



September 2018

Editor's Notes...

Having competed and coached Dressage for so many years, I have had the opportunity to speak to many judges outside of the show ring and for that I feel lucky. One judge in particular has become a dear friend and one whose insight I cherish. At a recent show I sat down to speak with him and lamented the fact that it seems like a Dressage trainer only becomes popular or attracts the most clientele if they have numerous medals behind their name. I told him that there are so many trainers out there that are great riders and teachers – who don't necessarily focus on medals and awards but are still just as good. It is frustrating and discouraging to say the least.

What he said to me are words that I will never forget: "Focus on the theory...focus on always learning and never stop educating yourself. Forget the medals and everything else will fall into place."

He is right and of all the nuggets of information that I have gleaned from him, I think that this is the most important one of all.

I have spent most of my life riding Thoroughbreds and "non-warmbloods" and focusing on the fact that all breeds cannot only benefit from Classical Dressage but can excel in it. I have been caught up in trying to get scores and medals to attract clients but tend to end up frustrated because my budget can't keep up. But after talking to this man – this wonderful judge who has a keen way of looking past the big fancy horses and straight to the art

of the ride – I am reminded why I love this sport. I love the single-minded focus on projecting my thoughts into my horse. I love how careful, patient persistence can take a horse who doesn't understand a question into one who gives you a positive and enthusiastic response. I love it when I can put one of my students on one of my trained Dressage horses and they marvel at how light and responsive the horse is. Those horses didn't come to me that way – I shaped them and lovingly educated them. That is the reward – and that feeling is better than getting a medal or a score. Watching someone who is struggling with a concept finally feel what it *should* feel like on one of my horses – that feeling is indescribable. It makes me remember how much I love teaching and riding. It reminds me how much Dressage is not about medals and scores – but about the journey and having the patience to learn, adapt and study. Everything else is simply ego and ego has no place on a horse. Medals are nice and I certainly won't ever turn one down! But the pride I feel watching my horses teach my students – and the pride I feel watching my students succeed – is immeasurable.

-Allison

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MDA Board Meeting Notes:

The September Board of Directors meeting was held on September 5 at the Comeback Inn in Milford. The delegate for the USDF Convention in November will be Allison McKenzie, who will vote on behalf of the MDA during meetings. On the docket will be a proposed increase in non-member dues due to increased USDF operational costs. It will provide an opportunity for the MDA to make its voice heard and provide valuable input to the USDF as a whole.

Plans are under way for a test riding clinic to be held at the end of March with Lois Yukins. The date and location are yet to be determined.

The MDA Fundraiser at the Grant farm/Visual Equestrian is set to be held on October 20/21. Riders are being scheduled and plans are being firmed up.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday October 3 at 6:30pm at the Comeback Inn in Milford.

Preparing Horses for Severe Weather...

By taking the necessary precautions and having a disaster plan ready, you can ensure that you and your horse are prepared when a severe weather situation arises.

By Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences | Sep 28, 2018 | [Disaster Preparation](#), [Disaster Preparedness](#), [Horse Care](#), [Nutrition](#), [Vaccinations](#), [Welfare and Industry](#)

Adverse weather can be troublesome for humans and animals alike. While indoor pets are easier to board and travel with, it takes extra effort when you're preparing horses for severe weather.

Jessica Millwood, BVMS, MRCVS, a resident in equine practice at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, in College Station, said planning ahead and paying attention to weather alerts are key to keeping horses safe during severe weather.

"Pastures should be clear of hazardous items, debris, and known entrapments for horses, and safe fencing and holding areas should be available around the property," she said. "Owners should install lightning suppression systems, sprinkler systems, and smoke detectors on all high-risk buildings, in particular those where animals are kept."

Millwood suggests considering several factors before determining the most ideal form of shelter.

"Owners should consider their horse's anxiety level during storms, the horse's past experience during severe weather, the severity of the thunderstorms forecasted, and the storm-worthiness of the barn," she said.

If a horse spends more time outdoors and is not accustomed to any other housing, it could be more stressful to try and place them in an enclosed environment, Millwood said. A small, semi-covered secure paddock might be a better alternative for horses that react poorly to being stalled.

“On the other hand, if the horse tends to show nervousness or anxiety outside during storms, a stall in a strongly-built barn may be a better alternative than being left outdoors,” she said. “Visual contact with herd mates may also help diffuse anxious behavior.”

Post contact information for you and your local veterinarian in the barn or stable. Horses should also have a microchip, brand, or any other form of identification to ensure they are returned home safely if they escape from the enclosure.

In the case of flooding, Millwood says owners should ensure their horses have safe drinking water, without which horses can become dehydrated or be forced to drink contaminated flood water.

“Flooding may also destroy food resources available to horses and eating moldy hay or feed can lead to clinical signs such as colic or respiratory disorders,” she added. “Owners should ensure adequate food is available for at least 72 hours after a predicted flooding event is suspected to subside, and they should store feed securely to prevent contamination or spoilage.”

Another concern that comes with flooding is standing in polluted water through which the horse’s skin can be exposed to irritants and contaminants. Owners should bathe their horses as soon as possible after a flood and keep their horses up-to-date on core vaccines to prevent any potentially fatal diseases.

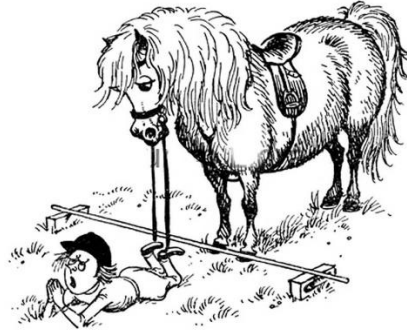
Most severe weather conditions are tracked in advance with the most likely scenarios forecasted. If necessary, Millwood suggests that owners evacuate their horses while it is still possible to do so.

Owners have a heightened responsibility to care for and keep their animals safe during severe weather. By taking the necessary precautions and having a disaster plan ready, you can ensure that you and your horse are prepared when a situation arises.

Now Accepting Nominations...

The Midwest Dressage Association is now accepting nominations for its Board of Directors. Three sitting board members are up for re-election so if you would like to run against them please submit your biography to Will Davis at willdavisi@aol.com





Schooling Show Results

**MID MICHIGAN SCHOOLING SHOW SEPTEMBER #9 SEPTEMBER 8,
2018**

JUDGES C. ETZEL, S. SNETHKAMP

<u>CLASS NAME</u>	<u>Placing</u>	<u>Rider First Name</u>	<u>Rider Last Name</u>	<u>Horse</u>
2nd 1	1	Suana	Klein	Parisian Occasion
2nd 1	2	Linda	Currier	Top Hat Fiduciary
1st 3	2	Leslie	Richardson	Achatez
1st 1	1	Denna	Labudde	Day By Day
1st 1	2	Jacque	Morgan	Fein Dancer
1st 1	3	Alyssa	Olson	Hamilton
1st 1	1	Leia	Ferber	Osborne
1st 1	1	Marie	Domke-Dewitt	Bedazzled
1st 1	2	Monique	Molnar	Irish Blessing
1st 1	3	Kendra	Micho	Coco
1st 1	4	Kendra	Micho	Bacardi
1st 2	1	Deanna	Labudde	Day By Day
1st 2	2	Jacque	Morgan	Fein Dancer
1st 2	1	Leia	Ferber	Osborne
1st 2	1	Kendra	Micho	Coco
1st 3	1	Leslie	Richardson	Achatez
1st 3	2	Alyssa	Olson	Hamilton
1st 3	3	Sally	Baker	Quirks & Foibles
1st 3	1	Kalin	Macqueen	Smashing Lad
1st 3	1	Eleanor	Millerschin	Galassia
1st 3	3	Leah	Majkrzak	Freedom Hit
Intro A	2	Brian	Bates	Cruising On

Intro B	2	Nancy	Bondar	Finnigan
Intro B	3	Brian	Bates	Cruising On
Intro B	4	Wendy	Lacroix	Symphony
Intro B	1	Paige	Comito	Brown Horse
Intro C	1	Wendy	Lacroix	Symphony
Intro C	2	Nancy	Bondar	Finnigan
Intro C	3	Rebecca	Agle	Prince Randolph
Intro C	1	Mia	Durant	Cinderella
Intro C	2	Paige	Comito	Brown Horse
2nd 3	1	Tracy	Engbloom	Isabella
2nd 3	2	Jean	Falck	Ozzy
2nd 3	3	Suana	Klein	Parisian Occasion
2nd 3	4	Linda	Currier	Top Hat Fiduciary
Tr. 1	1	Sylvie	Boesser	Lobito Comes Running
				Rock Robins Summer
Tr. 1	1	Julia	Hoffman	Trouble
Tr. 1	3	Nodi	Penney	FAO Schwarz
Tr. 1	4	Kate	McMurtrie	Cinderella
Tr. 1	6	Tommy	Martin	Kestrona
Tr. 2	2	Misa	McCoy	Bebe
Tr. 2	3	Jill	Spiers	Roxy
				Rock Robins Summer
Tr. 2	2	Julia	Hoffman	Trouble
Tr. 2	5	Tommy	Martin	Kestrona
Tr. 2	6	Nodi	Penney	FAO Schwarz
Tr. 3	1	Melissa	Long	Catcha Smooth Jet
Tr. 3	2	Sylvie	Boesser	Lobito Comes Running
Tr. 3	3	Jill	Spiers	Roxy
Tr. 3	4	Misa	McCoy	Bebe
Tr. 3	1	Mia	Durant	Cinderella
Tr. 3	1	Eleanor	Millerschin	Galassia
Tr. 3	2	Marie	Domke-Dewitt	Fury
Tr. 3	3	Monique	Molnar	Irish Blessing

**MID MICHIGAN SCHOOLING SHOW SEPTEMBER #10 SEPTEMBER 9,
2018**

JUDGES: C. GRANT, PEITTE

<u>CLASS</u>		<u>Rider First</u>	<u>Rider Last</u>	
<u>NAME</u>	<u>Placing</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Horse</u>
2nd 1	1	Linda	Currier	Top Hat Fiduciary
1st 3	2	Leslie	Richardson	Achatez
1st 1	1	Deanna	Labudde	Day By Day

1st 1	2	Jacque	Morgan	Fein Dancer
1st 1	4	Erin	Miles	Bling
1st 1	1	Leia	Ferber	Osborne
1st 1	1	Kendra	Micho	Coco
1st 1	2	Marie	Domke-Dewitt	Bedazzled
1st 1	3	Monique	Molnar	Irish Blessing
1st 1	4	Kendra	Micho	Bacardi
1st 2	1	Deanna	Labudde	Day By Day
1st 2	2	Jacque	Morgan	Fein Dancer
1st 2	4	Sarah	Eaton	Fantasy Munchkin
1st 2	1	Leia	Ferber	Osborne
1st 2	1	Kendra	Micho	Bacardi
1st 3	1	Leslie	Richardson	Achatez
1st 3	2	Sarah	Eaton	Fantasy Munchkin
1st 3	3	Erin	Miles	Bling
1st 3	4	Sally	Baker	Quirks & Foibles
1st 3	2	Eleanor	Millerschin	Galassia
Intro A	3	Brian	Bates	Cruising On
Intro B	3	Wendy	Lacroix	Symphony
Intro B	4	Brian	Bates	Cruising On
Intro B	1	Paige	Comito	Brown Horse
Intro C	1	Rebecca	Agle	Prince Randolph
Intro C	2	Wendy	Lacroix	Symphony
Intro C	1	Mia	Durant	Cinderella
Intro C	3	Paige	Comito	Brown Horse
2nd 3	1	Jean	Falck	Ozzy
2nd 3	2	Tracy	Engbloom	Isabella
2nd 3	3	Linda	Currier	Top Hat Fiduciary
Tr. 1	2	Sylvie	Boesser	Lobito Comes Running
				Rock Robins Summer
Tr. 1	1	Julia	Hoffman	Trouble
Tr. 1	6	Natalie	Hoerlein	Coco
Tr. 2	2	Misa	McCoy	Bebe
Tr. 2	1	Natalie	Hoerlein	Coco
Tr. 2	3	Nodi	Penney	FAO Schwarz
				Rock Robins Summer
Tr. 2	5	Julia	Hoffman	Trouble
Tr. 3	1	Misa	McCoy	Bebe
Tr. 3	2	Nodi	Penney	FAO Schwarz
Tr. 3	4	Mia	Durant	Cinderella
Tr. 3	1	Eleanor	Millerschin	Galassia

WYN FARM September 8, 2018

JUDGES: S. WOLKE, D. MUELLER

<u>Test</u>	<u>PLACING</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>HORSE</u>
Intro A	1	Ian	Baese	Apollo
Intro B	1	Ian	Baese	Apollo
Intro C	1	Ian	Baese	Apollo
Tr. 1	1	Ian	Baese	Apollo
Tr. 1	2	Sarah	Lowell	Aamira
Tr. 2	1	Sarah	Lowell	Aamira
Tr. 2	1	Ian	Baese	Waldfee
Tr. 3	1	Lee	Thome	Ladarius
Tr. 3	2	Jordan	Kroll	Tullamore Dew
Tr. 3	1	Sarah	Lowell	Aamira
Tr. 3	1	Lee	Thome	Ladarius
Tr. 3	2	Ian	Baese	Waldfee
Tr. 3	3	Ian	Baese	Gersia
1st 1	2	Ian	Baese	Gersia
1st 1	3	Jordan	Kroll	Tullamore Dew
1st 1	5	Ian	Baese	Waldfee
1st 2	1	Ian	Baese	Gersia
2nd 1	1	Joan	Esterline	Fredrikson FDL

WOODBINE FARM September 16, 2018

JUDGES: S. Machin, J. Coy, S. Likens

<u>Test</u>	<u>PLACING</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>HORSE</u>
Intro A	5	Cale	Artz	WW Brigadoon
Intro A	6	Sydney	Cohol	Gatsby
Intro A	1	Kennedy	Parker	Ice Breaker
Intro B	5	Cale	Artz	WW Brigadoon
Intro B	6	Sydney	Cohol	Gatsby
Intro B	1	Kennedy	Parker	Ice Breaker
Intro C	1	Londyn	Pachota	Wind in the Willows
Intro C	2	Sydney	Cohol	Gatsby
Intro C	3	Cale	Artz	WW Brigadoon
Intro C	1	Kennedy	Parker	Ice Breaker
Intro C	4	Victoria	Thrush	Franklin
Tr. 1	1	Laura	Vanriper	Cassiopeia
Tr. 1	3	Cynthia	Coy	Fine Design
Tr. 2	1	Laura	Vanriper	Gandalf
Tr. 2	3	Cynthia	Coy	Fine Design
Tr. 3	2	Laura	Vanriper	Gandalf

Tr. 3	3	Cynthia	Coy	Fine Design
Tr. 1	2	Londyn	Pachota	Wind in The Willows
Tr. 2	1	Victoria	Thrush	Franklin
Tr. 2	5	Marcia	Hickman	Oldfield Touch and Go
Tr. 2	6	Deborah	Postiff	Pretty Pants
Tr. 3	2	Kira	Belcher	Sweet Cash N Shack
Tr. 3	1	Jennifer	Moyne	Ephraim
Tr. 3	4	Marcia	Hickman	Oldfield Touch and Go
1st 1	2	Kimberly	Burnham	Turn the Page
1st 1	3	Jennifer	Moyne	Ephraim
1st 1	6	Cindy	Rushbrook	Sanilac Star
1st 2	3	Cindy	Rushbrook	Sanilac Star
1st 2	4	Crystal	Wilson	Dulcinea
1st 2	5	Kimberly	Burnham	Turn the Page
1st 2	6	Allison	McKenzie	Maleficent
1st 3	3	Allison	McKenzie	Maleficent
1st 3	4	Cindy	Rushbrook	Sanilac Star
1st 3	6	Crystal	Wilson	Dulcinea

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.

******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 Calendar of Events

October

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

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

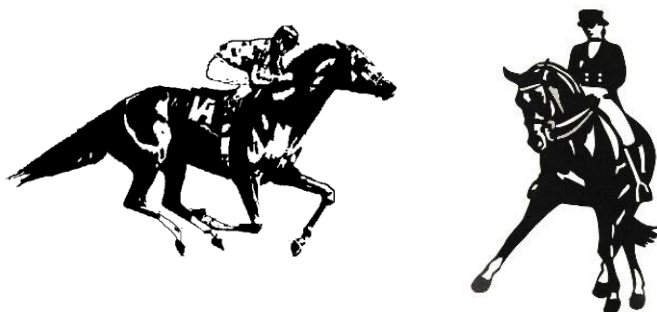
November

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

18 – MDA Banquet at Waldenwoods in Highland, MI.

28-30 – USDF Convention, Salt Lake City, Utah

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