



Hoof Beats...

March 2010 • Great Lakes Distance Riding Association Newsletter • www.gldrami.org



2009 GLDRA Silent Auction

Attendance at this year's banquet still remains down, but those attending contributed generously to our organization. I cannot thank the ride managers enough for all their charitable contributions. The ride donations alone brought in \$826.00. Again, yours truly was the largest supporter for the ride entries. This year I got caught up in my own game thanks to Becke Grams' aggressive bidding, and ended up with four entries to the Hopkins Creek Ride. Our newly elected president, Gene Dake, brought in \$55 worth of entertainment with the reverse auction. Bonnie Tobias again faithfully orchestrated the 50/50 raffle obtaining an additional \$75.00, bringing the total contributions for the evening to \$1,700.00.

Again, a "very sincere" thank you to all of our GLDRA members for their outstanding support of the silent auction. I initiated this silent auction over 20 years ago so that we could improve our award's program. After 20-plus years there are moments when I think it is time for me to quit, but in the end, when I see what dedication that you all have shown it makes it all worthwhile for me once again. I am not sure that I could have continued on if not for the support of my dear friends Kathy Macki, Barb Kurti (who unbeknownst to her has been indoctrinated into the silent auction committee) and Bonnie Tobias.

But once again, it takes all of us to make this one great organization. – Julie Roe

Please look at your mailing address. If the words "Renewal Needed" appears above your name this will be the last newsletter you receive!

Please take a minute and double check your mailing address for the "Renewal Needed" above your name. If you've overlooked renewing your membership for the 2010 season there is a membership form on the back cover of this newsletter. Feel free to make copies of the membership form for your friends - the more, the merrier!

GLDRA 2010 Ride Schedule

April 17, 18	Brighton Ride
May 1, 2.....	White River Spring
May 29, 30.....	Grand Island
June 12, 13.....	White River Summer
June 26, 27.....	Hopkins Creek
July 10, 11	AHAM
July 17, 18.....	Oakleaf Run
August 1-7	Shore to Shore
September 4-6	White River Labor Day
September 11, 12	Keweenaw Dollar Bay
September 18, 19	Tin Cup Springs
October 2, 3.....	Pine Marten Run
Oct. 8, 9, 10.....	Brighton Ride

www.gldrami.org

2010 GLDRA OFFICERS

President

Gene Dake
11400 'I' Drive South
Burlington, MI 49029
269-979-9472

Vice-President

Dennis Byard
5307 Hodge Road
Kingsley, MI 49649
231-263-0286

Secretary

Kathy Macki
9285 US Hwy 2
Rapid River, MI 49878
906-474-6416

Treasurer

Bruce Birr
1633N West Kendall Rd.
Manistique, MI 49854
906-341-8562

Veterinary Rep.

Rae Birr
Same as Bruce

Member at Large:

Stacey Cooper
22655 16th Avenue
Conklin, MI 49403
616-887-3420

Rider Representatives:

Barb Kurti (2009-2010)
319 Quincy St., SW
Grandville, MI 49418
616-896-6798

Carl Dosmann (2010-2011)
58157 Cherry Grove Road
Dowagiac, MI 49047
269-782-1143

GLDRA COMMITTEES

Newsletter

Kari Hanes
9128 W. 104th
Holton, MI 49425
231-924-2271 • khanes@mail.riverview.net

Promotions

Diana Anderson
8620 Woven Avenue
Rockford, MI 49341
616-866-9605

Mileage and Points:

Kathy Macki (see above)

Awards:

Julie Roe
75170 12th Ave.
South Haven, MI 48848
616-637-4606 • julianne.roe@gmail.com

Grievance:

Dennis Byard (see above)

MHC/Trails:

Barb Potter
3822 Innisfree Road
Howell, MI 48855
517-548-0742

Webpage:

Dennis Sorenson
65906 C.R. 378
Bangor, MI 49013
269-427-0779

Finance Committee:

Bruce Birr, Linda Hamrick (2010-2011), Denny Byard (2009-2010), Shelley Dake (2009-2010), Cameron Wood (board nominated 2010-2011)

Life Members & Others

Please Note: If you haven't sent me your current mailing and email address lately, please mail or email me that info so that I can be sure that our records are up-to-date and that you receive your GLDRA info when it is sent. Thanks!

Bruce Birr - Membership, e-mail: bbirr@centurytel.net

Endurance Quotes ...

"Those of us who finish near the back, make the rest of you look good."

"The worst rides make the BEST stories."

"You don't have to be crazy, but it sure helps."

"Slow time is better than no time."



2009 Pit Crew of the Year

**Congratulations to P. J. Birr!
Nominated by Rose, Rachel,
Julie, Tali, Barb and Maxine**



Rookie of the Year

Congratulations to Whitney Meinders - 2009 Rookie of the Year!

This rotating trophy award was started by the Scrub Oaks Ride in memory of Lecia Strunk, who died of diabetes. It was awarded to a first year rider (endurance and competitive) who in the opinion of the judges and according to scores won more rides and placed high for a new rider. Char Richards and Debbie Bosma donated this award to Great Lakes when they no longer put on the Scrub Oaks ride. This award is now figured by the points committee. The rider can not have ridden more than three rides in a life time, either competitive or endurance, and has received the most year end points. It is suggested that the rider declares his intentions with a 'R' on the upper corner of the ride entry on all ride forms.

2009 Horse Hall of Fame

**Congratulations to Linda Hamrick
and Zahar's Gallant Dancer!
Nominated by Barb Potter**



2009 Person Hall of Fame

**Congratulations to Myra Fleming!
Nominated by Linda Hamrick**



Katie Byard, Jean Miller, Eden Killingbeck, Mike Byard and Nathan Killingbeck enjoying a winter afternoon on the slopes!

GLDRA Membership Directory - 2010

We will be publishing a membership directory in 2010. It will be sent electronically to those who receive the newsletter that way, and a paper copy to others. We will probably wait until mid April to do so. Please make sure your membership information is up to date and your dues are paid before April 1st, only those with a current 2010 membership will receive one. New contact information can be sent to Bruce Birr.



Jim (Russ) and Linda Sherrill are new grandparents! Congratulations to them and their daughter Amy on the birth of Josiah Isaac!

PUPPIES FOR SALE

3/4 Australian Shepherd, 1/4 Australian CattleDog. Born December 1; tails, dew claws, first shots and wormer done by vet. \$125 khanes@mail.riverview.net or 231-924-2271 photos available via email.

Advertising in Newsletter

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 page two for address) before they will be placed in newsletter. Send digital ads to Kari at khanes@mail.riverview.net.

The newsletter Hoofbeats is a quarterly publication released Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter.

GLDRA Board Meeting Minutes *(unapproved)*

February 5, 2010

Present: Lisa Germann, Wayne Gastfield, Kathy Macki, Bruce Birr, Julie Roe, Barb Kurti, Andrea Redman, Rae Birr, Jill Byard, Becke Grams, Linda Hamrick, Cameron Wood, Karen Bahrman and guest Donnie Hamrick.

I. Called to order at 8:15 p.m.

II. Wayne moved to accept minutes as read. Andy seconded. Approved.

III. Bruce passed out his treasurer's report. Discussion followed. We actually showed a small profit this year. Gene motioned to accept the treasurer's report. Wayne seconded. Approved.

IV. Committee Reports

A. No report

B. No report

C. Lisa gave a short report. She received the application for a table in the trail room at the Stallion Expo. Discussion followed and Kathy moved to skip the expo this year. Barb seconded. Approved. Becke made a short report. The trails grant program has been reduced to \$10,000.00 (AERC). Touched on having a trail masters program in Michigan.

Later addition: MHC. Bruce had a letter from Back Country Horsemen. They are inviting us to join as an advocate for a \$100.00 fee. Discussion followed. It was decided to table this until after the annual meeting.

D. Finance committee will meet at 9:00 Saturday February 6, 2010.

E. No report

G. No report

H. No report

I. Julie gave a report on awards and turned in her receipts to Wayne. Andy moved to accept, Wayne seconded. Approved.

J. Other than "missing hoofbeats," Bruce had no report. He will check into why some people are not getting their e-mail newsletters.

K. Lisa talked to Diana Anderson and she is interested in the promotions position. She will address the board on Saturday 2-6-10. Jill Byard is willing to assist Diana. Cam talked some about our Facebook page. Many ideas were discussed on trying to attract new members. Bruce mentioned an e-mail he had received about helping the AHC with a survey. Kathy motioned that this be forwarded to the members. Gene seconded. Passed.

L. Kathy gave a report on the webpage. We need to get the forms put on. Much discussion followed. Some felt it was not "professional" enough and we discussed having an actual page with some type of link to a page where Kathy could do points/ride results/mileage updates. Dennis will be at the banquet on Saturday and we will talk to him about going back to our old page/site with a link to points, etc. Bruce had someone express interest in doing the website and we will pursue this if Dennis is not interested in helping anymore.

V. Old Business

A. Insurance - the paperwork has been sent in. It is not back yet but should be shortly. Shelley will make sure all managers get copies before their ride as reported by Gene.

B. See Above.

VI. New Business

A. Julie made a motion that a rider must have a minimum of 3 standings for BC in order to qualify for the year-end BC award. Barb seconded. Passed. Rae moved that this should be brought to the attention of the members at the general meeting (also, it must be changed in the awards literature). Wayne seconded. Passed.

B. Julie said she only has about 15 patches left and that is probably enough for the 2011 banquet. She will get prices and present them at the summer meeting.

C. Lisa had a concern about the positions not being staggered. Discussion followed. Kathy moved to leave the positions as is. Andy seconded. Passed.

D. Publishing pit crew nominations. Discussion followed and Gene will talk to Bonnie and explain why we would like them published.

E. Bruce brought up a discussion about moving the board meeting to Saturday AM instead of Friday night. Much discussion followed. Bruce moved to make our banquet/meeting a one-day event. Gene seconded. Passed. Wayne will check with the Doherty and see if this will have any impact on your contract with them and report at the summer meeting.

A big discussion followed on how to attract more people to the meeting. Some of the ideas were to have door prizes. Many ideas were discussed on how to promote our banquet and get more people to attend. Kathy motioned to adjourn, Becke seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Macki, Secretary

GLDRA Annual Meeting Minutes *(unapproved)*

February 6, 2010

I. 1:35 P.M. Call to order - President Lisa Germann

A. President's Report - No report. Lisa thanked everyone for a great four years.

II. Reading of minutes - Secretary Kathy Macki - Wayne motioned to accept minutes as read, Rae seconded. Minutes accepted.

III. Treasurer's report - Treasurer Bruce Birr - Bruce passed out the treasurer's report. Gene motioned to accept, Cam seconded. Accepted.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Vet Report - no report.

B. Finance Com. - Finance committee met this AM to do an audit. Everything is okay.

C. Membership - no report. Members be sure to double check info on membership form so that Bruce can keep our records up to date.

D. Promotions - Diana Anderson has agreed to be the new promotions person. Kari will make sure she gets the "promotions tote."

E. Awards - no report.

F. Mileage and Points - no report.

G. Newsletter - nothing new. Send ride flyers to Kari in PDF format by March 1st. The next Hoofbeats is due March 31, 2010.

H. Grievance - no report.

I. Trails and MHC - Barb Potter gave an explanation on the survey questionnaire. MHC wants our ride schedule by 3/1/10. Barb will provide contact info and Kathy will send the schedule. Barb also touched on MHC scholarship program. She also encouraged members to attend the Expo. This is a MHC fund raiser. Dates are March 12, 13 & 14.

J. Web page - Kathy gave a short report. Dennis will advise and get our old page back with a link to the blog page so Kathy can update ride results and point standings.

V. Old Business

A. No old business.

VI. New Business

A. Ride schedule - Accepted with corrections.

B. Nominations and election President - Karen Graham nominated Gene Dake, Andy Redman seconded, Kathy moved to close nominations and Wayne seconded. Congratulations Gene. Good to have you back.

C. Nominations and election Vice President - Bruce nominated Denny Byard, Rae seconded. Wayne motioned to close nominations. Welcome Denny.

D. Nominations and election for member at large (one year) - Gene nominated Andy, Barb K. nominated Stacey Cooper. Kathy moved to close, Wayne seconded. Stacey is the new MAL.

E. Nominations and election of rider rep (Julie's position) - Wayne nominated Julie and she declined. Julie nominated Tali, Becke nominated Carl Dosmann. Wayne moved to close, Shelley seconded. Carl is the new rider representative.

F. Nomination for one finance position (two-year Linda Hamrick) - Wayne nominated Linda Hamrick, Cindy O. moved to close nominations, Laurie Hilyard seconded.

G. Nominations and election of Veterinary rep - It was unanimous that we keep Rae as the Vet Rep.

H. Nominations for Hall of Fame Award - Person - Bruce made a motion that the members have the option to not vote anyone in the HoF even if there are nominations. Andy seconded. This passed. Nominations were read and voted on. (Announced at banquet)

Nominations for Hall of Fame Award - Horse - Nominations were read and voted on. (Announced at banquet).

I. Nominations for Sportsmanship - Kathy nominated Sara Michelin, Stacey added to this & Lisa too. Bonnie moved that nominations be closed, Cindy seconded. Nominations closed.

J. Nominations for Ride Manager and Pit Crew (Bonnie Tobias) - Pit crew nominations were read and voted on and ride management was voted on. Winners to be announced at the awards.

K. Nominations for Volunteer of the Year Award
- Kathy nominated Dennis Sorenson for all his work on the webpage. Andi moved to close nominations, Becke seconded. Bruce moved and Wayne seconded to cast one ballot for Dennis.

L. Merrilegs Award - Kid's in charge of this - Trevor will handle this and the winner will be announced at the awards.

M. Anything else - Bruce mentioned the BCH (Back Country Horsemen). Jeannie M. gave a short explanation of the group. Dennis Hurley, Gene and Marlie also had positive feedback on the group. Do we want to be an advocate for \$100.00? Diana A. moved to join. Many seconds. Passed. We will join. Carl asked about getting a link to them on our site.

VII. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.
Board meeting after general meeting: Carl, Stacey,

Bonnie, Cam, Kari, Linda H., Gene, Diana, Barb K., Kathy, Lisa, Wayne and Bruce were all present.

Called to order at 3:24 p.m. by new president Gene Dake.

The board appointed Kathy as secretary, Bruce as Treasurer and Cam as finance committee member.

Gene will talk to the members before awards about ideas to up attendance at the banquet.

Diana had some questions for the board about the promotions position.

Next meeting at White River Summer after the awards on Saturday, June 12, 2010.

Becke moved to close, Bonnie seconded. Meeting adjourned at 3:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Macki, Secretary

2009 GLDRA YEAR END AWARD RESULTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEBSITE - WWW.GLDRAM.I.ORG

All I Need to Know in Life I Learned From My Horse

1. When in doubt, run far, far away.
2. You can never have too many treats.
3. Passing gas in public is nothing to be ashamed of.
4. New shoes are an absolute necessity every six weeks.
5. Ignore cues. They're just a prompt to do more work.
6. Everyone loves a good, wet, slobbery kiss.
7. Never run when you can jog. Never jog when you can walk. And never walk when you can stand still.
8. Heaven is eating for at least 10 hours a day ... and then sleeping the rest.
10. Eat plenty of roughage.
11. Great legs and a nice rear will get you anywhere. Big, brown eyes help too.
12. When you want your way, stomp hard on the nearest foot.
13. In times of crisis, take a poop.
14. Act dumb when faced with a task you don't want to do.
15. Follow the herd. That way, you can't be singled out to take the blame.
16. A swift kick in the butt will get anyone's attention.
17. Love those who love you back, especially if they have something good to eat.



GLDRA Jackets Available!

Contact Julie Roe for a jacket (75170 12th Ave., South Haven, MI 48848, 616-637-4606, julianne.roe@gmail.com). Cost is \$80 and includes name embroidered on front. To see one in person see Bruce Birr, Stacey Cooper or Andrea Redman.



Hoof Beats
 c/o Kari Hanes
 9128 West 104th
 Holton, MI 49425

**Please look at your mailing address.
 If the words "Renewal Needed"
 appears above your name this will
 be the last newsletter you receive.**

Great Lakes Distance Riding Association Membership Application

Membership includes quarterly newsletter, eligibility for year end points and awards programs, mileage tracking, the GLDRA manual and yearly ride schedule book.

___ Individual \$15 ___ Family \$25 ___ Junior (<16 as of April 1) \$7 ___ Lifetime \$170

Check box to 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:
 Bruce Birr, 1633N West Kendall Road, Manistique, MI 49854

Newsletters are available in electronic .pdf format and on our website (www.gldrami.org), please choose your method of delivery below:

Electronic versions will cut down expenses considerably for the organization, printed copies are also available.

- ___ Paper copy delivered by Postal Service
- ___ Electronic .pdf copy delivered to your email address
- ___ Email notification of the newsletter being available on the website