



NEWSLETTER

December 2005

Volume I Issue II

Michigan Equine Partnership
235 North Pine Street
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Phone: 517.372.1500
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www.miequine.com
a 501(c)6 Non-Profit Organization

ANNOUNCING:

MICHIGAN EQUINE PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL STALLION SEASON AUCTION

For complete Stallion and Jack Information Visit our Website at:

WWW.MIEQUINE.COM

ONLINE BIDDING BEGINS NOW THROUGH

JAN. 12th at 4p.m.

LIVE PHONE BIDS WILL TAKE PLACE JAN. 12th

FROM 2-4p.m.. ALL BIDS END AT 4p.m. JAN. 12th.

PRE-REGISTRATION AND SIGN-IN ONLINE AT:

MIEQUINE.COM

AUCTION SPONSORS:

MICHIGAN GREAT LAKES INTERNATIONAL

Michigan's Largest & Finest Draft Horse Event

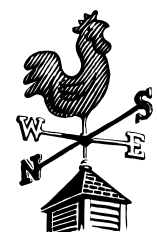


ANNOUNCING NEW MEMBER BENEFIT!

MICHIGAN EQUINE PARTNERSHIP MEMBERS

NOW ELIGIBLE FOR

10% OFF AUTO OWNERS POLICIES



Our Mission

Through an energized, broad based, grassroots coalition representing all facets of the equine industry, the Michigan Equine Partnership (MEP) is committed to increasing public awareness and support, influencing public policy to strengthen the industry, and heightening recognition of the economic opportunities and value of the Michigan equine industry.

Our Vision

To be a leader, a partner, and the voice of the Michigan equine industry.

Our Philosophy

Providing leadership through commitment, empowerment, and accountability. Building partnerships with respect, trust, cooperation. Responding to the needs of the equine industry with information, assessment, innovation, communication, and coordination of services.

Our Values

We are a proud non-profit organization of advocacy through integrity, collaboration and member-driven cooperative spirit.

**MICHIGAN EQUINE PARTNERSHIP
MICHIGAN HORSE COUNCIL
AND MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
PARTNER TO CONDUCT A
STATE-WIDE SURVEY**

Equine Survey is Underway!

At the 2005 Michigan State University/Michigan Equine Industry Meeting, the Michigan horse industry emphatically agreed on the need for a new Michigan equine survey that emphasizes the economic impact and land usage of horses in Michigan. This unified voice led to MSU researchers being awarded \$42,500 from the Animal Industry Initiative Coalition(AIIC), Michigan's animal agriculture research, teaching and Extension initiative at MSU, to begin building the frame work for the survey.

This granting effort was supported by many horse industry groups including the Michigan Horse Council, Michigan Equine Practitioners Association and Michigan Equine Partnership. Other letters of support came from township and county planners and parks officials, who expressed a need for current information on the size and needs of the equine industry that is affected by their decisions. An extensive equine survey has not been conducted in Michigan since 1996.

Mary Rossano, MSU epidemiologist and a leading researcher on the survey, says the survey will be used to estimate the number of horses, ponies, donkeys and mules in Michigan, where they are located, their ages and representative breeds. The survey will also help identify what purposes people use horses for and how horse properties are zoned.

Information collected from the survey will be useful in determining the equine industry's contribution to the state's economy. This information can then be presented to local and state government officials who make decisions and policies on zoning and land use, trail access, tax laws and other issues affecting horse owners.

Currently, USDA scientists are constructing a frame work for the survey. They will be using mailing lists provided by many partnering Michigan equine organizations. Horse industry representatives will be working with MSU researchers to develop survey questions that will be the most beneficial for determining economic impact and aid in land use issues that affect the Michigan equine industry. Questionnaires will be mailed to more than 4,000 people involved in the state's horse industry next spring.

While the survey is well underway, additional funding needs to be secured for the survey development, delivery and subsequent publications of important information. The Michigan Horse Council (MHC) and organizational members have rallied behind the survey efforts by pledging over \$5,000 in financial support. President of the MHC Janet Washington says, "A comprehensive inventory of the equine industry will provide information the Michigan Horse Council needs to prioritize its program and advocacy efforts, as well as to accurately articulate the significant economic impact of the industry on local communities and the state as a whole."

The Michigan Equine Partnership (MEP) is working with MSU researchers in dialogue with state legislators for support of the survey efforts. Val Vail-Shirey, executive director of the MEP states, "Michigan Equine Partnership believes that it is important for all equine interest to work together to successfully engage and complete an equine survey for the state of Michigan. The equine industry is a large agri-tourism benefit to Michigan, yet it has been many years since a survey has been conducted. The value of securing accurate industry economic data is important not only to the industry but to Michigan and its communities."

We encourage you to participate in the survey for the reasons listed above, when it is issued. If you have any questions or comments regarding the survey, do not hesitate to call.

NORTH AMERICAN HORSE SPECTACULAR DRAWING WINNERS

Thank you to all who stopped by the Michigan Equine Partnership booth at the North American Horse Spectacular on November 11-13.

Congratulations to the drawing recipients:

Branden Barber, AlleganHorse Statute (Tom's Western Store)

Laura Braun, Ann ArborHalter & Lead Rope (Tom's Western Store)

Sheila Haden, FlushingTraining Rope (Donated by Cecil Darnell)

Scott Johnson, Hazel Park.....One Year Membership to Michigan Equine Partnership

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Legislative Watch by State Representative Joe Hune

Some recent developments in the Legislature will be welcome news to Michigan's agriculture and horse-breeding industries.

On Nov. 1, the state House approved a legislative package designed to clarify what is considered agricultural property, which will allow certain agriculture operations to qualify for property tax exemptions.

State Reps. Dave Hildenbrand, John Stahl and I introduced the measures earlier this year to address an industry that is changing rapidly. Laws implemented years ago must be modified to address the realities facing today's agriculture and horse breeding and boarding industries.

House Bill 4072, sponsored by Hildenbrand, specifically defines breeding, raising, training or boarding horses as agricultural operations. Current law does not include these types of agricultural businesses under the definition of agriculture property.

HB 4271, which I sponsored, will redefine raising livestock to include raising equine and cervidae, which includes deer, elk and moose.

This package of bills helps both traditional farms and non-traditional farms, which have grown in number in recent years and changed Michigan's agriculture landscape. Under this package, these types of operations, as well as traditional farms, will prosper.

"This legislation will help those in the horse industry take advantage of the same tax exemptions that most other agriculture operations enjoy," said Hildenbrand, R-Lowell. "Agriculture is a difficult business and government can help by lowering burdensome taxes wherever possible."

House Bill 4468, introduced by Stahl, allows game bird hunting preserves to be listed as an agriculture property, enabling them to qualify for the 18-mill qualified agricultural exemption.

"The agriculture industry has branched out in many positive ways, and state law must reflect these dynamic changes to help strengthen our economy," said Stahl, R-North Branch. "Game hunting preserves are an emerging trend in Michigan and they should have the opportunity to benefit from any tax exemptions given to others in the agriculture industry."

The package now heads to the Senate for consideration.

I wanted to provide you with an update on an important bill I sponsored that will be welcome news for horsemen's organizations and horse racing fans throughout the state.

House Bill 4260 would require the money to be distributed to certified state horsemen's organizations and could be used for purses or breeder's awards at licensed horse tracks or fairs. Under the bill, the licensee would continue to retain 50 percent of the funds from outs, but would be required to distribute the remaining 50 percent to the certified horsemen's organization with which the licensee has a contract.

This is a good bill for the state since it gives a much-needed boost to Michigan's horse-racing industry.

The Legislative Watch is equine related legislation for you to be aware of. At appropriate times you may want to contact your legislators to inform them of your opinion on particular bill numbers. You can access the complete history and current status of the listed legislation by going to the Michigan Equine Partnership website at www.miequine.com

Legislative Watch

HB = House Bill

HJR = House Joint Resolution

SB = Senate Bill

Senator

Representative

P.O. Box 30036

P.O. Box 30014

HB 4290 Rep. Hummel

HB 4271 Rep. Hune

HB 4260 Rep. Hune

HB 4492 Rep. Hune

HB 4376 Rep. Whitmer

HJR B Rep. Hildenbrand

HB 4366 Rep. Caul

HB 4072 Rep. Hildenbrand

HB 4073 Rep. Hildenbrand

Calendar of Events

	December—January 12, 2006	February 24-26, 2006
December 7	Michigan Equine Partnership Online (miequine.com) Stallion Service Auction	Mid-Michigan Horse Show Birch Run Expo Center Birch Run, MI
MI Agri-Business Legislative Breakfast	Now thru Jan. 12 Phone bidding: Jan. 12 2 - 4p.m.	April 7, 2006
Sponsored by Michigan Equine Partnership & MI Great Lakes International Draft Horse Show, INC.	March 10-12, 2006	Michigan Equine Partnership Annual Membership Meeting and Dinner
Radisson Hotel, Lansing	Stallion Exhibition MSU Pavilion East Lansing, MI	

STALLIONS AND JACKS FOR AUCTION

(continued)

COMPLETE LISTING ON MIEQUINE.COM

	BREED	NAME / D.O.B.	OWNER	STANDARD FEE	MINIMUM BID
	Quarter Horse	Blue Moon Man 5-2-19-82	Geri Olson Grayling, MI	\$750	\$375
	Quarter Horse	Bubblin N Firewater 4-23-2001	Geri Olson & Kim Fricke Grayling, MI	\$1000	\$500
	Arabian	Magic VF	Michigan State University	\$1500	\$750
	Morgan	TVM I promise 1981	David & Caren Earehart South Lyon, MI	\$1500	\$750
	Tennessee Walker	Stormy's High Roller 5-23-99	LeSanSha Percherons Millington, MI	\$400	\$200
	Percheron	Sterling's Kong 5-12-96	Trail Cross Farm Charlotte, MI	\$300	\$150
	Standardbred	Tulane 1994	Gregg Marra Pebble Creek Farm Durand, MI	\$1500	\$750
	Standardbred	Ciro Ambrosio	Gary Curtis Surbrook Farms	\$1000	\$500
	Standardbred	To be Named	Karen Greengard Bonely Farms	\$	\$
	Paint (Overo)	Dontcha Luv Magic 1991	Brian White Oklahoma City, OK	\$1000	\$500
	Paint (Overo)	TS Quincy's Full Moon	Brian White Oklahoma City, OK	\$300	\$150
	Hackney	Win-Dee Lane Rex 5-5-1995	Henry Detweiler Vermontville, MI	\$300	\$150
	Thoroughbred	Touch Gold 1994	Adena Springs Midway, Kentucky Adenastallions.com	\$20,000 No guarantee \$50,000 Normal fee w/guarantee	\$10,000 No guarantee
	Thoroughbred	Golden Missile 1988	Adena Springs Midway, Kentucky Adenastallions.com	\$10,000 No guarantee \$25,000 Normal fee w/guarantee	\$5000 No guarantee
	Thoroughbred	Crafty Friend 1993	Hopewell Farms Midway, KY Hopewellfarm.com	\$7500	\$4000
	Thoroughbred	David Copperfield 1997	Hopewell Farm Midway, KY	\$5,000	\$2,500
	Thoroughbred	Najran 1999	Hopewell Farm Midway, KY	\$7,500	\$4,000
	Thoroughbred	Royal Anthem 1995	Hopewell Farm Midway, KY	\$10,000	\$5,000

STALLIONS AND JACKS FOR AUCTION (continued)

COMPLETE LISTING ON MIEQUINE.COM

	Thoroughbred	Skip Away 1993	Hopewell Farm Midway, KY	\$15,000	\$7,500	
	Thoroughbred	Volponi 1998	Hopewell Farm Midway, KY	\$10,000	\$5,000	
	Thoroughbred	Northern Spur 1991	True North Farm Versailles, KY	\$3,500	\$1,750	
	Thoroughbred	Predecessor 1987	Irish Meadows Farm Dimondale, MI	\$500	\$250	
	Thoroughbred	Great Allegiance	Arnold Farms Hillsdale, MI	\$1000	\$500	
	Min. Jack	J & E Ethan Out of LN Nicodemus	Linda & Doug Brown Portland, MI	\$	\$	
	Jack	Lucky Three Excelsior	Donald Schmucker Milford, IN	\$	\$	
	Jack	Wendell	Bill Baumer Richmond, IN	\$200	\$100	

www.miequine.com

Check out our web site for information on the All Breed Stallion Access Auction:



Michigan Equine Partnership

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