

**MIDWEST DRESSAGE ASSOCIATION**  
PROMOTE – ENCOURAGE – EDUCATE  
WWW.MIDWESTDRESSAGE.ORG



## **Editor's Notes...**

We are entering the busiest time of the season for the Midwest Dressage Association! In the coming weeks we will be celebrating our achievements at the annual MDA Banquet (November 19) and reviewing the year at the General Membership meeting (December 10). The reason I love these two events is because it gives the membership an opportunity to socialize with one another (if we can recognize everyone without show clothes on!) and find out what our organization has in store for us in the coming year. But mostly it gives our members the chance to see what exactly the MDA Board does. I think what I would like to see is more members creating an open dialogue with board members about what they want to see from us. This board exists to serve its membership so please – tell us what you think and what you would like us to focus on to better serve you. I know that's why I decided to run for a position on the Board of Directors – I had a feeling that my end of the universe (specifically southern Washtenaw county) had very little representation. Dressage riders tend to be outnumbered by Western and Hunters in my neck of the woods despite Waterloo Dressage being in my backyard. My goal is to bring more clinics and events to the depths of southeastern Michigan but that can only happen if more of our membership in that area makes some noise. So, the next few weeks presents the opportunity for everyone to yell, shout, pontificate and otherwise cause a kerfuffle! And remember – you can be loud but always keep your clothes on 😊 -Allison



**HOW TO TEACH "PASSAGE"**

## **Meet Our Newest Board Member... Cheryl Figures**

At our last board meeting Cheryl Figures was voted onto the Board of Directors by a unanimous vote. Cheryl fills one of vacancies that opened recently. Want to know more about Cheryl? Here you go in her own words:

I have been riding for over 50 years. I started in jumpers and became a Dressage wannabe after my kids were born. I'm coming off an injury that sucked the courage out of me, but I am coming back slow and steady. The people of this group have helped me immensely.

I have a degree in Business Management/Accounting/Pre-Law from Michigan State University. I attended Cooley Law and have been working towards my MBA. I have a work history in Accounting Management/Finance Director/Corporate Controller in both the profit and not for profit arenas for over 30 years.

My hobby (obsession) is my horses and it is worse now that the kids are grown and gone! I feel it's important to do my share and help out as needed. I've worked as a volunteer at WEG, Rolex 3-Day Event, the World Cup as well as Jr/Sr Equestrian teams throughout my son's school years and I was a 4-H leader for many years.

Welcome to the board Cheryl!!!



## **Meet the Candidates!**

A new year means new candidates for the MDA Board of Directors. Here is your chance to meet those who are running (and one guy who's running again!)

### **William H. Davis II**

A little about myself and what I hope to do for the MDA:

I have owned and operated Will Davis Training Center for the 18+ years where I board, train horses and riders, and host a number of dressage clinics each year with top national and international trainers

I have owned and operated Mid-Michigan Dressage Schooling Shows for the past 15 years. As such I currently host 10 dressage schooling shows each year where I try to give participants the opportunity to experience as close as possible what it is like to attend a recognized show.

This year I started and hosted what I call the Great Lakes Regional Dressage Schooling Show Championships. This show gives those individuals that do not compete at the recognized level the opportunity to earn qualifying scores and bragging rights to say that they are the best of the best and to compete against others who qualified to participate.

I have been a long-time member of the Midwest Dressage Association and over the years I have acted as the Chairperson for the marketing committee, historical committee, and currently serve as your president.

## Sarah Randolph

Thank you for your consideration to the appointment of board member for the MDA. I recently moved to Columbia City, Indiana after living in Arizona, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania. I enjoyed helping GMO's in a variety of ways with both the Tucson Dressage Club and the New England Dressage Association. I currently run a breeding farm, Telos Farm Warmbloods, producing Hanoverian and Trakehner dressage horses. I breed just a few foals a year, focusing on pedigrees that will generate good-tempered athletes with longevity.

In the late 90's, I spent a year as a working student for FEI 4\*/USEF-S judge Jeanne McDonald in Pennsylvania. She managed a boarding, training, and a breeding farm at the time and I was privileged to be immersed in all the facets of her operation. While there I was also able to audit an early version of the L-program held at New Bolton Center, of which Jeanne was one of the instructors. I spent several summers there in the following years as she helped me bring along my young Hanoverian gelding who is now 20. After a hiatus from the show ring the past few years while having children, I am prepping my gelding for Third Level again next summer and have an up and coming two-year old homebred as well. I have also enrolled in the L-Program in New Jersey next spring.

In my other life I am a pharmacist and work for a large pharmacy benefit manager as a Clinical Account Executive. I primarily work from home which grants me additional time in the day to work with and care for our horses. I am also currently taking courses to complete a green belt (lean six sigma) in organizational process. I have two small children, Calen and Anna. In addition to my horses we have a Weimaraner, Sonora, a goat named Shaggy, a mini named Patches, and several cats.

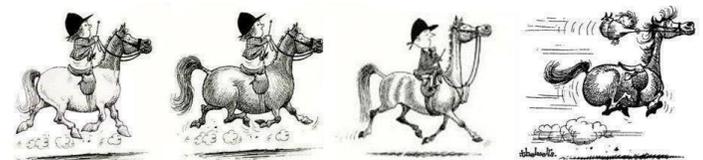
Thank you for your consideration!

## Donna Zaiki

Hello Everyone!

My name is Donna Zaiki. I am an adult amateur rider from High Point Farms, where I ride with Alison Allen. I am a recent college graduate from Walsh College, with a Bachelor's degree in Marketing. I currently work as a Sales Analyst for a Tier One automotive supplier. Currently I reside in Oxford, MI with my husband of three years and our three adorable fur children. Given my background I believe I would be a great fit for the open position on the Board of Directors for the MDA. I have experience with graphic design and advertising along with my love for creating and designing new things! I have taken numerous social media marketing classes in which I excelled and very much enjoyed. I am very outgoing and very personable. I pride myself on excellent grammar and writing skills. I am always trying to find new and creative solutions to problems. I started trail riding as a young girl, had a short interest in jumping during high school, and been riding dressage for the last five years. I love the constant challenge of dressage, and how it pushes me to become more and more detail-oriented. I am newer to this discipline but I am on constant lookout for learning opportunities.

I am excited about the position and hope I can provide fresh eyes and innovative ideas. I look forward to meeting more of you, along with becoming more involved. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity.



WORKING TROT    MEDIUM TROT    EXTENDED TROT    WHOA DAMMIT

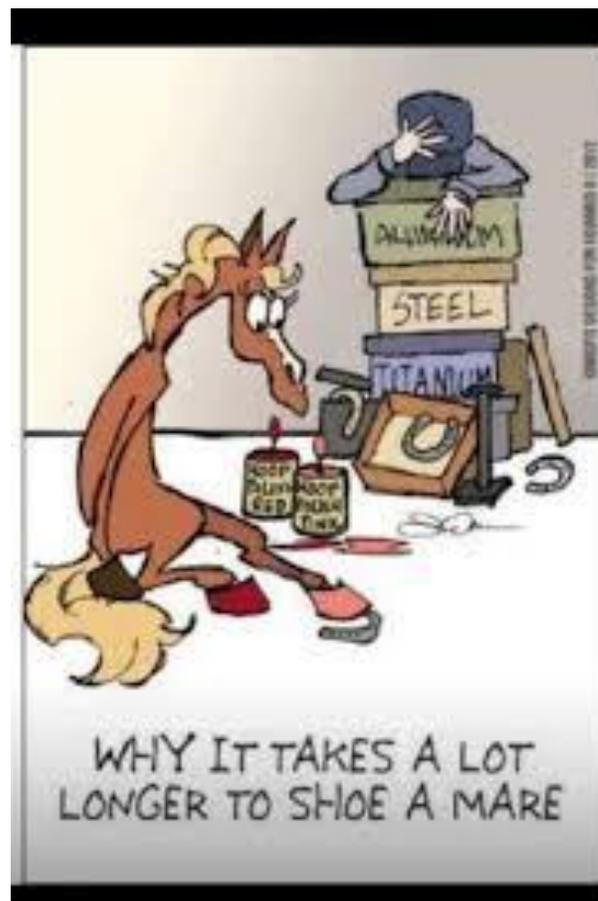
## Lindy Thompson

My name is Lindy Thompson. I am a Mental Performance Coach (for athletes and corporate/business people) by trade and an avid adult amateur dressage athlete. I started riding dressage when I was 12 and have competed in the Pacific Northwest (Region 6), the Rocky Mountains (Region 5) and here in the Midwest (Region 2). Currently, I am showing an eight-year-old Haflinger gelding. As a team we compete yearly in the National Dressage Pony Cup Championships and the USDF Regional Championships. This sport provides a lifetime of challenge and education which aligns with my passion for learning.

I have always been a supporter of “local dressage”. I believe that without healthy, local programs our sport will not survive in the U.S. When my husband and I made the move up to Northern Michigan from Denver I knew the community would be small, however I was not prepared for just how small and unsupported it would turn out to be. Always having been a member of a GMO (Rocky Mountain Dressage Society in Colorado and Equestrians Institute in Washington), I immediately sought out a new GMO upon our arrival. I’ve been a member of the MDA for three years now and believe that being a member of a GMO is a great way to support local dressage. Last year I sponsored five local young ladies with an MDA membership in order to expose them to Dressage outside of Northern Michigan. We were able to attend some clinics, schooling shows and will be attending the MDA banquet in November. I love this idea of encouraging youth riders to become involved and hope that I can help influence that during my time on the MDA board. Ultimately, my goal for this position is to connect our small, Northern Michigan community to the larger dressage community downstate. In my quest to nurture and ultimately grow a small community, I believe

that the MDA is a great fit for me and many people in Northern Michigan.

**Nomination Ballots will be mailed to MDA member and will also be available at the banquet on November 19. Don't forget to vote!!!**



*“Horse sense is the thing a horse has which keeps it from betting on people.”*

*-W.C. Fields*

2017 Midwest Dressage Association  
Annual Awards Banquet

The Buhl Estate at Addison Oaks  
1480 W. Romeo Rd., Leonard, MI 48367  
Sunday, November 19, 2017  
11:30 a.m. doors open  
Lunch will be served at 12:00

The beautiful, historic Buhl Estate has the look and feel of a European country club. Come enjoy a beverage by a working fireplace and take in the Christmas decorations. Mimosas and Bloody Marys are available. (cash bar)

Our guest speaker will be Jessica Younk DVM

Please join our "The Battle of the Baskets" - our challenge to you! Last year we had many heated bidding wars. Come join an afternoon of fun.

You may bring a basket to the banquet or contact Denise, (586) 463-7741 and she will pick it up

\$30.00 per person or reserve a table for 10 for \$300.00

Send your check made payable to the MDA with the names of the people in your party to:  
Denise Gentile, 38249 Lesha, Clinton Township, MI. 48036  
If you have questions call Denise at (586) 463-7741

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Additional names \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

***MDA is challenging members to a Battle of the Baskets  
2017!***

***Get your barn together and create a winning basket for  
this year's Awards Banquet!***



***Please join our “The Battle of the Baskets” - our  
challenge to you! Last year we had many heated bidding  
wars. Come join an afternoon of fun. You may bring a  
basket to the banquet or contact Denise (586) 463-7741  
and she will pick it up***

# Midwest Dressage Association

## Board of Directors

President/Historian: Will Davis ([willdavis@aol.com](mailto:willdavis@aol.com))

Vice-President/Website/Social Media: Lisa Machala ([MichiganEquineTherapy@gmail.com](mailto:MichiganEquineTherapy@gmail.com))

Secretary/Membership: Nancy Bryant ([nancyclair0924@gmail.com](mailto:nancyclair0924@gmail.com))

Treasurer: Pam Morrison ([loonriverfarm@gmail.com](mailto:loonriverfarm@gmail.com))

Newsletter: Allison McKenzie ([amsporthorses@yahoo.com](mailto:amsporthorses@yahoo.com))

MDA Product Sales: Tonya Grant ([tonyagrانت@visualequestrian.com](mailto:tonyagrانت@visualequestrian.com))

Awards Banquet: Denise Gentile ([dar-den@comcast.net](mailto:dar-den@comcast.net))

Year-End Awards: Beth Schaub ([beschaub@frontier.com](mailto:beschaub@frontier.com))

Volunteers: Cheryl Figures ([cheryl@tymeengineering.com](mailto:cheryl@tymeengineering.com))



## **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](mailto:blondmane@yahoo.com) or 248-670-9031. <http://www.brilliantreflectionfarm.com/horses-available-for-lease.html>

**Tack/Equipment** - Schleese Air Wave 2008 saddle for sale. 17.5-inch seat. This saddle has only been adjusted by Schleese saddle fitters. Pictures are available, just email me at [metaphor929@gmail.com](mailto:metaphor929@gmail.com). Asking \$2700.00 plus shipping. I am willing to meet buyer; to avoid shipping costs, within a 50- mile radius of Oxford, MI. Pam Wrona 316-680-9730

### **Stable Listings**

#### **Blue Water Dressage Stables**

Training, Lessons

989-777-7471

[pam@bluewaterdressagestables.com](mailto:pam@bluewaterdressagestables.com)

[www.bluewaterdressagestables.com](http://www.bluewaterdressagestables.com)

#### **Brilliant Reflection Farm**

Brain and Barbra Reis

Ortonville, MI 48462

248-670-9031

[blondmane@yahoo.com](mailto:blondmane@yahoo.com)

[www.brilliantreflectionfarm.com](http://www.brilliantreflectionfarm.com)

Lessons, Boarding, Rehab, Schooling Shows

Indoor and Outdoor arenas

#### **Allison McKenzie Sporthorses**

Training, Lessons, Breeding, Boarding

Manchester, MI 48158

[amsporthorses@yahoo.com](mailto:amsporthorses@yahoo.com)

[www.allisonmckenzie-sporthorses.com](http://www.allisonmckenzie-sporthorses.com)

734- 276-8967

#### **Lone Willows Farm**

Ingrid Baranski

Casco, MI 48064

586-306-6275

[www.lonewillowsfarm.net](http://www.lonewillowsfarm.net)

#### **Reflection Arabians**

Jim and Nancy Lapeer

Dryden, MI

### **High Point Farm**

Alison Allen

Oxford, MI

248-410-0684

[www.highpointdressage.com](http://www.highpointdressage.com)

All day turnout and quality feed

Stalls cleaned daily

Lesson plans available

### **Freestyle Farm**

Lisa Caloia BHSAI

Oxford, MI

248-462-2949

Boarding, Lessons, Clinics

Oversized stalls, Large grass pastures

Indoor and Outdoor arenas, Climate

Controlled Observation Room

### **Summerwood**

Teah Weyers Bankes

Hartland, MI 48353

248-887-3819 or 248-408-7842

Training-Grand Prix

Work with Pony Clubbers

### **Visual Equestrian LLC**

Tonya and Carole Grant

Fenton, MI 48430

248-219-0410

Dressage Training, Sale Horses and Ponies

Pony Program, Clinics, Trailer-in Lessons

### **Deisig Dressage**

Janelle Deisig

Frankenmuth, MI 48734

989-598-6850

[Janelledeisig@yahoo.com](mailto:Janelledeisig@yahoo.com)

[www.deisigdressage.com](http://www.deisigdressage.com)

Dressage training, sales, trailer-in lessons

### **Sky High Farm**

Lapeer, MI 48446

248-890-2426

[jenmaull@yahoo.com](mailto:jenmaull@yahoo.com)

<http://skyhighfarm.vpweb.com>

Boarding and Dressage Training

### **The Levy Farm**

Shawn Ozker Ragsdale

Metamora, MI 48455

248-318-0725

Training, Lessons, Clinics

Novice – FEI

### **Will Davis Training Center**

Oxford, MI

810-287-2011

Boarding, Training, Clinics with

International Trainers, Home to Mid-Michigan

Dressage Shows.

**Don't Forget!!!!**



**Remember to vote for your new MDA board!**

***-AND-***



***Get your tickets for the MDA Banquet on  
November 19. See you there!!!***