



Beverly Patrick of Pennsylvania drives the Hickory Knoll water hazard. Photo by Bob Mischka.

THE Wheelhorse

NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN DRIVING SOCIETY

NL 181

Representing Carriage Driving in the United States and Canada

September 2009

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Intermediate CDE Championship: It's Happening NOW!

By Ellen Marie Ettenger

At the ADS summer meeting August 7-9 in Leesburg, Virginia, the Board of Directors approved the American Driving Society Intermediate Championship—and the competition began immediately!

Scores from any ADS-approved CDE occurring after this year's annual meeting can be used (see explanation below); the cut-off date for scores that count for the first Championship is the last Friday in August 2010.

This Championship is the first of a planned series of awards designed to encourage and inspire drivers of all levels. Although we cannot all compete "head to head" because of the size of our country, these Championships will enable us to measure ourselves against others at the same level of proficiency nationwide. We eventually hope to award a Championship at Preliminary Level as well.

The criteria for the Championships are very simple.

- * You must be a member in good standing.
- * You must be competing at Intermediate level.
- * You must be qualified to compete at Intermediate as per the ADS Rulebook, Article 905.14
- * You can compete with more than one horse/driver combination; however, scores submitted for a Championship must be earned by the same combination.
- * You are automatically entered just by competing.

Awards will be given in the following categories for both ponies and horses: Singles, Pairs, Tandems and Four-in Hands; also Single, Pair and Four-in-Hand VSE. The first awards for Champion and Reserve will be presented at the ADS annual meeting held in conjunction with the World Equestrian Games (Lexington, Kentucky) in 2010. Subsequent awards will be given at the ADS annual meeting.

Here's how it works:

- * Each competitor's two best Intermediate Level scores from ADS-approved CDEs will be added together and the lowest total score will win. (You must use scores from all three phases of each event, i.e. you must have completed without being eliminated or retiring.)
- * If there is a tie, the lowest total marathon score wins.

HDTs and ADTs will not count towards these awards, at least for the present. Happy competing and good luck!

A Message from the Executive Director



On October 28, 2009 the ADS Board of Directors will embark on a technological experiment. They will hold a Board of Directors Meeting electronically,

using an online meeting tool.

This tool, or (as it is sometimes described) Web application, will allow the Board to view other participants' computer desktops on their own computer screen. At the same time, they will also be able to speak to one another through a conference call connection and legally vote on the business of the Society. This type of technology has been used in the business world since its invention in the late 1990s and has become a standard format for remote meetings.

If successful, the October experiment has the potential to open the door for more "real time" communications within the Board, save travel expenses and allow the Board to meet more frequently and efficiently. As a matter of ADS policy, all Board meetings are open to the general membership, and we are working on procedures to make the meetings that are held in an electronic environment open as well. So stay tuned; as soon as those procedures are available, we will let you know how to participate.

The Education Committee has embarked on another electronic project that could make it possible to load short educational presentations on the ADS Web site. All visitors to the site would then be able to download and watch online slide shows covering particular topics such as "How to Properly Fit Your Breaching," at their convenience. These segments include a voice-over and are much higher

The Australian Carriage Driving Society

By Pat Cheatham, ADS Vice President

Last month we covered our driving 'cousins' in Great Britain by looking at both the British Driving Society and the British Horse Driving Trials Association. I thought we'd look to our west this month and see how drivers work together "Down Under."

The Australian Carriage Driving Society (ACDS) started as a club (Australian Driving Society) in New South Wales in 1971. Clubs across Australia affiliated in 1981 to form a national body to represent the sport of carriage driving. The ACDS Patron is HRH Prince Philip, who was a special guest at the Bi Centennial Carriage Driving Championships in Canberra in 1988. The ACDS will mark its 40th anniversary in 2011 and plans are underway to celebrate the occasion with a week of carriage driving activities hosted by the Southern Highland Carriage Driving club in New South Wales.

The aims and objectives of the ACDS are to encourage members of all abilities--through participation at club, state or national level--to learn the art of driving horses or ponies in harness. The ACDS encompasses all forms of carriage driving: show driving, endurance driving, combined driving, dressage, recreational driving, historical driving, navigation drives, park drives, speed cones and good old-fashioned fun days!

Encompassing more than 50 clubs nationally and organized into eight branches (similar to ADS Regions), ACDS membership numbers 1,500 individuals with the majority of members based in New South Wales and Victoria. Clubs vary greatly in size and interests; some are primarily non-competitive recreational clubs while others have more of a show or Combined Driving focus. There are two uniquely Australian carriage driving events: the annual Henry Lawson Pilgrimage Drive and the Fifield Drive. Both are endurance drives covering many kilometers over seven to 10 days with competitors camping out in the Australian bush, enjoying campfire food and entertainment. Sounds like lots of fun.

ACDS offers memberships for an annual fee: Individuals AUS \$115/\$96 USD, Families AUS \$150/\$126 USD, Juniors (16 years and under) AUS \$40/\$34 USD, Officials AUS \$40/ \$34 USD and Associates or non-drivers AUS \$40/\$34 USD. Membership fees are a combination of a federal and state component (which includes insurance, the quarterly ACDS Journal, etc.) and a club component providing club newsletters, as well as schools and seminars on a wide range of driving topics.

For some 30 years the ACDS Journal has been produced for members of the society. This high quality publication is one of the most tangible aspects of the

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quality than we're accustomed to watching on YouTube™. Again, stay tuned for further developments.

Our Web site statistics show that on average, 6,000 unique visitors walk through the front door of our ADS Web site each month. With membership hovering around 3,000, there seem to be a lot of non-members searching for information about the sport--and they are looking to the ADS to provide them with that information. As an organization, we need to continue our efforts to improve our electronic presence; this is the direction in which the world is moving.

Susie Koos-Acker

ADS Fund Update: Events Support ADS Programs

By Jamie O'Rourke

In September The Laurels at Landhope will repeat its very popular Clean Stall Initiative as a fundraiser for ADS programs. Last year The Laurels raised \$3,250 for those programs by building a unique fundraising idea into the weekend: Competitors were relieved of the disagreeable task of stripping stalls at the end of the event in exchange for contributing their stall cleaning deposit to ADS Fund programs. Generous competitors responded enthusiastically, and expectations are high for the reprise of the Clean Stall Initiative September 11-13.

The Clean Stalls program is only one of the efforts by drives, shows, events and individuals to help build a strong future for your sport. Others have included a successful July barbeque in North Carolina, a friendly competition in South Carolina and individual initiatives nationwide to support our World Championship teams--all accomplished under the ADS Fund umbrella. Each of these efforts results from the hard work of members and their enlisted friends; their support is a key to the future success and growth of driving.

If you would like to help the ADS do more for driving through your competition, show or drive and would be willing to develop a fundraising project, we would welcome your assistance. Please contact Jamie O'Rourke for more information about how you can help, 484-832-4365 or ADSFUND@aol.com.
Thank you!



Valerie Dingman driving Eleanor Galagher's pony at Big Sky Camp 2009. Photo by Hannah Howell

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membership cost, providing a service by keeping members abreast of what is happening in carriage driving both in Australia and overseas. Each state produces wonderful newsletters to keep their members informed on state matters. Most clubs produce newsletters containing their local news. This network of literature provides member interaction, gives coverage of driving and encourages communication between members.

Another communication resource is the ACDS federal Web site www.acds.org.au. It provides information to members and interested people through a calendar of events, listing of state contacts, results of events and a forum. The Web site is currently being revamped and will soon be released. Like ADS Regions, some states have their own Web sites, which provide more information relating to local activities and club contacts.

There are a number of connections between ACDS and our organization. ACDS members watch the American driving scene to follow the achievements of Australians Janelle Marshall (driving with Muffy Seaton in South Carolina) and Gavin Robson. Hardy Zantke travelled to Australia earlier this year and provided clinics. The ADS recently agreed to allow the ACDS the use of our Dressage tests. Like the ADS, ACDS produces Handbooks--for show driving, CDEs, dressage, pleasure and endurance events; it trains Officials and recognizes events.

So what's different for ACDS members? Several things. First is the issue of insurance coverage as a part of membership. We found in July that both driving organizations

in Great Britain provide some level of coverage for their members, and the ACDS does the same. Seems to me that we're missing something of value in our ADS membership benefits package.

ACDS runs a registry for harness horses and ponies and you must register any horse with which you want to compete at an ACDS CDE.

Like driving organizations in Great Britain, ACDS licenses Course Designers and Scorers--and goes further by also licensing Cones Judges, Cones Course Designers, Presentation Judges and TPR (Temperature, Pulse and Respiration) Stewards.

ACDS provides Honorariums for its President (\$1000) and Secretary (\$2000), and reimburses some level of out-of-pocket expenses for all their officers.

One very interesting ACDS program is an annual exchange of drivers with New Zealand. Drivers from one country are hosted by the other with the host country supplying the horses, harness and carriages. Drivers and their grooms are hosted for two weeks and drive at two events organized by the host country. Great idea!

Finally, while we're just now getting around to developing a championship for Intermediate Level in Combined Driving (see p. 1 story), ACDS and their clubs host National and State Championships in Combined Driving, Dressage and Show Driving.

Editor's note: The British Horse Driving Trials Web site should have appeared in our July column as www.horse-drivingtrials.co.uk.

Changing the Rules of Our Sport

By Simon Rosenman, Chair, ADS Rules Committee

In recent weeks there has been a great deal of discussion, some confusion and a lot of misinformation circulating about the way ADS rules are created, reviewed and approved. It is every member's right to suggest changes and contribute ideas to enhance and grow our sport. This is how the process works.

Rules are the business of the American Driving Society. Competition is what we do, and having a document that serves and protects the competitor, the organizer and the officials involved is the cornerstone for our sport. Rules are there to reward those who have trained their horses, drive best, are the most prepared, possess and use the best horsemanship skills and common sense, and have worked to develop tactics and strategy to win competitions. The system works by assessing those not as well prepared, not driving as well, not familiar with rules, and sometimes just having a bad day.

Your Board of Directors is ultimately responsible for the Rulebook and delegates the technical work to specific committees that conduct research, undertake development and solicit suggestions from members and users of the system. Three years ago we adopted an evergreen system that allows for an orderly, annual review process, keeping our rules current and inviting input from all stakeholders wishing to contribute or be heard.

The associated technical committees are Pleasure Driving, Driven Dressage, Combined Driving, Licensed Officials, Event Standards and Recreational Driving. Each

handles the input and changes to "their" sections of the Rulebook. Coordination of the technical content falls to the Rules Committee, which is composed of one representative from each technical committee. Our job is to oversee Parts I and II (General Regulations) and maintain the master document. We compile the final version that is forwarded as a recommendation to the Board of Directors. The Board has the final say by accepting the recommendation or returning the document to the various committees for more work.

The evergreen system is outlined on the ADS Web site. Using the "Rulebook" tab on the left sidebar of the home page, you will see the information at the bottom of the page titled "Rulebook Amendments." It is a seven-step process starting with an open call for suggestions from the membership. A link to a handy form is supplied, along with the address and an annual deadline of June 1.

Suggestions received are added to the research and development information each technical committee has been working on throughout the year, and are discussed at each committee's meeting(s) during June. Additions or changes to existing Articles are developed into *proposals*, which are forwarded to the Rules Committee by June 30.

The Rules Committee then coordinates a document containing all the proposals from each of the technical committees. Proposals are checked for conflicting content with other Rulebook sections, validation of references, general grammar and syntax. Control numbers are generated showing the date, source and process to assist with tracking for

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Give a New ADS Membership

Are you beginning to think of finding the perfect Christmas present? Well, you have a new item to consider for some folks on your list. The ADS Board of Directors has approved a discounted membership that current ADS members can give to new members.

This means that if you know of someone who is not currently an ADS member and you would like for them to be part of our Society, this program is for you. The discounted membership is \$50, a 33 percent discount from the regular membership price of \$75.

When you buy the discounted membership, the ADS office will send a gift card to the recipient--or you can send the card yourself; you only need to let the office know which you would prefer. When the gift membership expires next year, the renewal notice will be sent to the new member.

So, what could be easier? And talk about a win-win situation! You give a great gift, the recipient has a gift that will last a year and includes all ADS publications, and the ADS gains a new member. Do something for your friend, for the ADS, and for yourself. *Jim Keathley*



MIKE LYON RECEIVES PRESIDENT'S AWARD

ADS President Jim Keathley (left) presented Director at Large Mike Lyon with the 2009 President's Award at the ADS summer meeting at Morven Park. The award recognizes Mike's tireless work to promote recreational driving, including his role as a founding organizer of the National Drive. Photo by Holly Pulsifer.

Changing the Rules (continued)

each of the proposals, and all are published on the ADS Web site in a Rule Change Proposal (RCP) document for the membership's review and comments. As mandated by the Board, the review is open for at least 30 days.

Those wishing to comment can submit feedback at the link for the ADS Rules Committee mailbox, or by US Mail to the ADS office. These comments are directed to the appropriate technical committee by its Rules Committee representative, and the individual tech committee considers and weighs the new information. Each RCP is reviewed and amended as necessary, or perhaps withdrawn for further study. Once this work is completed (by September 30 at the latest), a final draft is sent to the Rules Committee, which checks any newly-introduced language and validating references one final time.

A report is created for the Board, outlining the recommendations for its fall meeting. Upon acceptance of the report, the RCPs are merged into the current Rulebook to form a new document that will be effective January 1. The goal is to have this newest Rulebook edition on the Web site by December 1 for everyone to become familiar with the changes and plan their competitions or events for the coming year. This process helps us maintain consistency throughout the Rulebook, with a published process that allows orderly development and (with rare exception) no mid-season rule changes.

One last comment about superseding rules: If an existing rule needs to be relaxed for good reason, a Rule Variance request can be made to the appropriate technical committee for consideration. If an organizer wishes to make any rule more restrictive, that is also possible. For example, if local conditions or philosophy believes no one less than 16 years of age should groom in a Driving Trial, or there should be no cantering at any time, or no carts with yellow wheels, that is the Organizer's prerogative to determine. The requirement is to publish this restriction as a local "regulation" (not a rule) for the event whenever it is published in the Omnibus or Prize List. Potential competitors thereby have the opportunity to know beforehand how the event will be conducted and make their choice to attend or not. Think of the entry form as a contract between organizer and competitor: the Omnibus/Prize List outlines what to expect and the competitor accepts and agrees by completing and signing the entry form. Both parties must live up to their commitment and responsibilities.

If you have further questions about the committees' roles or their composition, or a suggestion for an improved process . . . or perhaps wish to send a thank you for the time all these volunteers spend working on your behalf, don't hesitate to communicate with the appropriate committee.

USEF Youth Sportsman's Award

Applications are being accepted for the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) Youth Sportsman's Award, sponsored by Breyer Animal Creations.

Focused on developing leaders in equestrian sport, this award recognizes youth who are members of both USEF and a USEF Recognized National Affiliate (for driving, the American Driving Society) for their participation in the community and equine industry.

To be considered for the award, nominees must meet the following criteria:

- * Active membership in good standing with USEF and a USEF Recognized National Affiliate
- * No older than 17 as of December 1, 2008
- * Demonstrates commitment and dedication to the promotion of the horse
- * Serves as a positive role model for peers
- * Participates at any level of competition, including local, regional or national events
- * Exhibits characteristics that exemplify positive sportsmanship principles

Applications may be obtained on the USEF website at www.usef.org/_IFrames/Youth/sportsmansAward.aspx. Deadline for submission is October 1, 2009. The USEF Recognized National Affiliate will select a nominee (and an alternate) and submit to the USEF by October 31, 2009.

Each nominee will be considered for the overall award.

In addition, each Youth Sportsman's Award nominee will be recognized during the USEF Annual Meeting and invited to a career workshop to learn about different career opportunities in the equine industry.

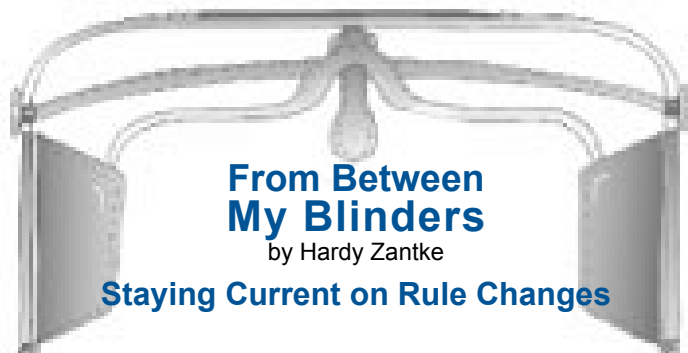
The overall winner of the USEF Youth Sportsman's Award will receive a trophy, a \$1,000 scholarship to be paid to the educational program of their choice, and a lifetime membership to USEF (valued at \$2,500). Additionally, the winner will be submitted as a candidate for the USEF Junior Equestrian of the Year Award.

For more information regarding the USEF Youth Sportsman's Award, please contact Jennifer Mellenkamp, Director, National Breed/Discipline Affiliates and Youth Programs, via e-mail at jmellenkamp@usef.org or call (859) 225-6955.

Judges Promoted

At the August 7 meeting of the ADS Licensed Officials Committee, the following judges' promotions were confirmed:

Karen Garrett, Learner Combined Driving
Sem Groenewoud, 'R' Combined Driving
Jane Merritt, R Combined Driving
Bill Venditta 'R' Pleasure Driving



From Between My Blinders

by Hardy Zantke

Staying Current on Rule Changes

It is probably a sign of my aging that time seems to fly by quicker every year. I trust that some of you experience the same. With the ever-wider use of the Internet, the pace has sped up even more, and it is difficult to keep you up to date with monthly publications whose cut-off dates come weeks before you hold them in your hand. As I write this, Suzy Stafford has just won her bronze medal at the Pony World Championship in Germany, where our Pony Team USA finished in fourth place overall out of nine national teams. Congratulations to them! Our horse pairs are just starting their World Championship in Hungary. I trust that those of you who are most interested in our teams and international drivers follow them closely on the Internet, if not in person. For those that didn't, I'm sure we'll see more reports on their accomplishments, especially in the next *Whip*.

As the Internet is a great tool to stay current on all the news, it also becomes more and more a necessity to keep up with the flow of other important information in our sport. That of course is a problem for those of us who don't have access to the Internet, or are not interested or don't feel comfortable using it for whatever reasons. Quite frequently there are important messages posted as news items on the ADS Web site at www.americandrivingsociety.org, and if you don't check there every so often, you'll miss out on some of those bulletins.

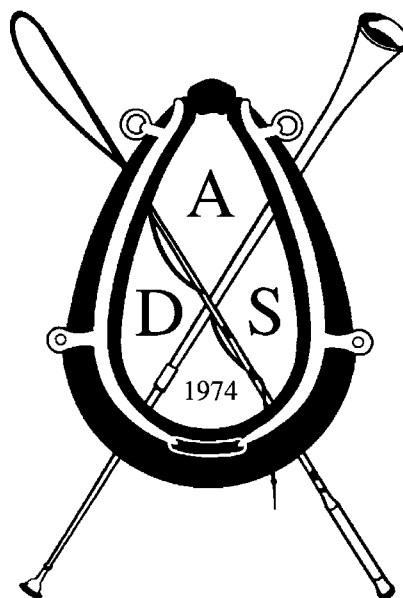
One announcement that I would like to bring to your attention, if you haven't seen it yet, is that the Rule Change Proposal (RCP) requiring drivers to once again carry a whip on the marathons has been passed by the Board of Directors. This RCP was published in the April Wheelhorse and I commented on it in the June Wheelhorse. (I hadn't been able to reach the May *Whip* as its deadline was the same as the deadline of the April Wheelhorse.) The effective rule change was posted with some other minor rule book corrections on the ADS Web site on June 30—again, unfortunately, too late for the July Wheelhorse as well as for the August *Whip*, as both of those had a June 20 deadline. So this is the first opportunity to let you know in print.

There were also further rule change proposals posted on June 30. The 30-day period to comment on them will have just run out when you get this Wheelhorse. But all of the rule change proposals are still in the pipeline of being discussed, amended, changed, dropped, or ultimately accepted to find their way into the next Rulebook effective

January 1, 2010. So if you did not know about this before for lack of Internet access and feel strongly about any of them, I think that you may still have a chance to be heard as the technical committees review the public input during this month before the RCPs are finalized and presented to the Board at their fall meeting in October. So if you have some concerns and have not done so yet, I suggest you act quickly and send your objections to the chair of the technical committee involved. But don't just shoot from the hip without proper knowledge of the details—try to think the issues through first from all sides, read the Rulebook and see what each RCP really means and involves. Try to stay factual rather than emotional; I think you'll have a better chance to be taken seriously.

Of course some items are so controversial that, when some rules are changed for what the majority of the Committee members and ultimately the majority of the Directors see in the best interest of the sport, not everyone can be pleased all the time. Grant those Committee and Board members the assumption that by the time an RCP decision is reached, they all have worked hard to find the best solution. They don't have any hidden agendas. They all spend their time, energy and money for the love of our sport, to keep it growing and to make it better—and, as I wrote in the August *Whip*, keep in mind that there are always many ways to Rome.

Editor's Note: For a detailed explanation of how the Rule Change Proposal process works, see Simon Rosenman's article "Changing the Rules of Our Sport" on page 4.



TRAINING LEVEL--A column and forum for new driving enthusiasts

By Deby Stewart

Hello All, and a special shout-out to those of you who are beginner drivers like I am. I've only been driving a little over a year here in South Florida and am just about the only person with a horse and carriage within a 50-mile radius. Driving has become an addiction, so thank goodness for my friends in the Florida Whips, for helpful YouTube videos and for great organizations like ADS!

Because I'm so much on my own, I've had to do a lot of guessing and improvising as I've been learning to drive. But with the help of my trusty equine partner, TigerLily, I think I'm coming along okay; a bit lonely, perhaps, but otherwise doin' all right.

Those of us who are struggling on our own often have questions, but don't have any idea where to go to get them answered—which brings me to the reason that I'm writing this: In upcoming issues, I'd like to share some tips and tricks I've come up with to make driving alone easier and safer, as well as help other new drivers.

There are so many challenges that I've faced in my first year of driving and I'd love to hear about yours. Some of my challenges have been how to harness and put-to by myself, where can I drive, where's the best place to buy equipment economically and, often, what is the best choice of equipment to buy. How about you? I'm hoping we can share our beginner experiences as well as some innovative ideas.

I'd like this column to be a forum where you, my

fellow drivers, will generously bring any tips you want to share, or suggest solutions to problems others are experiencing. In this way we will all be helping each other learn to drive safely, meet fellow "newbie" drivers and have fun in the process.

Please email me at deby@justusdriving.com and let me know what you think.

I'm really looking forward to hearing from you. And until next time, happy and safe driving! -- *Deby*

For more about Deby and TigerLily, see Deby's article "Teach One Reach One" in the August 2009 issue of the Whip.



Deby Stewart's mare, TigerLily, models her new driving bridle "with bling."
Photo by Deby Stewart

A PERSONAL OPINION: The Hidden Cost of Board Members' Expenses

By Pat Cheatham

Sometimes you get more than you pay for and you feel good about it. However, it's always smart to figure out what you lose for the 'free' stuff. In my opinion, there's a significant tradeoff for the ADS practice of having Board members pay full cost of all meetings they attend. I am personally aware of three highly qualified ADS members who have either recently left the Board or who decline to join the Board for financial reasons. These are folks whose experience and judgment would benefit the Board's work. Although I believe each of us has a responsibility to work on behalf of our sport, I will tell you that the cost of transportation, lodging, conference fees and meals, plus care of our farm while we're gone—in addition to the loss of vacation days—is a steep price for most volunteers to pay.

The Board has rejected a motion for the ADS to bear some part of the cost of Board meetings twice in the past year or so. I think that's noble and self-sacrificing, but it severely limits the cross-section of ADS members who help run the organization on behalf of us all. I believe that if the Board is useful to the membership at large, then the ADS as an organization should be willing to bear some of the cost of the Board's work.

So here's my answer to my complaint: If we're not willing to cover a part of the cost of Board membership, then we need to change our Bylaws to reduce the number of required meetings. Currently, the Board meets at least twice annually. The other alternative that we'll try later this year is an electronic meeting. I think the jury's still out on whether or not a 'Web meeting' can be an effective tool for a deliberative body of more than 30 folks, but we'll see.

2009 Calendar of Events

Bold Type Indicates an ADS Recognized Competition

All driving activities may be listed in the Calendar, but as space is limited, please submit only dates of activities that are open to all ADS members. For a complete up-to-date calendar listing, visit www.americandrivingsociety.org/calendar.asp.

September

- 19 Trinity Stable HDT: Trinity Stable in Canterbury NH; (rain date 20th); Barry Berube barry@trinitycarriageshop.com
- 19-20 TCA Carriage Classic, Cedar Run, Greenville, TX; participation in the non-ADS Continuous Day of Driving requires membership in Tejas Carriage Association. Ruth Graves rufus1953@joimail.com
- 19-21 Baroque Solstice Performance Show: USEF, Classes include, Driving, Rail, & Halter. www.donidafarm.com Gwen Blake 360-507-9306
- 25-27 Carolina Carriage Club Pleasure Driving & Dressage Show: Tryon, NC; Dressage, Working Pleasure, Turnout, Reinsmanship and Obstacles; VSE, Pony, Horse, Multiples and Junior Whip; prize list available from Secretary Margo Savage redgate@windstream.net; organizers Jane Hart johnhart@windstream.net and Sue McDaniel mac.the.knife@worldnet.att.net
- 30-10/4 INTERNATIONAL DRAFT HORSE, MULE & PLEASURE SHOW:** LA County Fair, Pomona, CA, www.fairplex.com; Pleasure, Obstacles, Concours d'Elegance. Divisions: Novice, Amateur, Junior, Horse & Pony. Contact Sharon Gifford, w 909-865-4091, C 909-374-8139, F 909-622-5652, taylor@fairplex.com.

October

- 1 Application deadline for USEF Youth Sportsman's Award.
- 2-12/1 **LICENSED OFFICIALS APPLICATIONS DUE:** will be reviewed and acted on by February 2
- 3 **Maine Carriage Days Pleasure Show:** Topsham Fairgrounds, Topsham, ME; Pleasure, Training & Prelim Dressage, Concours d'Elegance; \$100 per entry; rain date Oct. 4; Mary Fowler, organizer@mainecarriagedays.com. 207-865-2047
- 6-11 National Drive: Lexington, KY; The drive is the largest gathering of recreational drivers in the country. www.nationaldrive.net
- 17-18 Driving Clinic with Lisa Singer: The Carriage Barn Equestrian Center, Newton, NH; Carriage-barn@comcast.net or 603-378-0140.
- 18 Not So Traditional Day of Driving, Nearaway Farm, Perrineville, NJ: Pleasure, Reinsmanship, Cones, Gambler's Choice, Dressage, Barrel Racing, Pole Bending, Carriage Dog, Costume, Almost a CDE. Ellen Weisfeld, ewgnhb@aol.com, 732-928-7477.

2010

January

- 13-17 **WINTER ADS BOAD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING:** in conjunction with USEF Annual Meeting., Louisville, KY.

February

- 5-7 **SUPER CLINIC**, Tampa, FL: Will coincide with the Florida State Fair show.

March

- 25-28 **LIVE OAK INTERNATIONAL CDE:** Live Oak Plantation, Ocala, FL; www.cailiveoak.com; Intermediate, Advanced; Contact: Susan Gilliland, H: 352-489-6586, C: 813-220-8226, F: 352-489-9284; s_gilliland@msn.com

October

- 7-9 **ADS ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING:** in conjunction with WEG, at Gayla Driving Center (Georgetown, KY).

OMNIBUS CHANGES

PLEASURE DRIVING IN THE PARK (Sept. 20): Gambler's Choice changed to Timed Obstacle Class (Cones).

GLADSTONE AUTUMN FAIR AND PLEASURE DRIVING SHOW (Sept. 25-27) **CANCELLED.**

NASHOBA CLASSIC (Sept. 18-20): All emails related to the show should go to jillcox@attglobal.net.

HALLOWEEN HUSTLE (Nov. 1): Change in location from Lake View Terrace to Conejo Equestrian Park, Thousand Oaks, CA.

As of June 2009, in response to ADS member comments, the Wheelhorse Calendar of Events will include changes in Omnibus listings, ADS meetings, deadlines for Licensed Officials applications, and those events sponsored by or of interest to ADS members. Please submit activities for publication in ADS publications and on the ADS Web site to the ADS office. View Omnibus Web pages for complete updated information. http://americandrivingsociety.org/06_omnilistings/adsomnibusindex.asp

Classified Ads

Classified ads are accepted for *The Wheelhorse* at a cost of \$1 per word with a \$15 minimum for a one-month insertion in the next available *Wheelhorse* publication. For two issues, the cost is \$2 per word, etc. Payment must accompany ad text (checks, Visa, Mastercard accepted).

COMPETITION CONES: \$27 each. Marker Balls \$2.70 each. For practice at home, Pleasure Driving Shows, and CDEs. Accepting MC/Visa. Phone Gayla Driving Center 1-800-360-5774. (KY)

BORIUM SHOES: Large selection of Borium shoes plus custom work. www.theblacksmithshop.net 800-840-7463.



Sue Fair and her Haflinger mare, Lilly, were among the "guinea pig" turnouts judged in the mock Pleasure show at the Pleasure Driving Officials Clinic at Morven Park. (Story on p. 9.) Photo by Don Fair.

An Overview of ADS Board Actions at Summer Meeting

The ADS Board of Directors met for five hours on August 9 at Morven Park (Leesburg, Virginia) to discuss the business of the Society. The following Board members were present: Jim Keathley, Ann Davis, Bill Lawson, Mary Jo Stockman, Boots Wright, Dana Bright, Paige Horine, Jeff Morse, Simon Rosenman, David Sadler, John Freiburger, Ruth Graves, Merridy Hance, Mike Lyon, Alicia Pierce, Lyle Peterson, Melissa Boyd and Audrey Bostwick.

Absent were: Pat Cheatham, Tom Knicker, Gerry Pearson, Jennifer Matheson, Larry Brinker, Paul Nordan, Larry Denny, Marc Johnson, Samea Baker, Veronica Campbell, Peter Lofgren, Maureen Harkcom, Dianne Koopman, Kelly Valdes and Hardy Zantke. The required one-third for a quorum was met.

The following were *some* of the topics discussed and voted by the Board.

Proxy Votes

A few Board members who could not attend the meeting had given their proxies to other members to use for voting purposes at the meeting. President Jim Keathley ruled that the Board would accept use of proxies. Bill Lawson moved to appeal the president's ruling because it contravened the principles of Robert's Rules of Order; and a vote was taken with the following result: Davis, no; Lawson, yes; Stockman, yes, Wright, no; Bright, no; Horine, yes; Morse, yes, Rosenman, yes, Sadler, no; Freiburger, yes; Graves, yes; Hance, no; Lyon, no; Pierce, yes; Peterson, no; Boyd, yes (yes—nine, no—seven). The appeal of the President's ruling carried and proxy votes were not allowed.

Electronic Board Meetings

Governance Committee Chair Mary Jo Stockman moved to amend the Bylaws Article V, Section 4, second full sentence, to read: Meetings of the Board shall be held at the places within or without the state of New York *or by electronic means that allow members of the Board to hear other members of the Board speak, to engage in the discussion and vote*. Bill Lawson seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion passed without dissent.

Board 'Vacancy' Definition

Ann Davis moved to appoint Susan Koso as a Director at Large. Mike Lyon seconded the motion. Bill Lawson raised a Point of Order that the Bylaws do not permit the Board to do this. In the discussion, there was disagreement as to what constitutes a vacancy. The Bylaws allow the Board to "fill any position on the Board which becomes vacant..." The disagreement was whether there is a vacancy when the number of Board members is below the maximum 35, or when a position is vacated by a sitting Board member. Without resolution of the disagreement, the Board allowed Ann Davis to withdraw the motion. Boots Wright moved to amend the Bylaws, Article V, Section 2.F, to allow the President to appoint a Director At Large up to the maximum 35 members, with consent of the

Board. John Freiburger seconded the motion, which carried after a discussion. Opposed were Mary Jo Stockman, Audrey Bostwick, Bill Lawson and Paige Horine.

Ann Davis moved again to appoint Susan Koso as a Director at Large. Mike Lyon seconded the motion. After a discussion, the motion carried with three abstentions: Bill Lawson, Audrey Bostwick, and Mary Jo Stockman.

Executive Committee Members

Ann Davis moved to appoint Dana Bright, Mary Jo Stockman, Susan Koso and Tom Knicker to be members of the Executive Committee. Mike Lyon seconded the motion. Bill Lawson raised a point of order that the Bylaws do not permit the Board to do this. The discussion focused on whether the Board of Directors can elect members in a calendar year that is not even-numbered as stipulated in Article VII of the Bylaws. Without resolution of the disagreement, the Board allowed Ann Davis to withdraw the motion.

Boots Wright moved to amend the Bylaws, Section VII, so that members may be appointed to the Executive Committee at any time with the consent of the Board. After a discussion, the motion carried. Those opposed were Bill Lawson, Audrey Bostwick and Mary Jo Stockman.

Ann Davis moved again to appoint Dana Bright, Mary Jo Stockman, Susan Koso and Tom Knicker as members of the Executive Committee. Mike Lyon seconded the motion. After a discussion, the motion passed with five abstentions: Bill Lawson, Melissa Boyd, Audrey Bostwick, Mary Jo Stockman and Dana Bright.

Board Member Resignations

Mary Jo Stockman made a lengthy motion to amend the Bylaws to include a process by which a Board Member can resign from service. The motion passed with amendments and without dissent.

Relocate ADS Office

Ann Davis moved that the Board consider moving ADS offices to the Kentucky Horse Park before the end of 2010, using funds to be raised for this purpose and entering into no legal agreement without the approval of the Board of Directors. Susan Koso seconded the motion.

Bill Lawson moved to amend the motion to delete "before the end of 2010" and give no timeline. John Freiburger seconded the motion. After a discussion, the amendment carried. The amended motion was then voted upon and carried. Opposed were: Jeff Morse, Mary Jo Stockman, Audrey Bostwick and Bill Lawson. The meeting was adjourned at 2 p.m.

(Summarized by ADS Executive Director Susie Koos-Acker)

You can view the complete minutes at www.americandrivingsociety.org/meeting_minutes.asp, or contact the ADS office to request a paper copy.

Pleasure Driving Officials Clinic at Morven Park

By Dana Bright, Licensed Officials Committee Chair

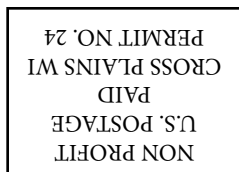
A clinic for Pleasure Driving Officials was held in Virginia August 6-7 in conjunction with the Mid Atlantic Pleasure Driving Weekend. It was well attended by six "R" Pleasure Driving Judges, one "r" judge, five Learner Judges, one "R" Pleasure Driving TD and one Learner TD. Two USEF officials with several breed ring licenses also attended. Presenters for the clinic were Debbie Banfield (judging topics) and Audrey Bostwick (TD topics). Mickie Bowen and Dana Bright presented the optional learning unit on "Introduction to Judging Multiples." (This part of the clinic discussed vehicles and harnessing procedure for a pair, tandem, unicorn and four-in-hand. It later allowed participants to catch rides with Mickie's unicorn put to her roof seat break, and with Dana Bright's pony tandem.) This made for a very diverse group, with a wide range of experience brought into the discussions by the 15 participants and four presenters. The group interaction and case studies were valuable, as everyone felt comfortable discussing rule interpretations and problem solving amongst peers.

A bonus of having Morven Park as our location was our

visit to the Windmill Carriage Museum on the grounds. This collection, originally comprised of carriages belonging to Mrs. Viola Windmill (formerly of Warrenton, Virginia) has been edited and organized to display sporting, formal and country carriages with their appointments. We all had our fingers crossed when Bill Venditta climbed up the 'mystery coach' (which may or may not be a Brewster coach) once owned by one of Mrs. Windmill's friends. Bill had special permission to look for a serial number on the bottom of the coachman's seat. Sadly, he didn't find it there, but more research may help to identify the vehicle as an authentic Brewster coach.

On Friday morning, recreational driving participants graciously volunteered to be guinea pigs for our clinic attendees. After meticulous safety checks and harnessing adjustment, they were put through their paces in Reinsmanship and Working classes. Thank you to all who patiently gave our officials real-life examples to critique.

Our next clinic for Pleasure Driving Officials will take place during the Super Clinic in February 2010.



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