



Editor's Notes...

Two weeks ago I giddily packed my horse trailer and tack trunk and drove off to my first Dressage schooling show of the season. I had spent hours meticulously polishing my boots and tack, organizing my trailer, and removing as much winter hair from my lovely mare, Fin, as I possibly could. This was to be our big debut together – I purchased her last fall and I spent the winter familiarizing myself with her little idiosyncrasies. Trust me when I say that when you purchase a mare who is also part Arab...you have purchased yourself a walking idiosyncrasy. I had my perfect show outfit packed along with the stunning new ear net to match my jacket and her browband and I was excited! Of course, our arrival was delayed because Princess Sparklypants decided she wasn't a fan of the \$25,000 limousine that I use for transport of my fine show ponies. But no matter, once we pulled her kicking and screaming (yes...literally) into the equine transport system we were good to go! Until she bit me when I tried to give her a peppermint as a reward for being on the trailer. But it was all good – I don't use that finger when I ride so it was fine! We arrived after a quiet trip down beautiful country roads and unloaded the Dark Queen – which was more like watching the Kentucky Derby backwards – and proceeded to our assigned stall and that's when she stepped on me. But no worries, you don't really use your toes when you ride so as they say – onward and upward! I schooled her (she was lovely) and fed her and eagerly anticipated our debut the next afternoon.

The next day I braided her and spent the better part of an hour removing shavings from her tail and dressed us both. Golly we looked stunning! My finger was numb and my toe was turning a neat navy color but nothing was going to stop us now.

That's when she took a giant drink of water, turned her head, opened her mouth and the Niagara Falls of horse slobber fell onto my pretty teal coat. But I figured if had her really forward in the ring no one would notice the stain on my coat...it was OK! That was also about the time that my husband noticed my choice of undies for the day. How you ask? Because the bright pink stripes were showing through my white breeches. Drat! I forgot about that.

"Better do my trot work sitting so no one notices" I thought...

The tests were forward – kind of like the Indianapolis 500 is driven "hurriedly." Though obedient, Empress Kiss-My-Hindquarter definitely has her own opinion about how certain movements should be performed...and when. But we had done it – our first show together was in the books! I was relieved, sore, proud...and a little delirious from the ibuprofen. The scores were pretty decent, the trainer was fairly happy and the show grounds were in the same condition as when we arrived (I don't know that I can say the same for the trailer, but that's nothing a blow torch and a power washer can't fix.)

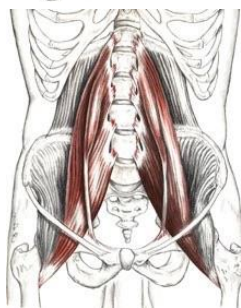
Look out recognized shows, here we come!

No...really... look out, as in find a safe place to hide. The Goddess of Armageddon is coming!



Myself and Maleficent (Fin) at our first show together.

**Midwest Dressage
Association Presents:
The Rider's Seat Clinic**
Featuring Tom Nagel of Zen &
Horseback Riding
July 26-29, 2018
Two 2-Day Clinics at Visual
Equestrian Farm, Fenton MI



the course of the clinic and each participant receives a complimentary copy of Zen & Horseback Riding.

Visit:

<https://www.midwestdressage.org/riders-seat-clinic-2018.html> for details and enrollment forms

Contact mda.dressageorg@gmail.com

Contact: Lisa Machala LMT
248.921.6322

"I recently attended a Rider's Seat clinic and it was the most life-changing clinic I have ever attended. What struck me was how easy it was to find that ever elusive seat I had been searching for all these years. The amazing thing is, when I engaged my psoas and hyoid muscles, so did Wizard, my horse, to mirror me. It is so simple, yet so profound."

Dr. S. Seelye, DVM

<http://www.zenandthehorse.com/Home.html>

This two day clinic explains how to achieve an independent seat and how to move in harmony with your horse. This information applies to all riding disciplines.

Morning sessions consist of lecture, demonstrations and unmounted exercises on the ground.

Information about using the psoas (core) muscles for stability and releasing the hyoid muscles to achieve lift in the saddle is presented.

Afternoon sessions consist of small group riding sessions applying the techniques and methods learned in the mornings. Tom does some rider alignment bodywork with the participants during

MDA Bootcamp – A True Michigan Adventure!

Participants in the MDA Bootcamp were promised a fun weekend with lots of learning opportunities and they weren't disappointed even though Mother Nature made things...challenging! The MDA's spring rite of passage really didn't include spring weather as an ice storm descended upon most of Michigan making transportation dicey at best. But a group of dedicated riders and volunteers braved the storm and gathered to put on a demonstration in what dedication is all about. Due to the weather some last-minute scheduling adjustments had to be made so that all riding could take place in the indoor at Rattlewood Farm. This meant that the beautiful scenery on the farm couldn't be thoroughly enjoyed but the lovely indoor arena made for a nice educational setting. Trainer Carrie Wilson was a trooper and taught all of the mounted sessions on Saturday while Jayne Bailey and Cheryl Farner teamed up and taught Sunday. The non-mounted sessions were presented by Barb Sudomier, whose use of toys to demonstrate theory was a crowd highlight, and Nancy Bryant who discussed what judges like to see when judging a Dressage test. Lisa Machala was kind enough to present bodywork presentations both days as well. Participants were treated to lunch courtesy of Will Davis (who makes a delicious corn and bacon chowder) and the greatly appreciated hot coffee. Despite the cold and ice everyone had a great time and came away with some great tools to practice with at home!

The MDA would like to thank the following for their generous donations to Boot Camp:

- Jump n Time – Whitmore Lake
- Clint R. Mint – Lake Orion, MI
- Covered Wagon Saddlery – Oxford, MI
- Sporthorse Saddlery – Milford, MI
- The Embroidered Horse/Sue Metcalf
Lake Orion, MI



Barb Sudomier used props to demonstrate theory



Carrie Wilson stepped up and taught all the mounted sessions on Saturday



Will Davis did a fantastic job of keeping things running smoothly.



Deb Postiff and Pony Pants

Volcanic Eruption Forcing Horse Evacuations in Hawaii

Kīlauea began erupting on May 3, sending molten lava into residential communities and forcing more than 1,500 people and a still-undetermined number of horses to evacuate.

-By Pat Raia from The Horse, May 11, 2018

A number of horses have been removed from the path of blazing lava emitting from the Kīlauea volcano on the island of Hawaii.

Hawaii is the largest of the Hawaiian Islands, and Kīlauea is the most active of the five shield volcanoes that comprise the island. Kīlauea began erupting on May 3, sending molten lava into residential communities and forcing more than 1,500 people and a still-undetermined number of horses to evacuate.

“We do not have a complete count ... because some owners evacuated their horses on their own without assistance from the government agencies (such as) the County of Hawaii, State of Hawaii Department of Agriculture, (or) the University of Hawaii,” said Jason D. Moniz, DVM, program manager for the Hawaii Department of Agriculture’s Animal Disease Control Branch.

However, at least 19 horses were evacuated to the County of Hawaii’s Panaewa Equestrian Center, 10 were taken to Hilo Farm at the University of Hawaii, and two more were moved to the state’s Panaewa Livestock Quarantine facility, he said.

“I am sure there are others that have been moved to private ranches and pastures,” Moniz said. “If I had to guess, 20 to 25 or so more.”

Moniz said Kilauea has been continuously erupting at a remote site since 1983, however

the last time an eruption occurred near this current site was in 1955 when it lasted three months. As a result, there is no way of knowing how long the horses will be away from their home pastures.

“We are being told by USGS (U.S. Geological Survey) to expect the eruption to continue for a while,” he said. “Probably the most accurate comment would be that it’s pretty unpredictable how long this current eruption will last.”



April 29 Dressage at Woodbine – Results

Intro. A – AA

1. Marilyn Stanger and Darbee
2. Cynthia Coy and Fine Design
3. Amy Mckeighan and Envie

Intro. B – Jr./YR

1. Cale Artz and WW Brigadoon
2. Alaina Ignatoski and Darth Raider
3. Sydney Cohol and Gatsby
4. Molly Hearsh and Roo

Intro. B – AA

1. Marilyn Stanger and Darby
2. Cynthia Coy and Fine Design
3. Amy Mckeighan and Envie

Intro. B – Jr./YR

1. Alaina Ignatoski and Darth Raider
2. Molly Hearsh and Roo
3. Emma Boyer and Sterling
4. Sydney Cohol and Gatsby
5. Cale Artz and WW Brigadoon

Intro. C – AA

1. Marcia Hickman and Oldfield Touch and Go
2. Cynthia Coy and Fine Design

Intro. C – Jr./YR

1. Mia Durant and Cinderella
2. Alaina Ignatoski and Darth Raider
3. Emma Boyer and Sterling

Training Level 1 – All

1. Holly Zecchin and Dynamite Warrior
2. Darlene Reichard and Designed By Dynamic
3. Mia Durant and Cinderella
4. Marcia Hickman and Oldfield Touch and Go
5. Hannah Willford and My Sodapop Crush

Training Level 2 – All

1. Holly Zecchin and Dynamite Warrior
2. Hannah Willford and My Sodapop Crush
3. Barbara Martin and Cristal
4. Deborah Postiff and Pony Pants

Training Level 3 – All

1. Holly Zecchin and Dynamite Warrior
2. Barbara Martin and Cristal
3. Lori Stein and Designed By Dynamic
4. Susan Greeneisen and Rictor Nine Dot O
5. Deborah Postiff and Pony Pants

First Level Test 1 – All

1. Acacia Aikens and Presley
2. Judy Ward and Mystical Design

First Level Test 2 – All

1. Sue Grissim and Rictor Nine Dot O
2. Allison McKenzie and Maleficent
3. Judy Ward and Mystical Design

First Level Test 3 – All

1. Acacia Aikens and Presley
2. Allison McKenzie and Maleficent

Second Level Test 1 – All

1. Holly Zecchin and Spare

Second Level Test 2 – All

1. Holly Zecchin and Spare

Suitable to Become a Dressage Horse

1. Kellyn Burtka and Quite A Surprise
2. Jamie Molargik and K's Redman

Test of Choice

1. Amy Mckeighan and Traume in Third Level Test 1



ATTENTION SCHOOLING SHOW RIDERS!

Important changes for 2018...

Did you know that this year the Year End Awards committee will be tracking MDA members that participate in "Participating in the Year End Award Program schooling shows throughout the show season? That's right no more collecting scores and filling out those pesky Rider Report Forms for Schooling Shows **only!** If you are a 2018 MDA member, you will be considered for awards.

What riders need to be aware of to make this process go smoothly:

- Make sure that you have joined or renewed your MDA membership for 2018!
- Check the MDA calendar in the online newsletters for "Participating in the Year End Award Program". These are the only shows that will be counted for awards, i.e. check the listing for Woodbine Dressage Schooling Shows.
- If you have a "favorite" show and they are not listed as a "Participating Show", feel free to encourage them to become one.
- Know your 2018 MDA membership card/number or bring with it with you. You will be asked for this on your entry forms. Use the same name for yourself and for your horse on **all** of the entry forms.
- Read the rules in the MDA Directory /Red Book. These have NOT changed. Only the reporting process has.

Things to watch for through show season.

- Participating shows will have their results printed in the online newsletter. Double check to make sure that your percentages in those shows are correct. Show managers will be reporting all of

the riders scores entered in the show IF they are current MDA members.

- If there is a difference in the scores, please immediately contact Beth Schaub, beschaub@frontier.com or Lindy Thompson, linden.j.thompson@gmail.com

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Beth Schaub, Awards Chair or Will Davis.

Easy isn't it! Good luck everyone.

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

- Jane Smiley

Midwest Dressage Association Board of Directors

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WillDavis@aol.com



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nancyclair0924@gmail.com



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info@equinebookkeeping.com



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Sarah Randolph, Volunteers

telosfarm@hotmail.com



**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



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

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.allisonmckenzie-sporthorses.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.

2018 Calender of Events

May

11/12/13 – John Lassetter Dressage Clinics, Fair Play Farm, Metamora, MI. Contact Pat Toth – eliot19@comcast.net or 810-614-1383

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

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

12-13 – Janet Foy Clinic, Brilliant Reflection Farm, Ortonville, MI. Barbra Reis 248-670-9031.

19-20 – Mid Michigan Dressage at Rattlewood Farm. Oxford, MI. Visit www.midmichigandressage.webs.com (MDA)

20 – 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)

June

1-3 – Dressage at Waterloo, Grass Lake, MI. Visit www.horseshowoffice.com (USDF)

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

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

10 – 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)

15-17 – Dressage at Waterloo, Grass Lake, MI. Visit www.horseshowoffice.com (USDF)

23-24 – Mid Michigan Dressage Schooling Show, Rattlewood Farm, Oxford, MI. Visit www.midmichigandressage.webs.com (MDA)

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 – details will be posted soon

28-29 – MDA Rider's Seat Clinic with Tom Nagel – details will be posted soon

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.

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