



Great Lakes Distance Riding Association

Hoof Beats Newsletter

Spring 2018

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to spring! Now let's get rid of the snow... Time to get training going and the camper ready for another ride season. It looks like there are some nice upgrades to the schedule this year with 8 of our rides offering Novice or Intro events and AHAM at Hopkins Creek is going to be UMECRA sanctioned. As usual Brighton Spring kicks off the season with a challenging Competitive Trail ride. It is a great way to get points for awards or just to get a really strong start on conditioning. I also enjoy it for the comradery. The month of September will be busy as usual with 4 rides. Make sure you save some horse for that month.

With this newsletter we are introducing some changes to our awards for this year. I am pretty sure Lisa will have an article about that somewhere in this newsletter. I personally wanted to say thank you to the Awards committee for getting this done before the rides season started. I know that sometimes consensus decisions take a very long time, but this was wrapped up within a month. Well done Lisa Germann, Louise Northrup, Kathy Macki and Diane Meinders. We'll be sure to have you on many more committees. 😊

Sometime this year we will be emailing a club roster to all members. This has been a consistent request for several years. Any information that you sent with your membership that was marked as private will not be included. We are hoping that this will help people find others to ride with and/or help if they need it. It would be nice to have some sort of map with locations of members to facilitate this.

Carl Dosmann

President GLDRA



Did You Set Your 2018 Goals Yet?



A lot of people choose New Year resolutions, but distance riders often spend the winter months planning their goals for the next ride season. As with any endeavor, goals help you to determine the steps you will take over a course of time. It helps you stay focused and on track. This is especially important in endurance sports, like distance riding.

Life always throws us curve balls. Sometimes the unexpected happens, which makes it impossible to reach your goals. While I loved my horse, Skky, I started competing on him in 2004 and did not win a UMECRA Top 10 jacket until his last full year of competition, 2012. I didn't compete one of those years because I was pregnant, so it took me 7 tries to achieve that goal! I had emergency surgery for compartment syndrome (due to feisty Skky at Brighton Spring) one year, he had lameness issues due to his club foot that shortened our seasons, and one year his back got torqued when we had to brake hard while trailering to a ride. The year we finally got Top 10, he finished the season a month early due to an eye ulcer.

I can honestly say that one reason we didn't Top 10 sooner is because our family believes in pulling a horse mid-ride when they are hurting, even if the vet thinks they can continue. We love our horses and want to ride them into their geriatric years, and we always consider their needs when setting our goals. We came close to Top 10 most years, 11th, 12th, but just didn't quite hit the mark.

For some riders, a Top 10 in UMECRA just happens if you complete enough rides. Ken has accomplished it numerous times on first Junior and then Gameela. We've accomplished other big goals together, like riding five 25-mile rides at Shore-to-Shore, or competing at AHA Nationals. Thanks to Junior, I experienced the thrill of both, and hope to do it again with his brother, Chip.

Some of us have family or work commitments that make it impossible to place in regional standings. Or maybe we are starting a new horse that isn't ready for big mileage. We can still set goals, though. Because so many factors can upset the big goals, what kinds of smaller goals can you set? We like to set big and small goals each year. For example, every year, we try to do at least one ride that we've never done before. This can be difficult if you only ride GLDRA rides in Michigan. We've done a fair share of rides in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, and I must say, it's truly challenging. We don't know the trails, we don't know where there will be water, humans and horses are tired from a long drive, so we usually don't place well. However, the challenge keeps us engaged and on our A-game, plus it makes 3 weekends at White River seem comfortable and relaxed by comparison. We've flexed that goal in recent years to make a "Competitive Mounted Orienteering (CMO) Ride that we haven't done before" count as a new ride. It's a less expensive way to achieve that goal, but it still keeps the sport fresh for us and our horses.

This year, our daughter, Sarah and I plan to share Chip, while she trains her new horse, Jamie, under saddle. I'm going to try for a Restricted Mileage CTR award on Chip in UMECRA, AHDR and GLDRA, with a big goal for either Sarah or me to compete on Chip at the AHA Distance Nationals in October. I'll get to ride Chip at more CMOs than usual, since Sarah will be getting Jamie used to short trail events this summer. It's a different goal than usual, so I'll need to employ new strategies. It will keep things interesting, and I will have more time to volunteer at rides and give something back to the sport. That can be a goal, too!



So, what are your goals for the 2018 season?

Sandra Wright

Michigan Horse Expo

We had a terrific turnout at the MSU EXPO. It was quite busy! We had a total of 18 new members!

Jill Rankinen
Amy Crites, and family: Emily, Allie, and Anna
Jan Wylie
Victoria Klatt
James Harwood
Alicia Smith
Chrystalyn Houston
Christina Purslow
Albert Albertson
Karen Frisell
Sandy Richardson
Tara Freeman
Amy KcKennas



Thank you also to returning members that renewed at the EXPO!

On a side note not related to membership, but more on EXPO, please spread the word to the trail organizations that it is time to move forward with our trail organizations, and not dwell on the past. Looking at the past (that many people outside of MHC do not really even know about) does not help your membership, or increase trail usage! We need to promote our trails and the great horse areas that we have, especially outside of the show ring! We need the trail groups to complete the other side of horse riding, especially at EXPO!

Silent auction 2018 GLDRA:

Please start planning/saving change etc to make our silent auction a money making event! The money from the silent auction allows us to get better awards, and more of them!

So please purchase gift cards throughout the year, please think of baskets that you could create. They do not have to be horse related! I have seen car cleaning baskets, booze baskets, maybe a basket around a Christmas gift that is nice but you will not use? Make jam, crafts etc! Donations from local feed stores..

This year let's try to limit our :house/barn cleaning items (that most likely if you no longer want in your house no one else does either!), to 3 to 5 items per person.

We are no longer doing the reverse auction for these items!

So basically I am suggesting that we step it up a notch on creating a clean and profitable silent auction!

I am open to suggestions. Please email me dmeinders@optiodata.com, 616-706-6478



Changes to the GLDRA Year End Awards

The Awards Committee was assigned the task of making our awards more economical. Our recommendation, which was approved by the board, is as follows:

- *To increase the rides/mileage criteria to a minimum of 4 rides with corresponding mileage of 100/200 miles.*
- *The Reserve Champion award will only be given out with 60% participation in the ride's division. Within Endurance Extended, Endurance Restricted, Competitive Extended and Competitive Restricted Distance, combining Heavyweight and Lightweight there are potentially 12 places awarded per division. If there are less than 7 rider/horse combinations placing, the Reserve Champion would not be awarded.*
- *The same 60% threshold would apply to the LD Senior, LD Junior, Competitive Junior and Endurance Junior divisions. Except that, since there are only 6 places awarded in each division, if the total placings were less than 4, the Reserve Champion would not be awarded.*



Based on last year's standings this would have been a cost savings of approximately 32%.

The new qualifications will be in effect for the 2018 season.

According to our bylaws in **Article VIII, Section 2; Awards. The method of arriving at year-end awards shall be established and published by the Board prior to the beginning of each Michigan ride season.**

Lisa Germann

FOR SALE

Reliable/well trained/ready to go registered Arab

MS Dasani, 16yr 14.3H, gelding

Great horse for someone looking for a reliable ride, or a confident child horse.

Horse has been ridden by my girls and myself for the last 6 years.

Ready to go, loves to go down the trail, happy to lead.

No bad habits, easy to keep, has done distance, 25/50s, 4H showing, and other basic 4H horse programs

Kids gone, do not need him.

I will donate 1400.00 of selling him to UMECRA for their college scholarship programs.

Have pics, and video.

Diane Meinders 616-706-6478, dmeinders@optiodata.com



Great Lakes Distance Riding Association Membership Application

Membership Year _____

Membership includes: quarterly newsletters, eligibility for year-end points and awards programs, horse & personal mileage tracking.

Individual \$20 ___ Family* \$30 ___ Junior (not 18 as of Jan. 1) \$10 ___ Lifetime Individual \$200 ___

*Family is up to 2 adults in same household and children <18 as of Jan. 1

Check box to the left of any item you do NOT want listed in our membership directory – otherwise it will be listed:

- Name(s): _____
- Address: _____
- City, State, Zip: _____
- Phone: _____ Cell: _____
- Email: _____

Please mail completed application with payment (payable to GLDRA) to:

Shannon Weston, 4000 Crandall Road, Howell, MI 48855

Newsletters and ride flyers are posted on our website (www.gldrami.org), newsletters are also distributed electronically in PDF format.

If you need paper copies of our ride flyers mailed to you, please check this box and add \$10 to above fees.

Application for Personal and/or Horse Distance Awards Programs (a one-time fee for each)

(Send to: Kathy Macki, P.O. Box 48, Rapid River, MI 49878)

Name of **Person** nominated for Personal Mileage Program: _____

Address: _____ **FEE: \$30** _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Name of **Horse** nominated for Horse Mileage Program: _____

Name of Horse Owner: _____ **FEE \$30** _____

2017 GLDRA OFFICERS

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GLDRA COMMITTEES

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Past President:
Barb Kurti

Secretary
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Mileage and Points:
Kathy Macki (see above)

Grievance:
Lisa Germann (see above)

MHC/Trails:
4108 Hicks Drive
Beaverton, MI 48612
989-435-9139
ndurancerider@hotmail.com



Newsletter Advertising

You can run ads in our newsletter for the following rates:

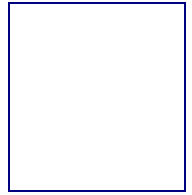
Classifieds: \$6.00 minimum or .10¢ a word
Business Card: \$8.00
Half Page: \$25.00
Quarter Page: \$15.00
Full Page: \$45.00

Checks for all ads must be mailed to Bruce Birr, payable to GLDRA (see above for address) before they will be placed in newsletter. Send digital ads to Cathy at ccook@cftami.com

Great Lakes Distance Riding Association – 2018 Schedule – www.gldrami.org

April 21, 22	Brighton Ride Sat C-25, 35, Novice 15 Sun C-25, Novice 15	Lisa Germann 6529 Milan – Oakville Rd Milan, MI 48160 lgermann08@comcast.net	(734) 439-5616 Sandra Wright (734) 649-6165
May 5, 6	White River Spring Sat E 50, LD 25, C 25, Intro Ride Sun E 50, LD 25, C - 25	Kari Hanes 9128 104 th St. Holton, MI 49425 montaleearabians@gmail.com	(231) 924-2271
May 26, 27	Grand Island Sat E 50, LD 25, C-25, Novice 15 Sun LD 25, C - 25	Kathy Macki P.O. Box 48 Rapid River, MI 49878 k_macki@yahoo.com	(906) 280-3235
June 9, 10	White River Summer Sat E 50, LD 25, C 25, Intro Ride Sun E 50, LD 25, C - 25	Kari Hanes 9128 104 th St. Holton, MI 49425 montaleearabians@gmail.com	(231) 924-2271
June 23, 24	Grand Island North Sat E 55, LD 30, C-30 Sun LD 30, C-30	Karen Bahrman E. 1780 M-94 Skandia, MI 49885 kbahrman@gmail.com	(906) 439-5745
July 7, 8	AHAM at Hopkins Creek Sat E 50, LD 25, C 25 Sun LD 25, C 25	Gene Dake 9877 State Route 12 West Findlay, OH 45840 dedake6196@gmail.com	(269) 979-9472
July 21, 22	Pine Marten Run Sat E 50, LD 25, C 25 Sun LD 25, C 25	Karen Bahrman E. 1780 M-94 Skandia, MI 49885 kbahrman@gmail.com	(906) 439-5745
Aug. 4-10	Shore to Shore Sat E 50, LD 25, C25 Sun E 50, LD 25, C25 Monday-Friday E 50, LD 25, C25 Monday-Friday Pioneer Ride E 250	Bruce Birr 1633N West Kendall Road Manistique, MI 49854 bbirr@centurytel.net	Diane Meinders (616) 837-1534 (906) 286-1991
Sept. 1 Sept. 2 Sept. 3	White River Labor Day Pioneer Ride Sat E 55, LD 25, C 25, Intro Ride Sun E 75, 50, LD 25, C 25 Mon E 50, LD 25, C 25	Kari Hanes 9128 104 th St. Holton, MI 49425 montaleearabians@gmail.com	(231) 924-2271
Sept. 8, 9	Keweenaw - Location TBA Sat E 50, LD 25, C- 50, 25 (aft) Sun E 50, LD 25, C- 25, Fun 8-15miles	Karen Jarvi Dollar Bay, MI 49922 kih84@hotmail.com	sunnyville@hotmail.com
Sept. 15,16	Tin Cup Springs Sat E 50, LD 25, C 25 Sun LD 25, C 25	Becke Grams 1955 N Kings Hwy Luther, MI 49656 beckeg@aol.com	(616) 430-7804
Sept. 29, 30	Metro Park Express Sat E 50, LD 30, C 30 Sun E 50, LD 30, C 30, Intro 12	Mindy Nagy 10776 Lima Center Road Manchester, MI 48158 melindasmyers@gmail.com	(734) 645-4278
Oct. 13,14	Oak Leaf Run - Hamilton Sat E 75, 50, LD 30, (Evening LD 25),C 50, 30 15N/15Intro Sun LD 30, C 30, 15N/15Intro	Barb Kurti 319 Quincy St. SW Grandville, MI 49418 silverheartsfarm@yahoo.com	(616) 896-6798

GLDRA
c/o Cathy Cook, Newsletter Editor
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Mailing Address
Street Number and Name
City, State 98765-4321

www.gldra.org

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