



MCTA *Maryland* Eventing Newsletter

Volume 10, November 2008, No. 5

YEAR END AWARDS

Please remember to send in your results to Brooke Daneker, the club Points Coordinator. From www.mdcta.com click on Year End Awards tab on the left to find the forms you will need. Each rider needs to compile their results on the new Points Form, a single sheet of paper, one *line* for each event. Sending in your results more than once a year keeps Brooke from being inundated in November. If enough people send in forms we will post the "current" standings on line. Remember to do your 8 volunteer hours before the Dec 1 deadline and to send Brooke the Trophy Selection Form by then as well. The club recognizes through 6th place in 15 different Year End Awards! Send in your results to be eligible for some nice prizes and recognition at the banquet. Also, ALL riders at any level who complete three events are eligible for the **TRIUMPH AWARD**. Send in your Competition Record, even if you don't have a placing (First through Sixth) that gives you points, it still counts!! Good Luck!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

MCTA's annual banquet will be held on
January 10, 2009 — Summit Manor in Monkton

Incredible Silent Auction and Cash Bar opens at 4:30 pm
Yummy Buffet Dinner at 6:30pm
Family Friendly Entertainment at 7pm
Year End Awards Presentation at 7:45pm

Send \$25 for adults and \$15 for children under 12 to:
Gayle Curtiss
3610 Elton Farm Road,
Brookeville MD 20833
Info: peache1038@aol.com or 301-570-5810

JENNY CAMP

We were treated to lovely weather on October 19th, for a successful day of eventing in Maryland.

Congratulations to the following competitors who won Jenny Camp trophies:

Welcome Doctor Trophy - Caitlyn Fertig
Junior MCTA member - Novice

Silverview Farms Trophy - Jennifer Kruse
Senior MCTA member - Novice

Granddad Trophy - Leslie Long
Senior MCTA member - Beginner Novice

Sunebble Point Memorial Trophy - Leslie Long
Junior or Senior MCTA member with lowest score - Beginner Novice

Wake Up Susan Trophy - Stephanie Oliff
Pony Club member - Beginner Novice

Mickey Skipper Trophy - Erika Taylor
Pony Club - Novice



Leslie Betram photo

DOES YOUR HORSE NEED A BLANKET?

SOURCE: *U OF MD EQUINE STUDIES UPDATE*

by Erin Pittman

The short answer may very well be "Yes," however many horses blanketed during cooler months provides more comfort to their caregivers rather than to the animals themselves. Horses have evolved to have an excellent built-in temperature control: a very thick winter hair coat. Horses require between 10 and 21 days to acclimatize to colder temperatures. For instance, on the first day of 35° F weather, the horse may feel cold, but over 10-21 days of similar cold weather, s/he will "get used to it" and be more comfortable. If temperatures drop and the horse is not used to the colder temperature, you will notice behavior changes including increased use of shelters if available, huddling together in groups with other horses, and lowering their heads and turning their hindquarters into the prevailing wind. These are all activities that help conserve heat. The shivering response will also occur in very cold horses, which generates a pretty substantial amount of body heat, helping to warm their critical internal organs. Studies in Canada found that for adult horses in cold climates, the lower critical temperature, or the lowest temperature they can tolerate prior to a drop in body temperature, is approximately 5° F, provided they are well-nourished. Given time, any horse, even in Maryland, can adapt to this low temperature. For temperatures lower than that, they will quickly lose body heat and need our help in order to deal with the cold. We can help either by providing shelter, extra forage, blankets or a combination of all of the above. Shelter alone can reduce heat loss

by up to 20% through protection from wind and rain!

During cold weather, the horse's hair stands on end, which creates an air space around the horse where it can trap heat, enabling it to stay warm. This insulation will break down when the weather takes a nasty turn such as rain or wind - the former causing the hair to lie flat and the latter blowing

away the warm air trapped in the upstanding hair. This phenomenon can also happen when a horse is inappropriately blanketed. In other words, when a

blanket with inadequate insulation is put on a horse during milder weather, it forces the hairs to lie flat, taking away the horse's natural insulation. Here are some simple guidelines that you may find helpful in determining whether or not your horse needs the protection of a blanket in climates like Maryland's:

- Horses that are clipped or kept in barns under light to discourage winter coat production should be blanketed when temperatures drop below 60° F when it is windy or rainy but not until temperatures hit 40° F or below on days without precipitation or wind.
- Horses with a moderate hair coat can tolerate temperatures as low as 30° F and if they have a heavy coat, they can tolerate

temperatures down to about 20° F when conditions are mild. Wet or windy conditions increase these temperature limits, so keep that in mind when blanketing! A good indication that your horse may need a blanket is if you see it shivering, but even this can be fixed with shelter or additional forage.

Shelter alone can reduce heat loss by up to 20% through protection from wind and rain!

- A horse that has recently moved from a warmer climate may benefit from some external help. Once they've spent the 10-21 days being exposed to the colder weather, they will adapt and need less help, but you may find it beneficial to blanket them until the next winter.
- Older horses that move around less benefit from blanketing in colder weather. Moving generates body heat which is why we often see horses' levels of exuberance rise with cold weather!
- Remove the blanket on a regular basis - check to make sure your horse is not losing body condition, doesn't have blanket rubs or injuries, and is not developing a skin problem such as rain rot under the blanket. Be sure to keep the blanket clean, especially on the inside where it's in contact with your horse's skin. When the weather is rainy, check to make sure the blanket is waterproof - you will be fighting a losing battle trying to keep a wet horse warm with a wet blanket! Place your hand under the blanket around the neck - your horse should feel nice and toasty warm and not sweaty under there!



FIELD TRIP!

If you have ever thought it might be fun to ride your horse on the beach, I have an answer to that. It is! On a pretty day in October a friend and I loaded up our horses and drove down to Lewes Delaware to meet up with some other friends for a beach ride.



Coming from the Baltimore area, the directions couldn't have been more simple. Head north on I-95, then turn south on Route 1, and eventually you are there.

After tacking up we walked right on over to the beach. We were all on thoroughbreds and didn't quite know what to expect, but they handled themselves like cool event horses. They seemed more curious than scared and after some coaxing got used to the moving water. What concerned them most seemed to be the Jeeps parked on the beach with the enormous "whips" sticking up in the air! After a good work out in the sand, splashing around in the waves, and then a well deserved roll in the sand we headed home.

The added benefit of this field trip was the next time we encountered a water element on a cross country course, my horse said "piece of cake!"

Betsy Denning



You are invited to ride with world renowned Event Rider Stephen Bradley.

Stephen is an accomplished event rider from Virginia. He has triumphed at many major events around the world. Most recently Stephen was as a member of the Gold Medal winning 2007 United States Pan American games Event Team!

If you have ridden with Stephen before you know he has the ability to get the best from you and your horse. If you have never had the pleasure, you are in for a treat! Sign up today to take advantage of this rare opportunity before Stephen goes south in January.

When: Wednesday, November 19 and
Wednesday, December 17, 2008

Where: An Otherwise Perfect Farm - Black Rock Road -
Upperco, MD www.otherwiseperfectfarm.com

Format: 1 1/2 hour lessons in groups of no more than 4 - grouped
by level of experience – gymnastics, course jumping or
cross country jumping, weather permitting.

Cost: \$120 per session - sign up for one or more days

An Otherwise Perfect Farm is the perfect setting to host these clinics. The indoor and outdoor rings are well groomed with excellent footing and the cross country jumps accommodate all levels, including ditches, banks and a newly renovated water complex.

Contact **Connie Bison** at eventcoach@hotmail.com
or 410-382-8984 to reserve your place.

***Stephen's extensive knowledge and experience
combined with his easy going manner will make this
an experience you'll want to repeat!!***



*Beaches are open for
horses during the off
season only. Contact
Cape Henlopen at
302-645-8983 or
Delaware Seashore
at 302-227-2800 for
more information.*

RESULTS**Maryland HT @ Loch Moy Farm July 19-20, 2008****Young Riders Open Intermediate**

Alyssa Peterson	Lettingo	3
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Open Preliminary

Shelagh Davidson	Atlantic Roar	8
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Open Training

Ashley Beheler	Noblesse Oblige	9
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Junior Open Novice

Clare Gottsch	Solos Last Steel	3
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Ekaterina Wehrle	Galway Grace	8
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Open Novice

Teresa Martinoli	Mysterious Beau	5
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Courtney Sendak	Paint It Black	6
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Julia Wendell	Little Sister	9
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Hannah Ong	Surf Guitar	9
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Katie Ruppel	Showman	10
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Katie Ruppel	Show and Tell	10
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Olney Farm HT Aug. 3, 2008**Beginner Novice**

Lauren Drenning	Beau's Rhapsody	1
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Savannah Fulton	FMF's Partly Foggy	2
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Donna Bottner	Silver Notebook	3
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Emily Arches	Private Benjamin	4
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Casey Jane Muller	Claremont	5
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Alexandra Otto	FMF White Out	9
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Novice

Mary Ballew	General MacArthur	3
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Randall Pearre	Braveheart Romeo	5
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Kristen Booty	Calypso Breeze	6
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Rebecca Stachlinski	Bonehead	7
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Training

Julia Ennis	O'Brien	2
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Stephen Fulton	Full Moon's Manila Bay	2
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Stephen Fulton	FMF Ides Of March	5
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Lauren Peterson	Ticklish	7
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Fair Hill International August 9-10, 2008 HT**Intermediate**

Alyssa Peterson	Stormin's Barbie	1
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Alyssa Peterson	Lettingo	5
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Courtney Sendak	Wil'Ya Love Me	11
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Julia Wendell	Cavendish	12
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Prelim

Shelagh Davidson	Atlantic Roar	5
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Mardi Herman	Zoe	13
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Training

Courtney Sendak	Paint It Black	10
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Catherine Perry	Lacey	11
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Difficult Run HT Aug 23-24, 2008**BN Championship Sr.**

Katherine Hawkins	Play The Odds	3
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Donna Bottner	Silver Notebook	6
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Jean Gerschefski	Easy Rider	8
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BN Championship Jr.

Alyssa Ford-YR	Upper Limit	6
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Casey Jane Muller	Claremont	8
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Savannah Fulton	Full Moon's Partly Foggy	9
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BN

Alex Otto	Full Moon's White Out	2
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Emily Arches	Private Benjamin	3
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Grace Fulton	Full Moon's Gracefully Dun	7
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Kelsey Parks		
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Smith	Casino Gambler	9
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Prelim

Catherine Perry	Lacey	11
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Training

Julia Wendell	Charlie Maloney	3
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Stephen Fulton	Full Moon 's Manila Bay	4
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Blaine Orris	Tully Cross Riley	10
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Stephen Fulton	Full Moon 's Ides of March	11
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Novice

P. Randall Pearre	Braveheart Romeo	5
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Mary Ballew	General MacArthur	2
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Miranda Shaw	Bucephalus	9
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Ashley Beheler	Sky's The Limit	13
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Julia Wendell	Little Sister	14
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USEA Medallion Club

Awarded for placing 1st thru 5th at three novice level horse trials.

Michelle Benczkowski riding Snap Dragon owned by Donna

Booth

USEA Blue Ribbon Club

Awarded for placing 1st through 5th at three training level horse trials.

Julia Ennis riding her own Findhorn

RESULTS**Loudon Hunt PC Horse Trials Aug 30-31, 2008****Intermediate**

Julia Wendell	Cavendish	9
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Prelim

Shelagh Davidson	Atlantic Roar	9
Michelle Benczkowski	Port of Call	13

Training

Teresa Martinoli	Mysterious Beau	6
J.P. Melugin	Blue Ridge Sand Dune	6

Seneca Valley PC HT Sept 6-7, 2008**Beginner Novice**

Lauren Drenning	Beau's Rhapsody	1
Sheri Thornley	Northern Star	3
Laura Beebe	High Roller	4

Novice

Hannah Ong	Surf Guitar	9
Clare Gottsch	Serendipity	11

Intermediate

Sam Allen	Scimitar	4
Alyssa Peterson	Lettingo	5

Plantation Field Fall HT Sept 19-20**CIC****

Sam Allen	Scimitar	17
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Preliminary

Shelagh Davidson	Atlantic Roar	11
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Marlborough HT Sept 20-21, 2008**Training**

J. P. Melugin	Blue Ridge Sand Dune	2
P. Randall Pearre	Braveheart Romeo	3
Clare Gottsch	Solos Last Steel	21

Novice

Clare Gottsch	Serendipity	4
Lauren Drenning	Beau's Rhapsody	4

Beginner Novice

Laura Beebe	High Roller V	1
Wendy Takacs	Guiting Power	5

Middleburg HT Sept 27-28, 2008**Intermediate**

Alyssa Peterson	Stormin's Barbie	3
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Novice

Antoinette Eikenberg	Olney Peggy Sue	13
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Radnor Hunt HT Oct 10, 2008**Training**

Clare Gottsch	Solos Last Steel	4
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Novice

Clare Gottsch	Serendipity	4
Julia Wendell	Little Sister	5

Maryland Horse Trials @ Loch Moy Farm Oct 11-12, 2008**Intermediate**

Samantha Allan	Scimitar	10
Alyssa Peterson	Lettingo	5

Preliminary

Molly Curtiss	Savannah IX	14
Sheri Thornley	Toga	4
Randall Pearre	Braveheart Romeo	8
J.P. Melugin	Blue Ridge Sand Dune	10

Beginner Novice

Sheri Thornley	Northern Star	11
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Fair Hill International Fall Championship Oct.16-19, 2008**CCI****

Alyssa Peterson	Stormin's Barbie	50
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Waredaca Fall HT Oct 25-26, 2008**Preliminary**

Gabriele Shaw	My Majestic Knight	3
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Open Training

Clare Gottsch	Solos Last Steel	20
Clare Gottsch	Serendipity	21

Training Rider

Randall Pearre	Braveheart Romeo	7
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Novice

Savannah Fulton	FMF Partly Cloudy	3
Miranda Shaw	Bucephalus X	10
Lauren Drenning	Beau's Rhapsody	13

Open Novice

Mary Ballew	General MacArthur	2
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*MCTA Members**and Patrons:*

Did we miss you or an event where you rode? Please email me with all your results throughout the year, and we will be pleased to add them to our newsletter.

betsydenning@gmail.com