the occasional Quarter Horse, Morgan or Arab into the mix because otherwise the Dutch Warmbloods would have nothing to talk about in their stalls at night while downing their schnitzel and lager. And then of course the ponies! When the ponies arrive every other horse on the showgrounds cowers because the ponies show up with their brass knuckles and knives ready to cut someone. This especially worries the Friesians as they try to hide their hair. And finally, the Thoroughbreds can be found running in aimless circles looking for the track and starting gates. Tis a wonderful time of year! Enjoy it everyone!

-Allison





June Meeting Notes...

The June Board of Directors Meeting was held at the Comeback Inn in Highland, MI on June 7. It was noted that the new Redbook had been mailed which is a huge undertaking. It was proposed that the Annual Meeting be moved to December 10 at the Fairfield Inn in Fenton at 2:00 pm and the motion passed. Board member Tonya Grant gave us a report on the Terry Gallo clinic and had nothing but positive feedback. She noted that working with Terry overtime has had the effect of de-mystifying the concept of Freestyles. The MDA Board is now working on bringing in other clinicians to focus on other subjects. Suggestions from our membership are always welcome!

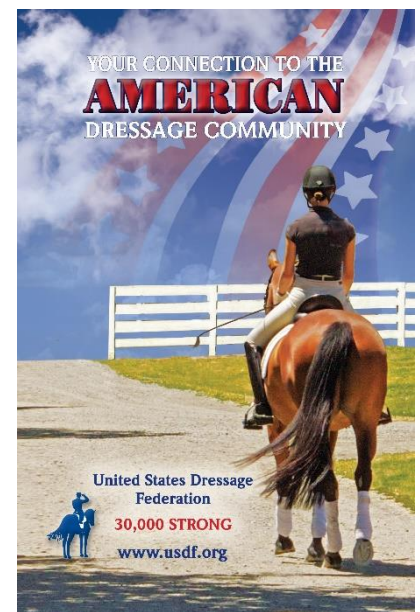
Preparations for the MDA Banquet on November 19 are being made and Beth Schaub is hard at work putting together awards for our hard-working riders. Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday July 12 at the Comeback Inn in Highland. Everyone is welcome!

MDA Used Tack Sale!

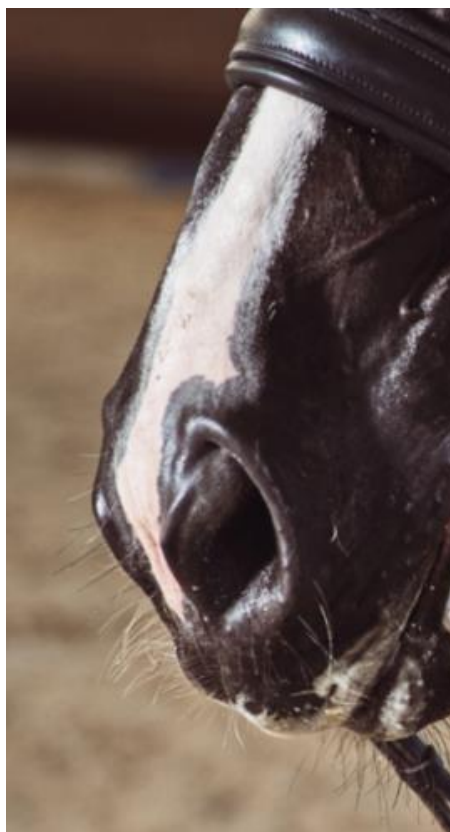
The MDA proudly presents our used tack sale September 9& 10! We are accepting gently used blankets, tack, equipment and riding apparel to be sold at the September Schooling Dressage show at Rattlewood Farm. Proceeds will go towards year-end awards and donors can receive a tax donation receipt. You can drop off items at any of the Rattlewood Schooling Shows or give them to any MDA Board member throughout the year. You can usually find a lot of board members at various

other shows like Dressage at Waterloo as well.

Help support our year-end awards program and clean up your barn at the same time!



Germany Bans Trimming Horse Whiskers And Ears



Secretary-general, Imke Lubeseder, of the German Equestrian Federation (FN) sent a reminder to all members noting that trimming whiskers and ears is against animal welfare and forbidden in Germany. The reminder stated:

“We would like to draw your attention to the fact that according to paragraph 6 of the German Animal Welfare Law, trimming the vibrissae around eyes and muzzle as well as clipping or cutting the hairs inside

the ears of horses are prohibited.

Adherence to this rule at horse shows in Germany is being supervised by German authorities. Competitors can be fined if their horses are found unlawfully trimmed or clipped.”

Germany put this rule into effect in 1998 for welfare reasons but is permitted in most countries.

Member Spotlight:

Meet Carly Stewart!

AM: What is your favorite part of doing Dressage?

CS: Doing the tests at the shows and competing. My favorite part of going to shows is going into the ring and starting the test.

AM: What is your favorite breed?

CS: Paints! Because that’s the kind of horse that I ride. His name is Joe.

AM: What are your future goals in riding?

CS: I want to get to Training Level this year. Joe listens better to me now

better than then when we started.

AM: What do you like to do when you’re not in the ring?

CS: I like to watch all the other horses and help out and especially hang out with Joe.

AM: Who are your favorite riders?

CS: My aunt Michele and my trainer.

Carly Stewart is a Jr./Young Rider that trains at Allison McKenzie Sporthorses in Manchester, MI. She is 10 years old.



Exploring Equine Seasonal Allergies



As winter gives way to spring and summer, trees become greener and flowers bloom colorful and bright. Some people find themselves sneezing or coughing, develop congested nasal passages, and fight through watery eyes as a result of the abundant pollen or other environmental allergens. And like their human counterparts, horses can suffer from allergies too.

“Allergies are extremely common in horses,” said Katherine Williamson, DVM, a veterinarian with Purina Animal Nutrition. “It’s largely linked to

management and their environment,”

Williamson discussed allergy testing and diagnosis at the 2017 Annual Mid-Atlantic Nutrition Conference, held April 6 in Hunt Valley, Maryland.

Allergies have several potential causes and are categorized into one or more of four general classifications:

- Insect hypersensitivity;
- Contact allergies;
- Inherited atopy (respiratory, dermatologic); and
- Food allergies (although definitive documentation of food allergies in horses is uncommon).

Just about every horse gets itchy when flies and mosquitoes attack, despite our best efforts to reduce bites. Having a horse with pruritis (skin itching) and skin lesions might indicate allergies, but keep it mind

it could also have a parasitic or fungal cause. For this reason, “it’s important to know exactly what you are dealing with,” Williamson said,

The primary treatment for allergies is avoidance of the offending allergen, but it can be difficult to detect specific allergens.

Williamson gave some tips for narrowing the search for the problem’s cause (or causes):

- Look for patterns of lesions on the body (what contacts the affected area?);
- Consider if anything has changed (environment, bedding, topicals, feed, etc.); and
- Use the process of elimination to try and determine possible causes.

While your veterinarian might treat your horse’s clinical signs, the cause might remain elusive and clinical signs might recur.

Therefore, reliable diagnostic tools are needed to identify allergens.

Diagnosing Allergies

The intradermal skin test (IST) is the “gold standard” for allergen identification. Concentrated allergens are injected subcutaneously (under the skin), and the reactions are measured to determine what the horse is sensitive too. The primary drawback of IST is that results can be hard to interpret, and an experienced veterinarian is required. In addition, a patch of hair needs to be shaved, which is objectionable to some owners.

In the quest to find a better, easier, cheaper, and faster allergy test, commercial laboratories have offered serum allergy testing (SAT), which has become widely use in veterinary practice. For SAT, the veterinarian draws a blood sample, sends it to the lab, and awaits testing results.

However, SAT also has major limitations, most notably that no commercial labs use horse-specific antibodies for testing, and results tend to be inconsistent. This method is also not useful for diagnosing food allergies. Consequently, test results can be difficult to interpret.

To diagnose food allergies, allergy specialists recommend an elimination diet. This involves removing all medications, supplements and concentrates, and putting the horse on a hay-only diet. These items can be reintroduced one at a time. If the horse shows no reaction, the item is likely not a culprit. A veterinarian and nutritionist should help oversee this process.

More research is essential for the development of a reliable allergy test in horses, Williamson said. The ISD remains the gold standard for allergy diagnosis (except food allergies). An elimination

diet is currently the only reliable way to diagnose food allergies.

If you suspect your horse is suffering from allergies, take notes about everything he or she comes in contact with, from fly spray to bedding and everything in between, and make note of any reaction your horse has. Relay this information to your veterinarian so you can develop a proper plan of action.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Nettie Liburt, MS, PhD, PAS

Nettie Liburt, MS, PhD, PAS, is an equine nutritionist based in Long Island, New York. She is a graduate of Rutgers University, where she studied equine exercise physiology and nutrition. Liburt worked for a commercial feed company for nearly four years and currently runs Liburt Equine Nutrition as an independent consultant.

The Encore Award



The Encore Award is presented by Allison McKenzie Sporthorses to honor exceptional Off The Track Thoroughbreds in the sport of Dressage. This award is presented to any Thoroughbred who is owned and/or competed by a current Midwest Dressage Association Member who achieves the highest cumulative percentage during the current season at any level. In order to qualify for this award the owner/rider must provide a copy of the horses Jockey Club registration and race record along with copies of three of the highest scoring tests the horse has performed at any one level. This annual award will be presented at the MDA Banquet.

The Encore Award Application

Horse Name: _____ Jockey Club #: _____

Jockey Club Name (if different from above): _____

Owner/Rider Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

MDA# _____

Please send application, a copy of your horses Jockey Club Papers, and a copy of the horse's race record to:

Allison McKenzie

9867 Sharon Hollow Road, Manchester, MI 48158

Midwest Dressage Association Professionals Grant Program

This grant program has been established to assist those who are professional members of the Midwest Dressage Association to further their education in the following areas: Teaching, Training, and Judging.

The MDA Board of Directors shall set aside from the general fund the sum of \$1,500.00 (the grants of \$500 each) at the beginning of each calendar year. Applicants must meet the following requirements:

-A minimum of two consecutive years of

membership (in good standing) with the Midwest Dressage Association.

-Four hours of volunteer time documented with the MDA within 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, judge or instructor)

Approved educational opportunities would include the following:

All clinics, seminars, and educational programs offered and/or sponsored by the Midwest Dressage Association, the United

States Dressage Federation, and/or the United States Equestrian Federation. These educational opportunities will be brought to the MDA Board of Directors on a case by case basis.

The maximum grant to be awarded to any one person shall be limited to \$500.00. The board may approve any grant request for less than the requested amount. No one person shall receive more than one grant per calendar year.

Should said recipient fail to attend the specified event all grant money is to be refunded to the Midwest Dressage Association within 30 days after the date of specified event. Terms and conditions are subject to change on an annual basis.

Midwest Dressage Professional Grant Work Sheet Application

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?

•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 worksheets/requests to:

Will Davis II

9518 Brookway Ct.

Goodrich, MI 48438

Contact # 810 287 2011

**Midwest Dressage Association
Membership Application
December 1st – November 30th**

Membership information: Renewing No: _____ Check if new member: _____

Name: _____

Farm/Business Name: _____

Street Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____ Cell: _____ Home: _____

Email address for newsletters to be sent: _____

Additional family members: _____ DOB for juniors: _____

Rider status: Open: _____ Amateur: _____ Junior: _____ Date of birth for Junior: _____

(If no rider status is selected, application will be considered as Open for all MDA purposes including year-end awards. Adult Amateur status is limited to riders who meet the USEF Guidelines GR808)

Indicate here if you do not wish to have your information printed in the Directory: _____

For Professionals Only: I would like to be added to the MDA Directory (Redbook) offering the following services:

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

Payment

<p>Credit Card payment information Visa: _____ MC: _____ Discover: _____ Card No: _____ Exp: _____ Zip: _____ CVV#: _____ *Please note: payments via credit card requires addition of usage charge noted at right.</p>	<table> <tr> <td>Adult Amateur/Open (\$51)</td> <td>\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Junior Young Rider (\$41)</td> <td>\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Family Member (\$21)</td> <td>\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Credit card processing _____</td> <td>\$ 2.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>I would like to donate (tax deductible)</td> <td>\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">please indicate the area which are you would like to donate to:</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td align="right">TOTAL</td> <td>\$ _____</td> </tr> </table>	Adult Amateur/Open (\$51)	\$ _____	Junior Young Rider (\$41)	\$ _____	Family Member (\$21)	\$ _____	Credit card processing _____	\$ 2.50	I would like to donate (tax deductible)	\$ _____	please indicate the area which are you would like to donate to:		_____		TOTAL	\$ _____
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Family Member (\$21)	\$ _____																
Credit card processing _____	\$ 2.50																
I would like to donate (tax deductible)	\$ _____																
please indicate the area which are you would like to donate to:																	

TOTAL	\$ _____																
<p>Office Use Postmark _____ Ck #: _____ Amount: _____ Date of electronic payment: _____</p>	<p>Please make checks payable to Midwest Dressage Association Mail to: Nancy Bryant, 25 Louck Street #15, Oxford MI 48371</p> <p>Application with Paypal (use Friends & Family) for processing or include an additional 4% to cover the fee, credit card methods of payment can be emailed to: MDA.dressageorg@gmail.com</p>																
<p>All Members will receive a membership card, monthly e-newsletter, a Group Membership to the United States Dressage Foundation with all its benefits. The effective date of MDA membership is the postmarked date if mailed or the payment receipt date if submitted electronically. The MDA is not responsible for late, delayed, or misdirected mail or payments. Please allow three weeks for processing of your MDA application and USDF Group Membership.</p> <p><i>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 for any purpose whatsoever, specifically including illustration or promotion. I have read this request and fully understand its contents. This release shall be binding upon me and the MDA for the current membership year.</i></p> <p>Signature authorization for credit card payment and for permission to use photographs: _____</p>																	

MDA Calendar

June 2017

3-4/20-21- Mid-Michigan Dressage Schooling Shows at Rattlewood Farms, Oxford, MI. Contact Will Davis for details. WillDavis@aol.com or 810.287.2011

Visit <http://midmichigandressage.webs.com/>

7 - Midwest Dressage Association Board Meeting 6pm. Comeback Inn, Highland MI

10-11 - Wyn Farm Dressage Schooling Show. Information at www.wynfarm.com or contact Jordan Kroll 586 703 7690. or wynfarmshowseries@gmail.com

14- Hunter/Jumper/Dressage/Association (HJDA) Series of Shows Justamere Equestrian Center, Contact show secretary, Kathy Biondo, at 586-489-3020 or email

to: kathleenbiondo@gmail.com
25 - Strictly Dressage Schooling Show, Justamere Equestrian Center, Contact show secretary, Kathy Biondo, at 586-489-3020 or email

to: kathleenbiondo@gmail.com
29-July 2- Centered Riding Instructor Certification Clinic by Peggy Brown. Part Two of Two. Please contact lori.schroeder6@gmail.com or 419.360.0330 for further

information

July 2017

8-9 -Wyn Farm Dressage Schooling Show. Information at www.wynfarm.com or contact Jordan Kroll 586 703 7690 or wynfarmshowseries@gmail.com

12- Hunter/Jumper/Dressage/Association (HJDA) Series of Shows Justamere Equestrian Center, Contact show secretary, Kathy Biondo, at 586-489-3020 or email

to: kathleenbiondo@gmail.com
29-Mid-Michigan Dressage Schooling Shows at Rattlewood Farms, Oxford, MI. Contact Will Davis for details. WillDavis@aol.com or 810.287.2011

August 2017

2- Hunter/Jumper/Dressage/Association (HJDA) Series of Shows Justamere Equestrian Center, Contact show secretary, Kathy Biondo, at 586-489-3020 or email

to: kathleenbiondo@gmail.com
12-13 - Wyn Farm Dressage Schooling Show. Information at www.wynfarm.com or contact Jordan Kroll 586 703 7690 or wynfarmshowseries@gmail.com

26-27- Mid-Michigan Dressage

Schooling Shows at Rattlewood Farms, Oxford, MI. Contact Will Davis for details. WillDavis@aol.com or 810.287.2011

Visit <http://midmichigandressage.webs.com/>

23- Hunter/Jumper/Dressage/Association (HJDA) Series of Shows Justamere Equestrian Center, Contact show secretary, Kathy Biondo, at 586-489-3020 or email to: kathleenbiondo@gmail.com

September 2017

9-10 20-21 Mid-Michigan Dressage Schooling Shows at Rattlewood Farms, Oxford, MI. Contact Will Davis for details. WillDavis@aol.com or 810.287.2011

Visit <http://midmichigandressage.webs.com/>

9-10 Annual MDA Used Tack & Equipment Sale at Rattlewood Farm, Oxford MI.

9-10 - Wyn Farm Dressage Schooling Show. Information at www.wynfarm.com or contact Jordan Kroll 586 703 7690 or [wnfarmshowseries@gmail.com](mailto:wynfarmshowseries@gmail.com)

14-17 USDF Regional Championship, Region 2, Majestic Farm, Batavia, OH

29-30- Great Lakes Regional Dressage Schooling Show Championship at Rattlewood Farms, Oxford, MI. Contact Will Davis for details. WillDavis@aol.com or

810.287.2011

Visit <http://midmichigandressage.webs.com/>

October

1- Great Lakes Regional Dressage Schooling Show Championship at Rattlewood Farms, Oxford, MI. Contact Will Davis for details. WillDavis@aol.com or 810.287.2011

Visit <http://midmichigandressage.webs.com/>

November

9-12- USDF Dressage Finals, Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington KY
19- MDA Annual Awards Banquet, Buhl Estate, Addison Oaks Park, Leonard MI
29 - Dec 2 USDF Annual Convention, Lexington

KY <http://usdf.org/convention/>

December

1-2 USDF Annual Convention, Lexington KY <http://usdf.org/convention/>



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

TRIBUTE® EQUINE NUTRITION

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. In the first year of the program MDA earned over \$500 to put towards clinics.

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



2017 MDA Board and Committees

President

Will Davis II

willdavis@aol.com

Vice President

Lisa Machala

MichiganEquineTherapy@gmail.com

Secretary

Nancy Bryant

nancyclair0924@gmail.com

Treasurer

Pam Morrison

info@equinebookkeeping.com

Board Members

Allison McKenzie

amsporthorses@yahoo.com

Denise Gentile

dar-den@comcast.net

Karen Suit

karenofsandhill@yahoo.com

Tonya Grant

Tonyagrants@visualequestrian.com

Debbie Hannaford

debbietimko@yahoo.com

Beth Schaub

beschraub@frontier.com

Shawn Ragsdale

shawnragsdale@comcast.net

Committees

Awards – Beth Schaub

Membership – Nancy Bryant

Education – Debbie Hannaford

Banquet – Denise Gentile

Newsletter – Allison McKenzie

Historian – Will Davis

Directory – Lisa Machala

Website – Lisa Machala

Volunteers – Shawn Ragsdale

Merchandise – Tonya Grant

Marketing VACANT

Nominations – Shawn Ragsdale

Professional Advisor – Shawn Ragsdale

Classified Ads

Classified Ads must be submitted to the newsletter editor via email and in Word format. Pictures and graphics must be in JPEG format. Deadline for advertising and classified ads is the 15th of the previous month. All ads must be prepaid prior to publication. All member rates reflect a 20% discount of retail price.

1 month 3 month 6 month 12 month

	Retail	Member	Retail	Member	Retail	Member	Retail	Member
¼ page	40.00	32.00	90.00	72.00	150.00	120.00	240.00	192.00

	Retail	Member	Retail	Member	Retail	Member	Retail	Member
½ page	60.00	48.00	120.00	96.00	210.00	168.00	360.00	288.00

	Retail	Member	Retail	Member	Retail	Member	Retail	Member
Full page	90.00	72.00	150.00	120.00	390.00	312.00	660.00	528.00



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

MDA Classifieds...

Blue Water Dressage Stables

Training and Lessons

Contact: Pam Atkinson

Phone: 989-777-7471

Email: pam@bluewaterdressagestables.com

Website: www.bluewaterdressagestables.com

Allison McKenzie Sporthorses

Training, Lessons, Breeding, and Sales

Contact: Allison McKenzie

Phone: 734-276-8967

Email: amsporthorses@yahoo.com

Website: www.allisonmckenzie-sporthorses.com

