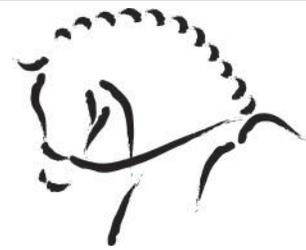


# Morgan Dressage association

*Dedicated to promoting and supporting Morgan Horses in Dressage.*



## GRAND PRIX MORGANS— TEN PENNY ACTION

*By Janet Moulding and Bernadette Stang*

*Ten Penny Action (Applevale Voyager x Doverdale Bambi Jean) was another Morgan who competed at Grand Prix at a time when non-traditional dressage breeds, such as Morgans, struggled against the warmbloods.*

*As mentioned below, "Action" was bred by Susan Fuller, the daughter of Percy Fuller who raised and showed Morgans in the 1950s out of his farm in Westhampton, MA. After a somewhat "memorable" career as a show horse, Action eventual was partnered with dressage trainer Janet Moulding.*

*Ten Penny Action was a 15.2 hand, black horse with only a tiny white star—not particularly striking in appearance, according to Moulding. However, what he lacked in appearance he more than made up for in heart, talent and personality.*

**STANG:** *How did you come to own Ten Penny Action?*

**MOULDING:** *Action was bred by Susan Fuller, daughter of Percy Fuller. The Fuller family were local Morgan breeders and horse trainers/dealers. Action was out of Doverdale Bambi-Jean [Doverdale Bambi Jean was bred by W. Irving Dun of West Dover, Vermont. She was by Emerald's Cochise, a popular Midwest sire at the time. Bambi-Jean was later sold to Percy Fuller, who kept her for a few months before selling her to John McLean of Ten Penny Acres in Gill, MA—BVS]. The stallion was Applevale Voyager, a classy and very successful show horse of the time [Applevale Voyage was also a foundation sire at Phil and Jennifer Dubois' Otterbrook Farm—BVS].*

*I broke Action to saddle at the end of his three-year-old year for Susan, but don't remember anything exceptional about the experience. Susan then sold him early in his four-year-old year, and he had several owners until he was about seven years old.*

*(continued on [Page 2](#))*



Ten Penny Action and Janet Moulding

October, 2013 Volume 3,  
Number 4

### News and Reminders:

- *Deadline for submitting scores for the MDA Awards of Excellence is [November 1st](#).*
- *Check out [Page 11](#) for **new Classified** listings—they are growing!*
- *Find us on Facebook!* 
- *It is time to think about re-newing your **MDA membership for 2014**. Fill out the hand application form on [Page 14](#) or renew on the [website](#)! It is that easy!*
- *Upcoming events:*
  - \* USDF Convention  
December 4-8, 2013
  - \* AMHA Convention  
February 20-22, 2014
- *MDA saddle patches, magnets and key chains are still available. See [Page 8](#) for*

---

### Inside this issue:

<i>Grand Prix Morgans— Ten Penny Action</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>MDA Member Spotlight</i>	<i><a href="#">4</a></i>
<i>Encore at Devon</i>	<i><a href="#">5</a></i>
<i>MDA Scholarship Report</i>	<i><a href="#">8</a></i>
<i>Body Condition Scoring</i>	<i><a href="#">9</a></i>
<i>Classifieds</i>	<i><a href="#">11</a></i>

---

## Spotlight on the Members



Hollyhock Bella Luna and  
Brenda Thoma

*I am a new member of MDA and a relative newcomer to the charms of the Morgan breed as well. In preparation for the retirement of my former competitive horse (an Anglo-Arab) I looked for a horse with a determined work ethic, a competitive spirit, sound conformation and a pretty face. Of course a Morgan was the perfect answer. **Hollyhock Bella Luna** is the result of a careful breeding program that focuses on traditional Morgans, mainly from the Brunk and Government lines. This adorable, cookie-loving and opinionated little mare has revitalized my middle aged life, leading me to compete in horse trials (eventing) and dressage.*

*While she is a bold and thoughtful jumper, "**Eclipse**" seems to really enjoy the mental work involved in dressage training. We began showing at rated dressage shows just this year, completing eleven tests at Training and First Level which yielded rewarding scores. Our final score of 75% served as a clear indicator that it is time to move on to a solid First Level next year, with a possible Second Level test if I can convince her not to skip the walk in the simple change where she occasionally substitutes her own version of a flying change.*

*More important than the shows and scores though, is the joy that she brings to me every day. We make the most of fall in Minnesota on trail rides in the woods and participate in weekly dressage and jumping lessons in the indoor arena during the winter months, all in preparation for the brief, but action packed summers.*

*I am lucky enough to have boarded for the past seven years at the same barn and have developed so many important and close-knit relationships there. Although **Eclipse** has only been there with me for the past few years, her small size and huge personality make her a popular barn mascot and have a strong and lasting hold on my heart. I am looking forward to being an active member of the MDA; competing next year and enjoying many years of good friendships and happy rides with Eclipse. ~ **Brenda Thoma***

*I was first introduced to the Morgan breed ten years ago. I had begun taking lessons and had about 3 months of weekly lessons under my belt, when a family friend offered to introduce my mom, sister and myself to some friends of theirs who raised horses--Jack and Nadette Stang of Gladheart Farm. We came out and were offered the chance to ride Jack's gelding "**Bert**" (Bulo Dakota King), who seemed like a friendly, willing, older gentleman. I was pretty sure that **Bert** was going to be easy, maybe even boring, so my pride took a major hit when I couldn't get him to stop trotting. Apparently, I did not know the correct cue to ask him to slow down because, no matter what I did, he continued trotting around the arena. Neither speeding up, nor slowing down, but patiently circled the arena over and over waiting for me to tell him it was ok to stop.*

*Despite such an inauspicious beginning, Nadette and Jack have been letting me ride their horses ever since. Over the years I have played with the foals and helped start horses under saddle and occasionally take my "projects" to clinics and shows. Out on the trail we braved alpacas, coyotes, overly enthusiastic photographers pitching rocks into the brush to get a "perky" photo (that would be Nadette), even semi-trucks following us down logging roads. If I needed a stand-in to replace a gimpy horse in show or at a clinic **Bert**, then later a mare named **Gladheart Sonata** (Whippoowill Newmoon x Rogue's Midnight Melody), were my first choices. Competing in 3-day Eventing and then dressage, I rode Thoroughbreds and Warmbloods, but always had the most fun (and got the most attention) when I was on a "non-traditional" breed.*

*A year ago, I bought a two-year-old colt, **Gladheart Charbonneau** (Whippoowill Aristocrat x Gladheart Sonata). "**Bo**" personifies many of the qualities that I generally attribute to Morgans. He catches everyone's eye with his good looks and friendly personality, and is everyone's favorite at his new barn. He is playful, confident, and easy to train and is willing to try whatever I think is a good idea (except bathing, that creates some sulking). Everything else that has been introduced has been accepted with equanimity. Saddle, bit, side reins, and long lining are all regarded with curiosity for a moment, and then he's ready to move to the next step.*

*Although working with **Bo** is productive and moving along at a nice pace, that doesn't make it easy for me. **Bo** has high standards for what he considers fair to himself—100% consistency and correctness in my training almost meet his criteria! He will merrily continue to do his work his way if I don't communicate my way with enough clarity and persuasiveness. Luckily, I have an excellent trainer in Kim Barker who has a lot of experience with the Morgan breed, with **Bo's** bloodlines, and with me. Dressage will eventually be our focus. However I expect that he'll be an excellent trail partner, a blast on the beach, and a ton of fun at whatever we decide to try our hand at. ~ **Meghan Megowan***



Gladheart Charbonneau and Meghan Megowan

## Encore at Devon— The 2013 Dressage at Devon Morgan IBC

By Donna Carlson

My involvement with Morgan horses began in the early 1970s at Cascade Farm in Philadelphia; a Morgan breeding farm whose lines included Whippoorwill, Lippitt, and Flyhawk. There, I learned about riding (saddleseat, western, and huntseat), driving, showing, and breeding Morgan horses.



2013 Dressage at Devon Morgan IBC Champion Middlecreek Signature with owner/breeder Donna Carlson

Throughout the years, I have worked with many other breeds including Thoroughbreds, warmbloods and Quarter Horses, but I was unable to purchase my own horse until early 2000; which of course I wanted to be a Morgan, but instead trained and showed client horses. By that time, I was riding dressage and always thought that the Morgan would excel in this discipline. So, in 2002, I bought HD Franklin (“Ben”) and Charlestown Charlie’s Angel (“Charlie”).

Although Charlie was eventually donated to a local therapeutic riding academy, my current mare, CAUM Cameo’s Ellusive (“Camie”) has since presented me with a beautiful colt MiddleCreek Signature, aka “Stoli”, by Statesman’s Signature in 2008 and a gorgeous filly in 2010, MiddleCreek BellaBlu (Bella), by Whippoorwill Aristocrat.

In 2009, through the encouragement of Statesman’s Signature’s owner Marthe Reynolds, I decided to show Stoli at Dressage at Devon (DAD). While I have been a spectator at DAD for many years, I had never shown at DAD itself, but did show at the Devon Show Grounds when the Mid A Morgan Horse Show was hosted at this venue back in the 1970s. The Devon Show Grounds have been in existence since the late

1890s, and Dressage at Devon since 1975. DAD brings top competitors, horses, trainers and judges from across the continent and around the globe together for one of the highest-rated international dressage competitions and the most complete breed show outside of Europe. Olympic medalist Robert Dover calls Dressage at Devon

“the standard by which all American horse shows should be judged”. This year more than 700 horses were expected to compete with an anticipated 35,000 spectators. Walking around the show grounds you can pass and say hello to riders and trainers such as George Williams, Betsy Steiner, JJ Tate, Chris Hickey, Scott and Suzanne Hassler and more. So, one can imagine the nerves I was feeling when considering bringing my little Morgan colt to DAD.

My goal was to get Stoli in the trailer for the first time, off the farm for the first time, have him have a good experience showing, and hope that he not kill anyone in the process of all that while taking him to one of the most prestigious Dressage shows on the East Coast. So, Stoli blew me away when he handled himself like a true champ on the show grounds, in his stall, and in the show ring. And I was absolutely stunned when among four outstanding Morgan competitors, including the almighty Statesman’s Signature (“Sigi”), that Stoli’s name was called as the winner. I came out of the ring crying, and told my daughter that this was the happiest day of my life (she was not amused!). But seriously, it was then that I knew that I had a star in my hands.

(continued on [Page 6](#))

## 2013 MDA Scholarship Reports

*By Kristi Haines*



*Fenway Park and Kristie Haines*

The Morgan Dressage Association's training scholarship has afforded me the opportunity to train under Gretchen DeMone, an "L" judge's program graduate, USDF certified instructor training through second level and USDF silver medalist. My horse, Fenway Park (Carl) and I had been competing at Second level in both breed and open competitions when we began working with Gretchen. Carl is a "hot" horse so tension, lack of throughness and connection had been recurring issues in our training. In order to improve and advance levels, I knew we needed help to overcome those road blocks.

Gretchen's systematic approach to the training pyramid, knowledge of theory and its application as well as her understanding of the horse as an individual has been invaluable to me. The onset of our training consisted of weekly lessons which maximized information exchange and formed the picture of where we were and what we needed to improve upon. Through lateral work and a series of gymnastic exercises we have increased Carl's carrying power, suppleness, influenced his stride and changed his muscling. The most remarkable change has been Carl's attentiveness and willingness to work now that he understands what is being asked of him. A clear communication between Carl and I has been established; now each work session has a clear purpose and builds upon the previous day's work.

The horse that I am riding today has advanced far from where he was six months ago, he is physically and mentally prepared for collected work and the challenges that lay ahead. We continue to train with Gretchen and I look forward to improving as a rider and strengthening the relationship with my horse. Thank you to the Morgan Dressage Association for celebrating the Morgan and promoting advancement through the scholarship program.



### THE "MDA STORE" IS NOW OPEN!



Like the MDA's logo and colors? Want to promote Morgans in dressage? We've got the perfect solution! The Morgan Dressage Association now has several items available for purchase that display our logo.

Items include:

- ◆ Key chains (\$5)
- ◆ Car Magnets (8 x 11 inches; you know, those cool signs that you can stick on the sides of your car and/or horse trailer. Logo is in black/gold on a white background) (\$14)
- ◆ Saddle Pad Patches (\$12)

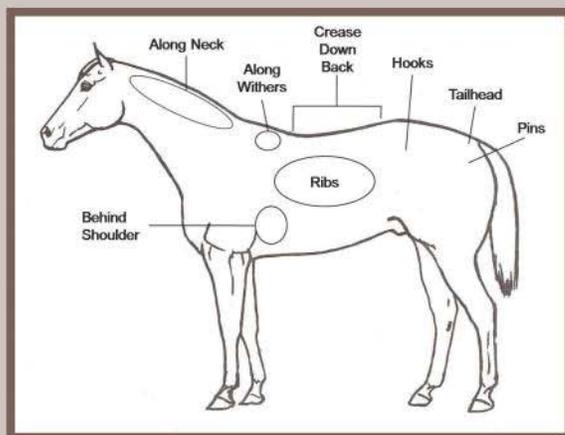
Postage and handling is \$2.00 for patches/key chains, and \$3.00 for car magnets. Contact [dj@djwold.com](mailto:dj@djwold.com) for more details and to order yours today!

*Regular body condition scoring helps keep your horse in good health. A video with Dr. Bob Coleman of the University of Kentucky (<http://youtu.be/bq0ZXnSlSNO>; The Horse.com) and the Mississippi State University Extensions Service have provided information to help us evaluate this aspect of our horses health.*

## Body Condition Scoring in Horses

Body condition scoring (BCS) is a method of estimating the amount of fat on a horse's body. The method was developed at Texas A&M University as a way for nutritionists, veterinarians, horse farm managers, and horse owners to evaluate nutritional status. The degree of condition is rated on a scale of one to nine. The rating is based on palpation and visual assessments of fat deposits. The areas evaluated are illustrated at right. The ideal BCS for a given horse will depend on the stage of production and should range between four and seven. A BCS of four would be expected in horses in heavy race training. A BCS of five is recommended for growing and riding horses. The BCS of six is ideal for mares going into the breeding season. Before foaling, mares should have ample body fat reserves with a BCS of seven.

The evaluator should understand equine digestive function when making management decisions to change body condition. Make feeding changes gradually, as the digestive system of the horse is sensitive to changes in the diet. Horses are prone to colic or founder when abrupt changes are made.



Gradual increases or decreases in feed consumption are recommended to control weight gain or loss. It should take at least 8 weeks to increase BCS in a horse by one level safely. For a horse between 14 and 15 hands tall, the difference in body weight from one BCS to another is between 100 and 165 pounds. When increasing body condition in horses,

select feeds that have a greater energy density. Providing feeds with greater energy density can increase body weight without adding feed volume.

To decrease body condition, the horse should eat a diet that has a lower energy density. Horses eating a lesser quality forage to decrease body condition should also

have a vitamin and mineral supplement to maintain good health. Feeding concentrates that are formulated specifically for horses will ensure that the nutrients are balanced to meet the needs of the horse.

Reference: Henneke, DR, GD Potter, JL Kreider, and BF Yeates. 1983. Relationship between condition score, physical measurements and body fat percentage in mares. *Equine Vet J.* 15:371-382.

Mississippi State  
UNIVERSITY  
**Extension**  
SERVICE

### Key Points

When evaluating horses to estimate body condition, keep these points in mind:

- Horses that are fed free-choice hay will often develop a "hay belly." When foals are weaned, they will also develop a prominent belly. This is from gut distention and should not be confused with fat.
- Pregnant mares in late gestation will develop an enlarged belly as the fetus continues to grow inside the mare. It is important to know if the mare is pregnant so that you can meet her nutrient requirements.
- Not all horses are proportioned equally. Horses that are tall and long will look leaner than horses that are short and compact.
- Horses will grow longer hair in the winter and often times appear fatter than they truly are.

(continued on [Page 10](#))



Morgan Dressage  
association

*Dedicated to promoting and supporting Morgan Horses in dressage.*

## Membership Form

Membership year runs from January 1 – December 31. Please print out this form, fill it out, send it and a check to: Morgan Dressage Association, Karin Weight, 1069 N. Geneva Rd., Provo, UT 84601. Checks should be made payable to MDA.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Farm name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please list family members participating in MDA programs and note birthdate of any junior young rider members.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

Please check your membership category:

Renewal  New  Jr/Young Rider \$10  Individual \$25  Family/Farm \$35  Patron \$100

Check all that apply: Rider  Professional Trainer  Breeder  Enthusiast

Please indicate if you are willing to help the organization by donating your time and skills. (Check all that are of interest to you.)

Newsletter  Membership directory/advertising  Write educational articles  Awards coordination

Breed promotion  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Professional/Breeder additional information to be included in the 2011 MDA Membership Directory and on MDA web site for an additional \$15 charge. Up to 30 words describing your services and/or program/stallion (Use additional sheet if necessary).

Category (Check all that apply): Trainer/instructor  Breeder/Stock for sale

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Web site url for listing in directory and link on MDA web site \_\_\_\_\_

*If you've already renewed and want your information/listing to be included in the next directory and on the web site now, just send the bottom portion of this form with a check for \$15 and mark: "Already renewed" at the top.*

**Please be sure your email address is clear and legible; all newsletters and MDA Extensions will be sent via email.**

Please make your checks payable to MDA and return this form with membership dues to:  
Morgan Dressage Association • c/o Karin Weight • 1069 N. Geneva Rd. • Provo, UT 84601