



Editor's Notes...

A couple of weeks ago the Dressage community in Michigan lost one of its trainers, Sue Thome, to cancer. Sue owned WinterSpring Dressage in Carson City with her husband Mike where she taught Dressage and brought her own horses along. In addition to her husband, Sue leaves behind her children, Elizabeth, Ted, and Belinda as well as her grandchildren and numerous students and fellow riders whose lives she touched and enriched. I never had the honor of meeting Sue but I have been told that she was honest, fun and loved our sport immensely. To be frank, there are a lot of Dressage trainers in Michigan that I have never met and for the most part I blame it on the fact that I live in a part of Michigan that Dressage has forgotten or at least not encountered yet. But in reality, I find myself doing what so many of us do – not bothering to venture out to learn about my peers unless I need something. I am constantly amazed by what a tight-knit community we become at shows, cheering one another on, comparing notes, and lending a hand – only to let that fall away as the show ends on a Sunday afternoon and fade as the season ends and we are forced away by autumn colors and winter winds. I observe other trainers at shows and wonder about their journeys – how they got to where they are – and not about the achievements that got them there but about their failures, their struggles, and their sacrifices. I wonder about their families and

what it's like for them to balance an equestrian career and a personal life. Do they struggle the same way that I do to maintain a life outside of horses? Do their significant others wonder if dinner is once again going to be sandwiches at 10pm instead of a hot meal at 6pm because a horse colicked or you wanted to ride just one more horse? Do they drive their kids to practice in their tall boots and a ball cap that hides helmet hair or like me, wander the aisles of the grocery store in breeches and a hay-covered shirt, looking for something quick and easy to fix for dinner for a long-suffering husband who never complains?

My time on the MDA Board thus far has allowed me to learn so much about the people that I compete and train alongside and for that I am grateful. But there is still so much to learn – and so many people to learn from. I don't want to learn about people like Sue after they've left us. I want to take the time to learn about my fellow trainers – and riders alike – while we are still part of that show family passing one another in the aisle and sitting around the picnic table watching everyone else's rides. It's not about the ribbons, the medals and the achievements – it's about the journeys that we all took to get there and the struggles that we have all endured to get to a place where we can sit on the grass at a show, watching the sun fading as a backdrop to a beautiful horse and rider. And cherishing every moment.

-Allison

Midwest Dressage Association

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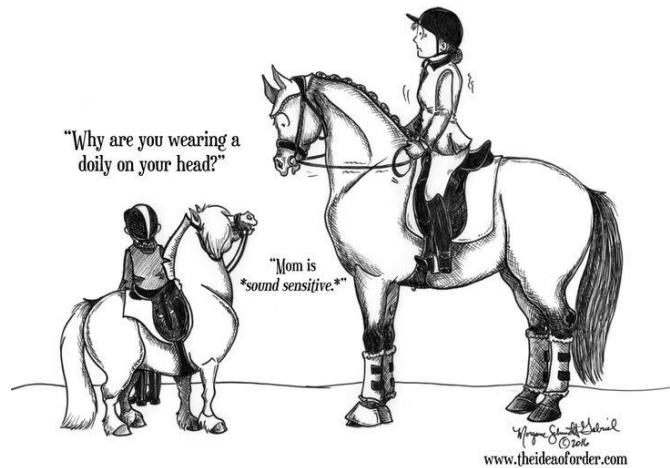
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MDA Board Meeting Notes:

On June 12 board member Beth Schaub was kind enough to open her home to the board for its' monthly meeting. While many board members were unable to attend, the meeting was productive and informative nonetheless. The date for the Grant Symposium was finalized (October 20-21) and ideas for topics to be focused on at the symposium were discussed. The MDA is in the process of deciding on a date and location for the Test

Riding Clinic as Dressage tests will be changing after this year. This meeting provided those attending a fabulous opportunity to voice ideas and thoughts for the board going forward in a relaxed and comfortable setting. The next meeting for the MDA board will be July 10 at 6:00pm at the home of Allison McKenzie in Manchester. This should provide a great opportunity for "southern" members to attend a board meeting and voice their opinions. See you there!



WORKING TROT



MEDIUM TROT



EXTENDED TROT



WHOA DAMMIT

Optimizing Chances of Equine Recurrent Uveitis Treatment Success

Equine recurrent uveitis, or ERU, remains a timely, expensive, and unrewarding disease to treat due to recurrence, loss of vision, and loss of use.

By Stacey Oke, DVM, MSc, June 19, 2018

Equine recurrent uveitis (ERU) is a nasty disease, causing searing pain and loss of use. Adding insult to injury, the disease keeps coming back, often resulting in blindness.

This disease frequently frustrates veterinarians such as Mary Lassaline, DVM, PhD, MA, Dipl. ACVO—even to the point of despair, she said—because ERU remains an expensive and unrewarding disease to treat. But as researchers learn more about the ins and outs of the disease, they're finding ways to improve treatment.

“ERU is the number one cause of blindness that comes with important emotional and economic strings attached,” said Lassaline, a large animal ophthalmologist at the University of California, Davis, during her presentation at the 2017 American Association of Equine Practitioners Convention, held Nov. 17-21 in San Antonio, Texas. “In one retrospective study, approximately 15% of affected horses are euthanized, and by the time many horses are referred to a specialist, the horse's disease is already at an advanced stage. Up to 25% of horses are already blind by the time they are referred.”

“In that same retrospective study, many horses with ERU already underwent a career change or had reduced activity, and about 50% tested positive for leptospirosis,” she added.

To review briefly, ERU is an immune-mediated form of uveitis—inflammation of the uveal tract, which comprises the iris, muscular ciliary body, and

choroid. Uveitis is a painful condition, and chronic uveitis can cause permanent changes in the eye, including cataracts, glaucoma, and retinal detachment.

“There are multiple causes for ERU, and despite the importance of this disease, ERU remains incurable,” said Lassaline.

In light of these facts, she encouraged practitioners to approach horses with painful eyes in a systematic and standardized fashion to optimize chances of treatment success:

- **Recognize uveitis promptly.** It is characterized by miosis (excessive constriction of the pupil); a painful, red, and cloudy eye; and low intraocular pressure.
- **Stain every eye.** Corneal ulcers can also cause squinting, tearing, redness, and cloudiness. Staining the eye with a fluorescent dye can distinguish them from uveitis.
- **Always do a fundic exam to assess the structures in the back of the eye.** “You can use a smartphone and an app that has a camera plus the light to perform a fundic exam easily and thoroughly,” Lassaline said.

To diagnose ERU, the horse must have uveitis that has recurred or is persistent. In addition, veterinarians use a standardized grading scheme for ERU (e.g., on a scale of 1 to 5) to achieve an early diagnosis and assess treatment success.

“In some ways, ERU is akin to laminitis, a recurrent and lifelong, life-altering condition,” said Lassaline.

In terms of treatment, Lassaline recommended administering topical steroids, topical atropine to dilate the eye, and systemic nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. Cyclosporine implants, which veterinarians surgically place in the eye (in the suprachoroidal space), can reduce the frequency and severity of ERU flare-ups and can last for at least 48 months.

Schooling Show Placings

Woodbine May 20

<u>Test</u>	<u>DIV</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>HORSE</u>	<u>PLACING</u>
Intro A	JR	Londyn Pachota	Wind in the Willows	2
Intro A	JR	Sydney Cohol	Gatsby	5
Intro B	JR	Londyn Pachota	Wind in the Willows	2
Intro B	JR	Sydney Cohol	Gatsby	5
Tr. 2	AA	Crystal Wilson	Dulcinea	3
Tr. 2	AA	Deborah Postiff	Pony Pants	5
Tr. 3	AA	Jennifer Moyne	Ephraim	1
Tr. 3	AA	Kimberly Burham	Turn the Page	2
Tr. 3	AA	Crystal Wilson	Dulcinea	6
Tr. 3	AA	Deborah Postiff	Pony Pants	
1st 1	AA	Jennifer Moyne	Ephraim	3
1st 1	AA	Kimberly Burham	Turn the Page	4
1st 1	AA	Judy Fox	Argento	5
1st 1	AA	Cindy Rushbrook	Sanilac Star	6
1st 1	AA	Judy Ward	Mystical Design	
1st 2	AA	Cindy Rushbrook	Sanilac Star	1
1st 2	AA	Kimberly Burham	Turn the Page	2
1st 2	AA	Judy Ward	Mystical Design	3
1st 2	Open	Allison McKenzie	Maleficent	4
1st 3	AA	Judy Fox	Argento	3
1st 3	AA	Cindy Rushbrook	Sanilac Star	4
1st 3	Open	Laura VanRiper	Olian	2
1st 3	Open	Allison McKenzie	Maleficent	5
2nd 1	AA	Michelle Davidage	Faisca SW	1
2nd 1	AA	Sally Booth-Schwadron	Dorian Red	2
2nd 2	AA	Valerie Boatman	MSU Supersticious+	1
2nd 3	AA	Valerie Boatman	MSU Supersticious+	1
2nd 3	AA	Michelle Davidage	Faisca SW	3
2nd 3	Open	Laura VanRiper	Olian	2

Woodbine – June 10

TEST	DIV	NAME	HORSE	PLACING
Intro A	JR	Sydney Cohol	Gatsby	2
Intro A	JR	Londyn Pachota	Wind in the Willows	3
Intro A	AA	Cynthia Coy	Fine Design	3
Intro A	AA	Victoria Trush	Franklin	4
Intro B	JR	Londyn Pachota	Wind in the Willows	1
Intro B	JR	Sydney Cohol	Gatsby	3
Intro B	AA	Victoria Trush	Franklin	5
Intro B	AA	Cynthia Coy	Fine Design	6
Intro C	AA	Cynthia Coy	Fine Design	2
Tr. 1	JR	Kira Belcher	Riot	2
Tr. 1	AA	Darlene Reichard	Designed by Dynamic	1
Tr. 1	AA	David Burnisky	Wovoka Ghost Dancer	5
Tr. 1	AA	Crystal Wilson	Dulcinea	NP
Tr. 2	AA	Crystal Wilson	Dulcinea	4
Tr. 2	AA	Marcia Hickman	Oldfield Touch and Go	6
Tr. 2	AA	Deborah Postiff	Pony Pants	NP
Tr. 3	JR	Kira Belcher	Riot	5
Tr. 3	AA	Marcia Hickman	Oldfield Touch and Go	2
Tr. 3	AA	David Burn	Wovoka Ghost Dancer	5
Tr. 3	AA	Deborah Postiff	Pony Pants	6
Tr. 3	Open	Laura Van Riper	Fan Favor	3
1st 1	AA	Jennifer Moyne	Ephraim	1
1st 1	AA	Kimberly Burnham	Turn the Page	4
1st 1	AA	Cindy Rushbrook	Sanilac Star	6
1st 1	AA	Acacia Aikens	Presley	NP
1st 2	AA	Jennifer Moyne	Ephraim	2
1st 2	AA	Cindy Rushbrook	Sanilac Star	3
1st 2	AA	Kimberly Burnham	Turn the Page	4
1st 3	AA	Jennifer Moyne	Ephraim	2
1st 3	AA	Bonnie Gorichan	Zamara	3
1st 3	AA	Acacia Aikens	Presley	4
1st 3	AA	Cindy Rushbrook	Sanilac Star	5
1st 3	Open	Allison McKenzie	Midwest Politics	6

Classifieds...

Horses for Sale or Lease –

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

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

2009 Custom Saddlery Wolfgang Solo. 17.5 short thigh block, med/wide tree. Easily adjusted by Custom Saddlery fitter same day so no shipping your saddle out to have the tree adjusted. Good condition, loved by one horse, one owner. \$1200

Employment/Working Student

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

Riding interviews open in April.

Visual Equestrian Dressage LLC - www.visualequestrian.com

Tonya Grant (248) 219-0410



Stable Listings-

Allison McKenzie Sporthorses

Training, Lessons, Breeding, Boarding

Manchester, MI 48158

amsporthorses@yahoo.com

www.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

Deisig Dressage

Janelle Deisig

Frankenmuth, MI 48734

989-598-6850

Janelledeisig@yahoo.com

www.deisigdressage.com

Dressage training, sales, trailer-in lessons

Sky High Farm

Lapeer, MI 48446

248-890-2426

jenmaull@yahoo.com

Boarding, Lessons, Clinics

<http://skyhighfarm.vpweb.com>

Boarding and Dressage Training

Indoor and Outdoor arenas

The Levy Farm

Shawn Ozker Ragsdale

Metamora, MI 48455

248-318-0725

Training, Lessons, Clinics

Novice-FEI

Visual Equestrian LLC

Carole and Tonya Grant

Fenton, MI 48430

248-219-0410

Dressage Training, Sale Horses and Ponies

Pony Program, Clinics, Trailer-in Lessons

Will Davis Training Center

Oxford, MI

810-287-2011

Boarding, Training, Clinics with

International Trainers, Home to Mid-Michigan

Dressage Shows.

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

2018 Calender of Events

July

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

7 – Wyn Farm Schooling Dressage, Williamston, MI. Visit www.wynfarm.com or call 586-703-7690

8 – Wyn Farm Schooling Dressage, Williamston, MI. Visit www.wynfarm.com or call 586-703-7690

13-15 – Dressage at Waterloo, Grass Lake, MI. Visit www.horseshowoffice.com (USDF)

21-22 – Mid Michigan Dressage Schooling Show, Rattlewood Farm, Oxford, MI. Visit www.midmichigandressage.webs.com (MDA)

26-27 – MDA Rider's Seat Clinic with Tom Nagel. 5390 Pleasant Hill Drive, Fenton, MI. Visit the MDA website for more information.

28-29 – MDA Rider's Seat Clinic with Tom Nagel. 5390 Pleasant Hill Drive, Fenton, MI. Visit the MDA website for more information.

28-29 – Michigan Summer Dressage at Wyn Farm I & II. Visit www.horseshowoffice.com (USDF)

August

3-5 – Dressage at Waterloo, Grass Lake, MI. Visit www.horseshowoffice.com (USDF)

11-12 – Mid Michigan Dressage Schooling Show, Rattlewood Farm, Oxford, MI. Visit www.midmichigandressage.webs.com (MDA)

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

11 – Wyn Farm Schooling Dressage, Williamston, MI. Visit www.wynfarm.com or call 586-703-7690.

12 – Wyn Farm Schooling Dressage, Williamston, MI. Visit www.wynfarm.com or call 586-703-7690.

23-26 – Dressage at Waterloo Summer Finale, Grass Lake, MI. Visit www.horseshowoffice.com (USDF)

September

8-9 – Mid Michigan Dressage at Rattlewood Farm, Oxford, MI. Visit www.midmichigandressage.webs.com (MDA)

8 – Wyn Farm Schooling Dressage, Williamston MI. Visit www.wynfarm.com or call 586-703-7690.

9 – Wyn Farm Schooling Dressage, Williamston, MI. Visit www.wynfarm.com or call 586-703-7690.

14-16 – Dressage at Waterloo Autumn Classic, Grass Lake, MI. Visit www.horsehowoffice.com (USDF)

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

28-30 – Great Lakes Region Dressage Schooling Show Championships, Rattlewood Farm, Oxford, MI. Visit www.midmichigandressage.webs.com

29-30 – Mid Michigan Dressage Schooling Show, Rattlewood Farm, Oxford, MI. Visit www.midmichigandressage.webs.com (MDA)

October

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

20-21 – Symposium with Carol and Tonya Grant at Visual Equestrian.

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.

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