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## Are we in Kansas, Toto?

As everyone knows by now, the remnants of Hurricane Ike took our area by complete surprise on a beautiful, clear Sunday afternoon.

Lenny and I would like to take a moment to thank everyone who stuck around to help us that crazy afternoon. **David Booren**, our handy-dandy handyman who was willing to climb to the top of our extension ladder to reattach loose siding panels that put horses in danger; **Mayme and Sean Hausman**, who braved the sand blasting from the outdoor arena footing to rescue our white dressage arena fence that was on its way to the pond; **Lori Aman**, Breezy's new mommy; **Denise**, Sarah Wheeler's new horse, Riley's, *previous mommy*; and of course, **Lindsay and Vicki** (who we feared might just blow away all on her own!).

A big thanks goes to all

**who helped with the cleanup. Unfortunately, I can't remember everyone, but please know that your kindness did not go unnoticed or unappreciated!**

Lindsay and Jen were very busy teaching lessons when it seemed like the indoor arena was going to take off and blow away like in the Wizard of Oz! The mirrors started waving like fun house mirrors and even our totally quiet lesson horses took notice.

The weather reports simply told us that we were under a wind advisory with possible gusts up to 30-35 mph. When the winds began to slam into the side of the indoor causing the metal walls to bow and it sounded like the roof was about to be sucked off, we decided that those wind gusts had to be well in excess of 35 mph and a good cause to cancel the rest of the day's lessons.

No surprise to anyone who knows the DHF group, we did find fun moments. We enjoyed skipping and jumping higher than any of us have ever jumped before during the worst wind gusts! We even pretended to be astronauts moonwalking! After *eight days without power, cable and internet*, Lindsay, Vicki and all DHF clients were ecstatic to return to normal. Now, we just have to deal with the roof repairs and insurance company-yea!

Accept our sincere thanks for everyone's patience with us during this time. We counted our blessings every day for having clean city water and safe, secure barns and pastures. We really had it easy compared to lots of our neighbors who had to haul in water by the truckload, lost the roofs right off their barns, or lost their horses or other livestock from the storm.

~ Jen and Lenny

## Barn Banter

Fall is upon us and the weather could not be more beautiful to ride. With the weather changes, thoughts of what changes need to be made to accommodate our equine companions are brought forth.

DHF is evaluating the horses' nutritional needs to ensure

everyone is ready for winter temperatures.

To make the transition smooth, check to make sure your blankets are ready for use and hang them on your stall. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask!

Also, make sure your stall

cards are up to date with specific instructions that identify the blankets that are to be used in certain temperatures.

Read further in this edition and as the season progresses to see what DHF changes are taking place to better serve you and your horse!

**Notice:**

It's that time of year when **heated water buckets** are needed. Seems like we just installed fans, doesn't it? Please purchase one by November 1<sup>st</sup>. Thank you!

**DHF Workdays**

Before winter, we have several big projects that need to be completed and we would love some help! If any **handy people** are interested in assisting on the weekends or weekday evenings, we would love the help! Contact Lenny if you are interested in helping: 513-850-9592

**The Project List is:**

1. Cross fence the big pasture beside the indoor (we just bought a mechanical fence post driver, so the posts will go in very easily)
2. Cross fence the small paddock after the footing is added
3. Replace the roof on the stall section of the pool barn
4. Redo the eve lights (plastic "windows" along the walls) on the stall barns

**Improvements on the Horizon**

Upon its inception, DHF set a high standard of service and lofty goals by which to guide and grow the business. We are proud to say we are on target for those goals and want to share some updates with you:

**The Round Pen and All-weather Turnouts** are on the near-term Horizon!

Jen and Lenny are excited to announce that the much anticipated construction of a 70' round pen will begin early November.

Its most obvious use will be for lunging horses so that riders won't have to

work around lunging horses in the indoor anymore! Lindsay will use it for teaching beginner lessons because of the specially designed slanted, solid safety walls that accommodate rider's legs.

Our horses benefit too! The new round pen will serve as an all-weather turnout in incimate weather, enabling owners to provide horse-playtime without the risk of damage to horses and/or the indoor.

**Once the round pen is installed, turnout in the indoor will no longer be allowed.**

The second exciting improvement coming in October is that we are splitting the smallest paddock at the entrance of the farm into three all-weather turnouts - two single turnout paddocks and one paddock big enough for two horses, all with the same footing as the round pen.

These additional turnout paddocks will come in very handy during the winter months when we can't use the pastures due to mud or ice.

Winter, we are ready!

**Regionals****GAIG/USDF Region 2 Dressage Championship**

Regionals ended in yet another *triumphant competition* for Dancing Horse Farm. As expected, the championship classes were very competitive and everyone rode well. The final results show the hard work everyone put into preparing for Regional Championships.

**Jen and Lisalotte DHF** placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in their GAIG/USDF First Level Musical Freestyle due to a few moments of tension from Lisa. Gary Rockwell, the FEI Olympic (or "O") judge at E had Jen and Lisa in first place with a 73.125%, but unfortunately the score from Sandra Hotz, the national

Senior (or "S") judge at C, didn't agree. The 13-percentage point difference between the two judges' scores gave Jen and Lisa a combined score just below the score earned by the Reserve Champion rider, a sweet teenage girl riding a fantastically adorable pony.

**Lindsay and Orion** tied for 8<sup>th</sup> in the GAIG/USDF Second Level Open Championship and also placed 6<sup>th</sup> in the GAIG/USDF First Level Open Championship. They also received Reserve Champion for Second Level Open.

In her last competition year as a Junior/Young Rider, **Amber Adcock and Daiquiri** finished the season

very well by placing 13<sup>th</sup> out of 40 in her GAIG/USDF Training Level JR/YR Championship. Now, Amber gets to look forward to competing against Jen, Lindsay and all the other professionals from here on out...oh boy, what fun!

One of Jen's Columbus clinic students, **Mayme Hausman and Legend III**, came out at the top of their game in the GAIG/USDF Training Level AA Championship, coming in 12<sup>th</sup> out of 40 competitors with one of their most relaxed and fluid tests of the year.

Next year we have big plans! Mark your calendars for:

**October 22-25, 2009**

## Spotlight New Lesson Horse: Fancy

Introducing: **Fancy** DHF-our newest lesson pony addition! Please come and visit our perfect new little pony, Fancy. She is a 9 year old, jet-black 12 hand Welsh cross (we believe) pony with a huge star and two hind socks. She came from a family in Columbus who bought her for their little son to learn to ride and *they* bought her from a Friesian breeder who had her for their children to learn to ride. She is super easy for little people to walk, trot, and canter, she is great on the lunge line, while being lead around and worked around on the ground. Fancy just LOVES kids and stands perfectly still for pampering sessions! We are so excited to have finally found a well-trained pony this size, just perfect for our littlest clients!

The DHF Candy & Soda Machine now has 18-yes, *eighteen*-varieties of candy and all your favorite soda!

## Savoie Excitement

Once again, DHF is offering a unique opportunity to its community. **Jane Savoie** is coming to the farm **October 18-19<sup>th</sup>**. Please give the auditors and participants a **Warm DHF Welcome** as they have traveled from all over our region to be part of this unique experience. Don't forget registration is done through USDF, including Auditors. Directions are on the [www.usdf.org](http://www.usdf.org) website. See you there!

## Jen Jargon

DHF offers many learning opportunities through its formal educational clinics and lessons, its atmosphere and in its trainers. *thoroughness only happens at the moment of a correctly timed release, not during the preceding holding phase, because both horse and rider breathe the thoroughness into being through relaxation, not strain.* lesson, ask Jen to help you find that thoroughness with your horse.

For each newsletter, Jen and Lindsay will offer a little tidbit of expertise to the DHF community. This month, Jen shared the following: *"Improved* As always, any questions can be directed to [Megan@DancingHorseFarmOH.com](mailto:Megan@DancingHorseFarmOH.com) for a follow-up piece in the next newsletter.

*"I don't mind what Congress does, as long as they don't do it in the streets and frighten the horses."*

-Victor Hugo  
(1802 - 1885)

Mark your  
Calendars



## DHF Halloween on Horseback: Costumes Required!!

DHF's Halloween on Horseback begins November 1, 2008 with a Dressage Schooling Show. The Judge will be Marge Cunningham a USDF L Grad and she will be looking for costumes! The November 2<sup>nd</sup> Fun Show will start at 10:00 am with a variety of

classes including Equitation, Lead Line, Ride a Buck, Egg & Spoon and of course the Costume Class!

*The DHF Halloween on Horseback Dressage Show is sanctioned by MODA and The Dressage Company.*

Use the DHF Show Entry Form to enter. It can be found on the "Forms" page of our Web site.

Megan Sweeney is our Show Secretary and she can be reached at [Megan@DancingHorseFarmOH.com](mailto:Megan@DancingHorseFarmOH.com).

Zoë is retiring. She needs someone who will love her and let her live quietly in a pasture. She is a fantastic children's pony. One who doesn't mind being dressed in pink and brushed for hours. She is sound at the walk.

Call Jen 937.532.3108 for more information

## Did You Know...

There is always so much to tell our DHF Community! Here are a few tidbits of information that have to be shared:

1) We always have **volunteer opportunities** for our Clinics and shows!

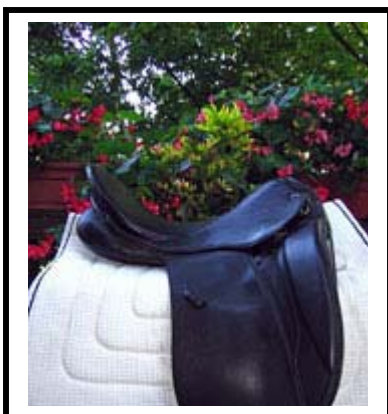
Whether a seasoned athlete used to the "show" environment or just

learning your way around a show ring, please let Megan know if you are available to help.

2) There are **DHF Gift Certificates** available for any dollar amount. It's a great gift for the holidays or a great motivator for encouraging would-be horse enthusiasts!

3) When you are walking around the show grounds, whether at DHF or elsewhere, why not wear the **DHF Logo?** Shirts, hats or saddle pads (which look amazing in the show ring!) are available.

Go shopping in the DHF office "store" Today!



## For Sale: Stübben Maestoso Deluxe Dressage Saddle

This month's featured Tack for Sale is an 18" Seat, Wide Tree (32) Saddle that is in perfect condition!

We bought it new and have only used it a few months.

We are asking a price of: \$1,900 (list price \$2,850)

Our contact information is as follows:

Halley or Nike Mendenhall (513) 469-2660 or via email at [halleymendenhall@gmail.com](mailto:halleymendenhall@gmail.com) or [mnikem@one.net](mailto:mnikem@one.net)

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We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

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

## Planning Ahead

We are all very proud of the way DHF was represented at our Regional Championships and look forward to taking many more students and horses next year.

We have decided that for next year's **Regionals**, we will participate in **Region 1 Championships at the Virginia Horse Center in Lexington, VA, October 22-25, 2009**, instead of Region 2 Championships at Lamplight Equestrian Center outside of Chicago, IL.

We enjoyed competing at the beautiful Lamplight facility last year but the

~10 hour drive including fighting midweek Chicago traffic was pretty stressful. Whereas the fantastic VA Horse Center is both an incredible facility and an easy 8-hour drive through the beautiful country side.

Jen and Lenny spent a lot of time competing at the VA Horse Center while living in Maryland and look forward to a return trip with a great group of horses and students.

We have already reserved a fully furnished 1800's era log cabin with five bedrooms that sleeps up to 16 people and is updated with HVAC,

sitting on 50 acres of woods and rolling farmland situated along side a serene creek with a wonderful front porch with rocking chairs for studying dressage tests ☺

Our cabin is just 15 minutes from the Horse Center show grounds and 10 minutes from historic, downtown Lexington which is chock full of quaint restaurants and shopping.

Mark your calendars –

We are going to have  
**SO MUCH FUN!!!!**

## Nutrition, Part One

Over the course of several newsletters, Lindsay will be contributing Nutritional Advice. It will be in a Q&A format to encourage each of you to contribute, thereby ensuring we provide pertinent information!

With so many new horses, the first question is as follows:

**Q:** How do you change a horse's diet?

**A:** It is important to make any feed change *gradually*.

You must analyze the horse's condition (weight, performance level, disposition, age, and health conditions that

effect their diet) before making any major change in their diet.

Any change in the diet needs to be made gradually to allow the hindgut (microbes need time to adjust) in the large intestine to adjust to different types of feed.

Trick or



Treat!

Get those costumes ready! Its time for the DHF Halloween on Horseback! November 1<sup>st</sup> is the Dressage Schooling Show, November 2<sup>nd</sup> is the Fun Show – regardless, you *and* your horse have to be in costume!

Register Today! [www.DancingHorseFarmOH.com](http://www.DancingHorseFarmOH.com)  
Entry forms and prize lists on the site! Have Fun!

## Dancing Horse Farm Halloween Fun Show Weekend

### Costumes REQUIRED!

### November 1-2, 2008

#### November 1<sup>st</sup> Dressage Schooling Show

1. Intro Test A Junior
2. Intro Test A Senior
3. Intro Test B Junior
4. Intro Test B Senior
5. Training Level Test 1
6. Training Level Test 2
7. Training Level Test 3
8. Training Level Test 4
9. First Level Test 1
10. First Level Test 2
11. First Level Test 3
12. First Level Test 4
13. Second Level or Higher Percentage Class (specify level and test on entry form)
14. Musical Freestyle (Training, First, Second, etc.)
15. Musical Group (Pas de Deux and Quadrille)



#### November 2<sup>nd</sup> Fun Show Classes

1. Leadline Walk-trot: *Leader must be 16 or older.* Open to riders of all ages who are not comfortable trotting unassisted. Riders may not enter any other class, other than the Costume Class.
2. Beginner Walk-Trot Equitation: This class is for riders who are not comfortable trotting in a large group. Riders will be asked to walk all together as a class but trot one at a time. Riders may not cross-enter any class requiring trotting as a group or a canter.
3. Intermediate Walk-Trot Equitation: Walk and trot in a group.
4. Walk-Trot-Canter Equitation: Canter will be ridden one at a time.
5. Advanced Rider Command Class: Be ready for anything! Riders may be asked to perform at any gait, shorten or lengthen stride, etc. at the judge's discretion.
6. Ribbon class, Walk-Trot: Riders find a partner and ride side-by-side holding a ribbon and trying to keep from breaking the ribbon connection while following the judge's commands.
7. Walk-Trot Poles Class: Riders will ride over a course of poles on the ground.
8. Cross-rail Class: Riders will jump 4 to 6 cross-rails set at a maximum height of 18." Riders may trot or canter.
9. **COSTUME CLASS:** This class is free to all competitors and awards will be given in several costume categories.
10. Weave-the-Cones Race: May be ridden at the walk or trot. There will be two separate courses of cones, one for walking riders and one for trotting riders. This class will run one at a time, and the fastest time wins!
11. Egg & Spoon Race: Riders will be asked to hold an egg balanced on a spoon. Last one to drop their egg wins!
12. Ride-A-Buck, Walk-Trot: **Win \$\$\$.** Bring two \$1 bills with you to the class. The dollar bills will be placed under each of the rider's thighs just above the knee. Drop both dollar bills and you are eliminated. Last one to have at least one of their dollars still under their thigh at the end of the class wins. Class pays out in the following order: \$2 to the 3<sup>rd</sup> place rider, \$4 to the 2<sup>nd</sup> place rider, and the rest of the pot to the winner, assuming there are at least 5 entries in the class.
13. Ride-A-Buck, Walk-Trot-Canter: **Win \$\$\$.** Bring two \$1 bills with you to the class. The dollar bills will be placed under each of the rider's thighs just above the knee. Drop both dollar bills and you are eliminated. Last one to have at least one of their dollars still under their thigh at the end of the class wins. Class pays out in the following order: \$2 to the 3<sup>rd</sup> place rider, \$4 to the 2<sup>nd</sup> place rider, and the rest of the pot to the winner, assuming there are at least 5 entries in the class.

### Dancing Horse Farm Show Entry Form

One horse/rider combination per entry

Dressage Shows' Closing Date: Postmarked 10 days prior to the show

Fun Shows' Closing Date: "Day of" entries accepted until the preceding class enters the arena

Name of Horse: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_ Breed: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Rider: \_\_\_\_\_ Address of Rider: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Ph: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Information (mandatory):

Em. Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Em. Contact ph. # day of show: \_\_\_\_\_

**Show Fees:** Dressage Shows: \$20 per class; Fun Shows: \$10 per class; Use of a DHF School Horse: \$5 per class

**Stabling:** If on-site stabling is required, fill out stabling request below

- a. \$30 per day/night – includes prior evening arrival, if desired, no earlier than 5 pm
- b. **Write a separate check for the \$10 stall cleaning fee-this is refunded if you clean your stall before you leave**
- c. Initial bedding, feedings (if participant provides pre-measured meals), and night check provided
- d. Additional sawdust bedding available at \$5 per wheelbarrow load – participant labor only
- e. No turnout or stall cleaning provided

Class Number	Class Description	Entry Fee
_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____

**Make checks payable to:  
Dancing Horse Farm, Inc.**

Total Class Fees: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total Stabling Fees: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Don't forget to include a separate, refundable \$10 check for stall cleaning)

**Release:** In consideration for my admission to any Dancing Horse Farm Show, I agree to enter this show at my own risk. I understand that equestrian sports are inherently dangerous, and I am willing to assume any risk involved to me, my family, guests, my horse(s), my vehicles and additional property. I further agree to hold harmless the show management, their volunteers, officials, property owners, and sanctioning bodies and anyone else involved in this show for any damage, loss, or injury suffered during this show or while on the show grounds. I have read and fully understand this release and consent to these conditions to enter this show. This agreement is made in the state of Ohio and shall be enforced and interpreted by the laws of the state of Ohio.

Rider's Signature (mandatory): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian MUST sign if rider is under 18 yrs of age)

**Mail entry, SASE for ride times, copy of horse's negative Coggins, and payment to:**  
Dancing Horse Farm, Inc., 4080 Weisenberger Road, Lebanon, Ohio 45036

Questions? Call Megan Sweeney: Barn: 513-933-0343 or Email: Megan@DancingHorseFarmOH.com

#### Stabling Request Form (will be posted on your horse's stall):

Arrival Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Approx. Arrival Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Horse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Check One:            Mare                            Gelding                            Stallion

Participant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hotel Info: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Hotel Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

