

# **MICHIGAN DRAFT HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**

April 2010

Welcome Spring! Hopefully this newsletter finds you with green grass and some sunshine. Many of you have foals on the ground or on the way, plow days to go to, graduations to get ready for or are just enjoying warmer weather. Spring is a wonderful time of renewal.

The annual meeting was once again well attended and a great time to get together. The meeting was informative (see the minutes) and the food was delicious. Two great horsemen were honored. Howard "Jake" Sheaffer was presented the Service to the Industry award. Billy Crego was presented with a plaque for his contributions to the association as an out going Director at Large.

Enclosed please find the Schedule of Events, minutes of the annual meeting and information for trophy and ribbon sponsorships for the State Breeders Show.

**MICHIGAN HORSE COUNCIL STALLION EXPO:** Thank you Dennis and Linda Dingerson for bringing their Belgian stallion to be on display at this year's booth. He attracted a lot of attention and represented both the Belgian breed and the draft horse industry well. Also, thank you Lori Luther for setting up the booth. It looked wonderful! Thank you to the many members took the time to man the booth.

**PICNIC:** West and Lori Luther will be hosting this year's picnic June 12 at their farm in Gaines. Make your calendars and plan on attending. More information and directions will be mailed next month.

**MDHBA SCHOLARSHIP:** The scholarship deadline has been extended to June 1. Please contact Carrie Preston or the association website for an application.

**DIRECTOR AT LARGE:** Two Director at Large positions were up for election. Russ Erickson was elected and Howard McCalla was reelected. Brad Robbins resigned from his position as Director at Large as he and his wife Tracy moved to Pennsylvania. At the Board of Directors meeting following the annual meeting, the board appointed Wendell Weber, who received the next highest number of votes, to fill Brad's term.

**OFFICERS:** At the Board of Directors meeting following the annual meeting, Howard McCalla was reelected president and Patricia Perkins was elected vice-president.

**WEBSITE ADS:** It was decided at the annual meeting to sell ads on the website to help defray the cost of the website. Ad prices are for two years, with a business ad for \$25 and a full page ad for \$100. \$275 in ads were sold at the meeting. Anyone interested in purchasing an ad, please contact Renee.

**MICHIGAN EQUINE PARTNERSHIP:** Larry Julian from Michigan Equine Partnership reviewed the organizations activities at the annual meeting. MDHBA was a member in 2009 and it was voted to renew our membership. This membership provides some benefits for our members. Please visit the MEP website or contact Renee Dingman for specifics. MEP is sponsoring a legislative forum as a part of their annual meeting April 27 at the Radison in Lansing. There is no charge for this meeting and all members are encouraged to attend.

**QUILT:** The quilt and quilt tickets are here! Please contact Doreen McCalla or me for pictures of the quilt and tickets. This is our major fundraiser which enables the association to sponsor the MGLI and the State Breeders Show.