

DELAWARE EQUINE NEWS

Vol. 10 No. 6

www.delawareequinecouncil.org or .com

December 2011

What is Equine Thermography?

*By Val D'Ambrosio,
Certified Thermographer,
EquineIR™ Certified Technician,
Owner: IRTech-Maryland*

Equine thermography also known as infrared (IR) imaging, is a safe, non-contact, non-destructive diagnostic tool that can provide early detection and prevention of injuries in tendons and ligaments, back and spine issues, find inflammation of the hoof, nerve damage, abscesses and bruises. It is also a valuable tool during a pre-purchase exam, for post event imaging and to detect saddle fitting issues working with your trainer and a professional saddle fitter.

While veterinarians first locate a problem through observation or palpation, IR imaging is a valuable diagnostic tool that can show injuries such as soft tissue that is stressed, two weeks before the affected tissue becomes damaged. Unlike an x-ray which shows anatomical changes, thermography shows physiological changes, which means it shows changes in circulation in soft tissue which are readily detected with infrared imaging.

An IR technician requires a specialized infrared high definition camera that detects thermal patterns and heat across the surface of an object. Numerous hours of instruction and testing on infrared theory are required to first become a Certified Thermographer. This prerequisite training must be completed prior to learning the detailed specific imaging protocol to become an EquineIR™ Certified Technician. (EquineIR™ is an International Network of Certified Thermographers who are trained for high quality equine IR imaging.)

First introduced to the horse industry 40 years ago, infrared imaging was a misunderstood and cumbersome technology producing

(Continued on next page)



Maghnus Z 2011- Region 15 Reserve Champion HA Hunter Pleasure Jr. Horse, US National Champion HA Halter S/H 4-6 Year-Old and Champion HA Halter S/H AAOTH Reserve Supreme National Champion HA Gelding. Maghnus Z was bred and born in Delaware. (See story on following pages) Photo provided by Jennifer Baker Wilson



Delaware Equine Council Has Two New Directors

At left, new DEC Director Wayne Nebel rides his horse, Shiloh.



At right, new DEC Director Carol Seiler (in the left side of the horse drawn cart) takes a ride with a friend.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

There is a lot going on in the next month or two, and DEC is on top of it! We are entering the holiday season and its a time we like to spend with family and friends. In our issue we have an article with some tips to help combat winter blues. In our letter of concern we face the issue of child labor laws that could effect how farmers and owners



of farms operate with or without the use of teenagers. We urge you to voice your concerns and opinions to the email address provided in the article. On the cover, you will see Magnus Z An Arabian Horse who was bred by Jennifer Wilson Baker. He won 2011 Arabian and Half Arabian National Championship. We are proud that Magnus Z was bred and born in Delaware.

DEC is looking for new sponsors for their directory. If you are a new business owner and would like your business represented in DE Yellow Book, the only equine centered publication covering the whole state, please read the information so that you don't miss out! Also, we are gathering silent/live auction donations for the Scholarship Banquet. If you would like to donate please contact April @aprlmurray@gmail.com.

Also, speaking of Scholarships...the deadline is approaching for future recipients..get your applications in..they are located in the Directory, and online at www.delawareequinecouncil.com or .org. Click on Scholarship Application.

DEC will not be meeting in December, but will meet again on January 16, 2012, at the Harrington Library, Harrington, DE.

It will be a year since I joined DEC. I would love to hear your thoughts and feedback regarding the newsletter. You can contact me via email at aprlmurray@gmail.com. I am always looking for new content and fresh ideas.

On behalf of myself, and DEC, we would like to wish you, your family, and of course, your equine friend, a wonderful and peaceful holiday season.

Happy Holidays!

April Murray, DEC Secretary and Editor

President's Message

The Delaware Equine Council provided me the opportunity to attend the Coalition of State Horse Council's annual conference on November 4-6 in Madison Wisconsin.



The conference provided a unique opportunity to gain insight into activities other state horse councils are involved in as well as attending some very informative presentations.

Several of the presentations will be reviewed in future newsletters.

Many of you have received our letter of invitation to advertise in the 2012 Directory. This is a great opportunity for you to get the word out on your business/activity.

DEC has a great new trailer to haul all our displays, handouts, etc. It is also a wonderful advertisement media for DEC. Look for it at future events!

Enjoy the late fall/winter trail riding. It's the best time of the year to get out and enjoy your equine friend!

Stan Vonasek, President, DEC

Equine Thermography

(Continued from page 1)

low quality images. With significant camera advancements in the past three years, IR imaging is a viable option to help horse owners, and those working in the industry, detect issues through whole horse imaging.

Infrared imaging is safe and emits no radiation to the horse or handler. The procedure requires no sedation or anesthesia. Infrared imaging can be performed at your barn, veterinarian's office or in any location by an EquineIR™ Certified Technician. Full imaging reports are then submitted to Dr. Joanna Robson DVM, a specialist in equine thermography for interpretation, who has diagnosed over 10,000 images. Certified Journeyman Farrier, Mike DeLeonardo, Jr, who has been inducted into the International Horseshoeing Hall of Fame, is consulted for all lameness issues. Together these two professionals have joined forces for diagnosis, through the InterpretIR Network for EquineIR™ Certified Technicians. Having a pony that was diagnosed with chronic laminitis, I wanted to find a way to help her before her before reoccurring laminitis demanded stall rest. I was amazed how infrared imaging can show inflammation in her hooves well before feeling heat or before feeling pounding digital pulses. I therefore worked to learn this exciting technical skill to image horses so others can help keep them sound, healthy and happy. This technology helps save money since I can immediately call my local vet and farrier, with an EquineIR diagnosed report to help them get my pony back on track faster and relieve her pain before a serious hoof issue occurs.

EquineIR™ imaging is very effective in localizing mystery lameness and as an injury prevention tool for sport, race horses as well as for your beloved recreational horse or pony. There is no other tool on the equine market presenting full horse imagery at a low and reasonable cost.

2011 Delaware Equine Council Officers:

President, Stan Vonasek 302-684-3966
Vice President, Peggy Koster 302-629-5233
Acting Secretary, April Murray 302-735-8540
Treasurer, Kim Schwartz 302-492-8502

2011 Delaware Equine Council Directors:

Paula Barto 302-629-5233 hopeland3@gmail.com
Ken Horeis 302-398-8200 kenhoreis@yahoo.com
Kay Mildon 410-543-1527. MomMomClydesdale@aol.com
Pam Nebel 240-994-2220 pnebel@aol.com
Wayne Nebel 240-778-3241 wnebel@aol.com
Carol Seiler 443-466-5043 cseiler_14@hotmail.com

DEC: ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scholarship Awards Banquet

This event is in the planning stages. We are reaching out to sponsors and council members, asking for donations for the Silent Auction and Live Auction. If you or your small business would like to donate, please contact committee member April, at aprlmurray@gmail.com to discuss donation.

For example: The Delaware Equine Council is pleased that Eclipse Award Winning jockey, Ramon Dominguez, continues to support our scholarship program by making a donation to our auction — a 2012 Jockey Calendar featuring many of the top jockeys in racing today, including Zenyatta's jockey, Mike Smith; recent Kentucky Derby winning jockeys John Velazquez, Calvin Borel and Edgar Prado (of Barbaro fame), and Ramon himself. The calendar is already autographed by 6 of these jockeys, so mark this down as a must for the auction and start saving your money now so you can be in the bidding. Ramon has been a real friend to the Council: this is your opportunity to show your appreciation.

Scholarship Committee

We would like to remind youth looking for scholarships to fill out your Scholarship application and get it in by Dec. 31, 2011. Please visit www.delawareequinecouncil.com or [.org](http://www.delawareequinecouncil.org); click on DEC Scholarship for more information, or go to the back of the Directory for an application.

Directory News

The Directory Committee has been busy contacting members and updating information for its listings. We are also looking for new ads to fill our pages. If you are a new business and want to be represented in our Directory, speak to Paula Barto, or go to www.delawareequinecouncil.com, and click on directory application, print it out, and send in your information. Deadline for all materials is January 6.

We would like to remind all paid members of DEC, that we are having a friendly contest! Whoever can get the highest dollar amount of new ads, (those business owners that were not in the 2011 publication) will win \$100.00 cash!

Membership Dues are Due!

It's that time of year again, folks, when your membership dues are due! Please consider getting your dues in early this year so that you can benefit from having extra publicity in our newsletter and on our website! A commercial membership is \$30.00; individual, \$10.00, and youth, \$5.00. Once dues are paid, all members are allowed to vote on issues concerning the council. For more information and membership applications, visit our website and click on *membership*. You can also refer to the page in our Directory or in this newsletter for a membership application.

Get Ready For 2012 Delaware Horse Expo!

The 2012 Delaware Horse Expo is scheduled this year for two days!! Clear your schedule and make note of the date: Saturday and Sunday, March 17 and 18. We are excited to inform our members that Tara Jones, of Pieceful Solutions, and Scott Purdum are the headlined instructor/demonstrators for the two days! It is a must see event! Keep your eye out for more information by going to our website.. www.delawareequinecouncil.com or [.org](http://www.delawareequinecouncil.org)!

~ Equine Calendar ~

December

Dec. 10th Delmarva Driving Club - Holiday Party on December 10, Saturday at the Nutter Marvel Museum. Contact Frances Baker at francesbaker65@gmail.com or 302-381-2979.

Dec. 12 & 13th Profiting from a Few Acres: A Risk Management Conference, Sheraton Hotel, Dover, DE

Dec. 11th 10 am INDOOR English/Western Schooling Series, Kershaw Acres, Milton, DE

Dec. 11th & 12th 1 pm Santa arrives by Horse! Sunset Stables, Bear, DE. Sue 302-834-7588,

Dec. 13th 11 am. Frank Chick's Harness Horse Sale (mixed sale), Harrington Raceway. For information or consignments: 302-270-0088; 302-398-4630; fcsale@chicksaddlery.com sunset2261@aol.com, www.sunsetstable.com588

Dec. 18th Christmas Tack/Hay/Horse Auction, Wicked R, Wyoming, Jen or Randy 302-492-3327

January

Jan. 6th LAST DAY FOR INCLUSION IN 2012 DELAWARE EQUINE DIRECTORY

Jan. 15th DDC will be hosting its annual New Driver Safety talk in Hartly DE. Contact Pao Lin Hatch 240 274 6180 or paoball2000@yahoo.com

Jan. 17th Delaware Equine Council Meeting, Harrington Library, Harrington, DE.

Jan, 20th-22nd Maryland Horse Expo

We welcome submissions from our members.

~ Welcome New Members ~

Lori & Cassidy Brown, Milton, DE

Blake and Megan Warnick

Hoofprints, Inc.



On Saturday, Nov 19th, folks were in for a real treat when Scott Purdum and Tara Jones faced off in the arena at Tuckahoe Equestrian Center. This was It also proved to be a "What you can do, I can fo better" contest. During this time, they discussed common issues that horse owners have while riding. What a fabulous duo! Look forward to seeing both Tara and Scott at the Delaware Horse Expo!

Photo courtesy of Malysa Utz

A Lifetime of Arabian Passion:

Producing National Champion Arabian & Half Arabian Show Horses

By: Jennifer Baker Wilson

I have been involved with Arabian horses since I was 9 years old in 1987. I was always a horse crazy little girl, and when my mom married my step dad, who had an Arabian horse breeding and showing farm, it was a dream come true. I started showing halter at age 9 and riding in shows at age 12. My first horse was Khasan, a snow white pure-bred Arabian gelding. Our first years were rocky as we were both young and inexperienced; however, soon we started winning first places in everything from halter to country pleasure and Arabian native costume. By the time I was 16, we had amassed over 100 first places, Regional and East Coast Top 5's and countless championships and year end high point awards. He passed away unexpectedly at the young age of 8 in 1994 and my dreams of attending the Youth Nationals were squashed. The following summer, I started riding another young gelding, and after another rocky start, we also began winning in country pleasure and native costume. When I was 20, I had to give up the horse dream for a few years while making a life of my own.

In April of 2004, the right horse came around at the right price, perhaps not the right time, but I jumped on her anyway and within three weeks, my husband had built, by hand, a pasture and a run in shed and I found myself travelling with a good horse friend all the way to western Michigan to bring her home. The Sweet Rose was an 8 year old Half Arabian mare of impeccable breeding and everything I wanted in a horse.

I decided in the fall of 2005 to begin my breeding program and bred her to a local Magnum Psyche son. Her first foal arrived late May of 2006, a lovely filly named Magnifiq Z, who was sold as a weanling and went on to earn 8 regional and east coast Championships/reserves by the age of 4. Her second foal arrived in 2007, Maghnus Z, sired by Magnum Chall, a Multi National and international champion Magnum Psyche son. Maghnus has exceeded all expectations we could ever have for a lifetime of breeding: by age 4 he has 7 Regional Championships/Reserve Championships, 4 National Championships and 2 Reserve National Championships! Her third foal arrived in 2007, another colt and a full sibling to Magnifiq Z. Although Maglorix Z has yet to be shown at the Class A or regional level, he has COUNTLESS wins and championships in Halter, Most Classic, Most Classic Head, Sport Horse in Hand and Liberty. He is now residing in Kansas City and preparing for his big-time debut next spring. Sweetie's most recent foal was born in 2010, a third colt, Magnifico ZF, by Magnum Psyche. As a weanling, he scored big in Halter, Most Classic Head, Sport Horse In hand and Halter Handling. This year, Zee was the Region 16 unanimous Champion HA Yearling Sweepstakes colt and with his new owner, went on to be named the US Reserve National Champion HA Year-

ling Sweepstakes Colt Sport Horse in Hand. He has a future every bit as bright as Maghnus', if not brighter! We are anxiously awaiting the arrival of Sweetie's next foal, by National Champion Stallion, Mister Magnum. This foal is sure to take the show ring by storm as "she?" will be a hurricane baby- yes, the shipped semen arrived during Hurricane Irene and I hauled Sweetie in the trailer at 10mph through the driving wind and rain to have her bred! A long wait, this one isn't due until August 2nd, but we welcome inquiries and visitors once baby is here!!

We also have on our farm two exquisitely bred pure-bred mares, both of whom we leased out for the breeding season. Each is expecting a foal for their lease-owners by the international sensation stallion, PA Gazsi. Both are due late April/early May, and the foal promise to be amazing. Both mares have had just one foal previously in 2010, so they haven't had the time to build up as impressive a resume as Sweetie has, but give them some time and they are sure to catch right up! They will both be bred this spring for our farm.

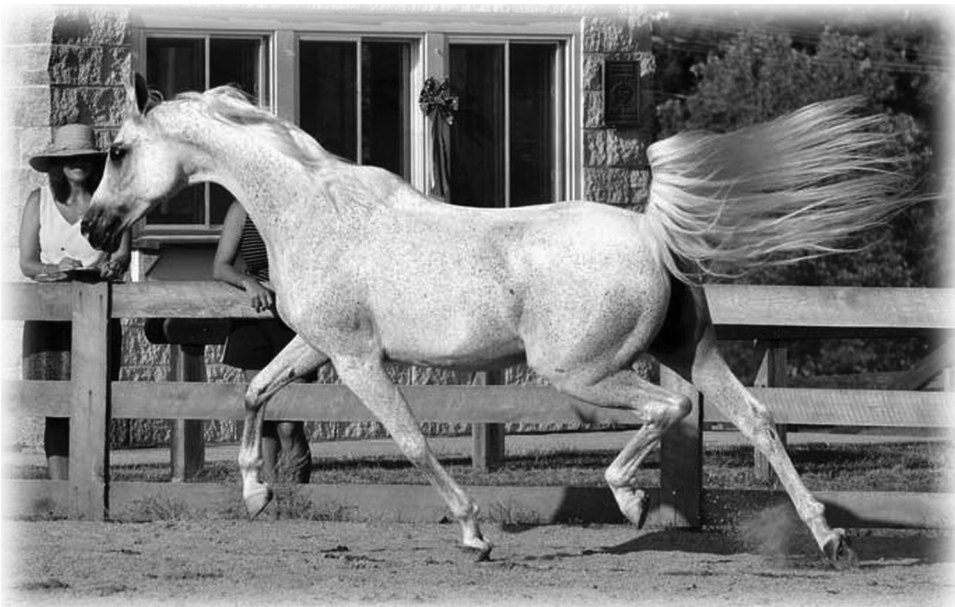
We recently acquired our first stallion in partnership with Stephanie Micek. Eliron Haman is a strongly Egyptian bred stallion sired by the legendary El Hadiyah and out of a VA Sirius daughter. Haman has never been shown or worked with, and next year, at 12 years of age will make his world debut! We hope to show him at Region 15 and East Coast and then stand him at stud beginning in 2013. If you are interested in the spring, we happily welcome visitors!

One may wonder what has made our breeding program so successful so early and what we are doing differently than others. I attribute much to my mares. I carefully selected mares with exceptional seconformation, from the legs up. The legs can be very difficult to correct in future generations and I have tried to nip this problem in the bud by beginning with exceptional. Also, I have not allowed type to be compromised for anything, nor have I improvised on the quality of stallions I have chosen.

There are many fad stallions out there, and for the past several years, I have extensively researched the stallion's offspring to see what traits they seem to throw time and time again. There have been many that are on the "hot" lists right now that I am not interested in because of repetitive faults I have seen passed on such as unacceptably long backs, long/offset canon bones, high set eyes or excessive length from the eye to the muzzle. I think my selectivity of stallions and taking into consideration the faults of the both the mare and stallion and weighing the possible outcomes has been huge in taking our breeding program where it is today. I have also made great sacrifices in today's economy selling foals for far less than
(Story continues)

their value to ensure they will get into a home with a huge trainer and owners who will promote them at the regional and national levels. I have bartered and traded for some stud fees, invested greatly for others, and I have managed to find some exceptional mares at great deals thanks to the economy.

The future is looking bright on our farm, and we welcome you to enjoy the ride with us. If you would like more information on our farm and horses, please visit our website: www.zenith-farms.com. Thanks for your support of this small, local Delaware farm that is getting things done in the big time!



Sweetie, dam to Maghnus Z. Photo provided by Jennifer Baker Wilson.

Delaware Equine Council members and friends are invited to submit material for review and possible inclusion in the newsletter. Please send your materials to April Murray aprlmurray@gmail.com

Did you know . . .

Delaware Equine Council is a member of the **American Horse Council**? Do you know that this entitles YOU to discounts on things like farm insurance and farm products? *Talk to an officer or board member if you have any questions!*



Maghnus Z in action at the Arabian and Half Arabian Championships held in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Photo provided by Jennifer Baker Wilson.

Delaware Equine Council Committees

Do you support the mission of the Delaware Equine Council?

If so, become involved with a committee. The committee chairs are as follows:

- Stan Vonasek Helping Horse, Barn Tours, Scholarships
- Peggy Koster Trails Committee and Membership
- Pam Nebel Perks/Sales/Shirts
- Paula Barto Directory and Magazine Recycle
- April Murray Newsletter, Scholarship Awards Banquet
- Wayne Nebel Public Relations

Beating The Wintertime Blues.....

By: Karen Szcotka, C.Ht, RMT, Professional Horse Trainer



As the change of the seasons approach and the days get shorter and the horses coats get longer it signals that it's just a matter of time before the winter temperatures drop and the snow begins to fly. Horse owners without the use of an indoor arena begin long for their time in the saddle.

Let this new year spring some changes to make the season seem shorter and more productive than seasons of past, with some new attitudes and programs to help you get through the winter and build a new level of confidence within yourself and your horse.

Here are a few suggestions:

Work on strengthening your relationship with your horse. Try some positive visualization with what goals you would like to accomplish. Take some time out each day to journal your thoughts, ideas and what you have done that day to work towards accomplishing those goals. For example: 15 minutes of ground work for 3 days out of the week. Not only will this build your rapport and relationship with your horse it will also strengthen your bond. It will give you some exercise and use that brain power; tap into that creative energy. Not only can we get bored, your horse can get bored too and will enjoy the time spent with you.

Want to build confidence? Find a time and quiet place to relax and focus on your breathing, and just try using some mental creative imagery exercises of mentally visualizing yourself riding with confidence and tackling those confidence issues such as overcoming fears and anxieties with your riding, whether it be with horses shows, lessons or just trail/pleasure riding.

Get more organized! Organize your tack, equipment and supplies.

Turn your stuff into CASH! Not using a saddle, riding jacket, bridle, or blanket anymore? Sell it at a swap meet or Ebay it!

Make lists! Make the most out of your time and create lists of things to do or pack for shows, clinics, and preparing your truck and trailer for the upcoming nicer weather. Practicing good time management will allow more time in the saddle and promoting less stress because you will not be scurrying around 'getting ready'.

Want to get out more? Seek out horse groups, organizations that may host horse related events for the winter months and the upcoming season.

Expand your horse knowledge. Research neighboring stables/farms in your area that are hosting seminars or clinics. Go to your local library and READ.

As the time goes by before you know the Spring season will be around the corner. You will be prepared and ready to welcome the warmer months with a stronger bond with your horse and new refreshed attitude.

Karen Szcotka is a Certified Hypnotherapist, Reiki Master and professional horse trainer located on Long Island, New York. She has assisted many riders in overcoming fears, anxieties, enhancing their confidence to help assist them to their goals. If you would like to contact Karen her email address is: karens.cht@gmail.com or visit her websites: www.karenszcotka.com www.ridingwithspirit.com

BE SURE TO SAVE THESE DATES!

Delaware Horse Expo
Saturday & Sunday, March 17 & 18, 2012
DEC Scholarship Awards Banquet
Saturday, March 10, 2012

Additional Ads May Be Purchased

Must be submitted to Editor by 10th of the month, as a photo-ready copy with check made out to DEC.

Send to April Murray, 2465 McKee Road, Dover, DE 19904, 302-735-8540 email: aprlmurray@gmail.com

Rates are as follows:

Full page	\$175	Half page	\$85
Quarter page	\$65	All ads will be in	black & white

The above advertising prices are for members only. Non-members add a 20% premium.

The Delaware Equine Council would like to remind our Equine Industry Enthusiasts that the **deadline for our Directory is January 6, 2012.**



If you are interested and need more information, visit our web page: www.delawareequinecouncil.com/DECdirectory.htm