



Great Lakes Distance Riding Association  
December 2025 Newsletter

Board meeting, general membership meeting, awards, silent auction and MORE!

January 31, 2026



Looking to stay overnight for the GLDRA Banquet? The Doherty Hotel has a room block reserved for GLDRA members at a discounted rate.

DO NOT DELAY, reservations are ONLY available until Jan 6, 2026!!

**Doherty Hotel**  
604 N. McEwan St  
Clare, MI 48617



[info@DohertyHotel.com](mailto:info@DohertyHotel.com)  
1-877-2-DOHERTY (1-877-236-4378)  
989-386-1562

Room Type	Rack Rate (Fri.-Sat.)	Discounted Rate (Fri.-Sat.)
King/ Double Queen	\$161	\$134
Double Queen Fireside	\$176	\$154
Jacuzzi Suite	\$201	\$179
JFK	\$209	\$189

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**★☆☆\*\*\*SEE PDF IN THE EMAIL BELOW THE NEWSLETTER LINK FOR BYLAW CHANGES TO BE VOTED ON AT THE ANNUAL MEETING\*\*\*★☆☆**

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**There are a number of positions that need to be filled for the board this year. See below for descriptions of each position that need to be filled.**

**President-** must be elected from the board, must be a member in good standing with GLDRA and have been a board member the past year.

1. preside at all Board meetings and at the annual meeting.
2. enforce the Constitution and Bylaws of GLDRA.
3. be an ex-officio member of all committees. Ex-officio is defined as the right to attend all committee meetings with the right to voice but without vote at those meetings.
4. perform duties as directed by the Board and as customarily pertain to the office of President
5. not concurrently hold the office of Vice-President or Treasurer, or be a family member of anyone who holds the office of Vice-President or Treasurer.

**Vice President-** must be elected from the board, must be a member in good standing with GLDRA and have been a board member the past year.

1. in the absence or disability of the President, or in the event of a vacancy in the office of President, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President.
2. ensure that an internal audit (i.e. peer review) of the treasurer's records be performed annually by the finance committee, or an outside auditing firm if deemed prudent.
3. perform such other duties as directed by the Board.
4. not concurrently hold the office of President or Treasurer, or be a family member of anyone who holds the office of President or Treasurer.

**Veterinary Rep (1 Year Term)**

**Member at Large-** Not affiliated with ride site management of any ride.

**One-year position for rider rep-** Active in distance riding and not affiliated with ride site management of any ride.

**Two-year position for rider rep-** Active in distance riding and not affiliated with ride site management of any ride.

**Financial Committee:**

- a. (2) two-year positions
- b. (1) one-year position.
- c. Duties: The Finance Committee shall guide and direct the organization's financial planning and expenditures as needed, and insure fiscal soundness. The Board shall establish policies for the Finance Committee. Meetings of the Finance Committee, other than at the annual meeting, may be called by any two (2) members of the committee with three (3) weeks' notice.

**Promotions:** assist with new member mailings, coordinate Michigan Horse Expo and other outreach to promote GLDRA

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**If you'd like to nominate a person or a horse for the GLDRA Hall of Fame, send an email to Kathy Macki and [k\\_macki@yahoo.com](mailto:k_macki@yahoo.com) .**

**NOMINATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY January 15, 2026!**

**Hall of Fame (Horse & Person):** The *Hall of Fame Award* was started by *Ted and Holly Palmer-Chaff* in 1984. They donated a silver trophy bowl that is engraved with the winners, who were nominated and voted on by the general membership at the annual meeting. The nominees were to be the ones that have made an outstanding contribution to distance riding during either a long period of time or an outstanding achievement in one year. This is to be a traveling trophy brought back annually and given to the next winners. A committee met in 1992 and recommended these guidelines be put into effect in 1993. Nominations are to be written and publicized at the annual meeting. This could be done with handouts or posters. The candidates should be informed in advance. *Statement of Intent:*

- The purpose of the Great Lakes Distance Riding Association Hall of Fame is to honor persons and/or horses selected to this position for their outstanding achievements accomplished in this sport.

Individuals voting for these nominees should not take the above statement lightly. Time and consideration need to be given to the performances of those nominated to the Hall of Fame. The votes cast for those nominated should not be spur-of-the-moment decisions or voted for because of sentimental reasons, nor be a popularity contest. This committee has adopted the following guidelines, which may apply to humans or animals.

- 1. Should have accomplished some MAJOR goals in the sport.
- 2. Should have returned something to the sport (time, competition, etc.)
- 3. Consistently shows top performance.
- 4. Accumulated a fair amount of mileage in competition.
- 5. Must be a member of GLDRA in the years nominated.



Barb Kurti is looking for people to join a Ride Manager support group. Group members are people who are interested in helping support an endurance ride. Tasks include marking trails, learning how to submit ride results, how to be a ride secretary, helping with meals for volunteers, and any other support given to ride managers. If you'd like to be a part of this, please send an email to Barb at [oakleafmun@gmail.com](mailto:oakleafmun@gmail.com) to be added to the group.

Are you looking to sport some GLDRA wearables?! Check out the NEW SWAG store, now live and ready for your custom order! Here's the link below:

<https://greatlakesdistanceridingassoc.itemorder.com/shop/home/>



## **FINAL POINT STANDINGS FOR 2025 YEAR END AWARDS**

### **HEAVYWEIGHT RESTRICTED DISTANCE COMP**

- 1 (Grand Champion) Smith Damaris Firelily Moon River (7 rides) 0.0 185.0 81.4
- 2 (Res. Gr. Champion) Aslakson Jeanne GF Midnight Confession (7 rides) 0.0 185.0 80.4

### **LIGHTWEIGHT EXTENDED DISTANCE COMP**

- 1 (Grand Champion) Hall Sara WP Yippe Ki Yay (14 rides) 0.0 360.0 151.4
- 2 (Res. Gr. Champion) Bouwkamp Dawn Bailey (9 rides) 0.0 215.0 85.4
- 3 Banner Jessica Whiskey Ginger (9 rides) 0.0 210.0 80.2

### **LIGHTWEIGHT RESTRICTED DISTANCE COMP**

- 1 (Grand Champion) Walsh Aurora Win D Prado (8 rides) 0.0 190.0 76.0
- 2 (Res. Gr. Champion) Wylie Jan Dose (4 rides) 0.0 100.0 40.0

### **LIGHTWEIGHT EXTENDED DISTANCE ENDURANCE**

- 1 (Grand Champion) Meinders Diane Yo Dusty (6 rides) 4.0 300.0 132.0

### **HEAVYWEIGHT EXTENDED DISTANCE ENDURANCE**

- 1 (Grand Champion) Smith Damaris Jokers Wild Streak (6 rides) 8.0 300.0 126.0

### **LIGHTWEIGHT RESTRICTED DISTANCE ENDURANCE**

- 1 (Grand Champion) Meinders Diane Lumiere WW (5 rides) 8.0 250.0 110.0
- 2 (Res. Gr. Champion) Bahrman Karen Westwind Little Big Man (5 rides) 4.0 210.0 79.8

### **LIMITED DISTANCE JUNIOR**

- 1 (Grand Champion) Jarvi Ilona Mandalorian Pride (4 rides) 0.0 115.0 43.0

### **LIMITED DISTANCE SENIOR**

- 1 (Grand Champion) Maxey Diane Al-Marah Fox Romeo (11 rides) 4.0 240.0 94.6
- 2 (Res. Gr. Champion) Hamrick Linda Cash (7 rides) 0.0 195.0 72.0
- 3 Jarvi Karen Sony De Mayo Rose (5 rides) 0.0 145.0 41.0
- 4 Bogen Ann Dun It (4 rides) 0.0 105.0 36.0
- 5 Germann Lisa Ainia DCR (Eve) (5 rides) 0.0 130.0 29.6
- 6 Kradel Julie Tir na nOg (4 rides) 0.0 75.0 19.0



**IF ANYONE LISTED ABOVE DOES NOT  
WANT A PLAQUE AS AN AWARD PLEASE  
LET LISA GERMANN KNOW ASAP! THIS  
SAVES GLDRA SOME AWARD COST FOR  
UNWANTED ITEMS!**

**LISA'S PHONE: 734-748-0425**

### **INTRO/NOVICE**

- 1 Neal Heather Oscar On Duty (7 rides) 0.0 105.0 0.0
- 2 Lloyd Cameron Crystal (5 rides) 0.0 75.0 0.0
- 3 Kradel Julie Tir na nOg (4 rides) 0.0 55.0 0.0
- 4 Jensen Amber Hatiums Legacy (4 rides) 0.0 55.0 0.0

**BEST CONDITION**

**BEST CONDITION – EXTENDED DISTANCE**

DIANE MEINDERS- YO DUSTY 1360.8

**BEST CONDITION – RESTRICTED MILEAGE**

DIANE MEINDERS – LUMIERE WW 1472.3

**BEST CONDITION – LIMITED DISTANCE**

DIANE MAXEY – AL-MARAH FOX ROMEO 1342.5

**ROOKIE OF THE YEAR**

Announced at the Banquet

**LEGEND AWARD**

Lumiere WW 600 Miles

2025 Board Members

President- Jan Wylie

Vice President: Barb Kurti

Secretary: Jennifer Shooshanian

Treasurer: Kristen Mikula

Member at Large: Layla Saatchi

Rider Reps: Audry McMurry,

Stephanie Boomgaard

Newsletter: Sara Hall

Webmaster: Heather Stafford

Points Keeper: Kathy Macki

**Next board meeting: Dec 16, 2026 at 7:30PM**



**\*\*TIME TO RENEW YOUR GLDRA MEMBERSHIP!!! RENEW ONLINE OR MAIL!! SEE EMAIL FOR LINKS TO FORMS!!\*\***

