



Marcie Quist, winner of Intermediate Single Horse at the 2009 Lexington CDE. Photo by Pam Knisley.

Wheelhorse

NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN DRIVING SOCIETY

NL 184

Representing Carriage Driving in the United States and Canada

January 2010

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Christmas Drive Charms Woodside CA

By Melinda Takeuchi

Seventeen lovingly bedecked, bejeweled, be-glittered, sleigh-belled, and (in at least one case) vacuumed equines—a total of 13 hitches—charmed the residents of Woodside, California at the Peninsula Carriage Driving Club's annual Christmas drive.

Formed in 1982, the Club has been putting on these drives since back in the days when it used to be said that there were more horses than people in Woodside. This year's drive included singles, pairs and a unicorn (the product of the Takeuchis' "no horse left behind" policy). Long-time Woodside resident Karl Poppenberg led off the procession driving a magnificent black 17.2-hand Shire; Jerry Cooley brought up the rear with an endearingly shaggy (we're talking foot-long forelock) mini.

The Poppenbergs are Woodside's local driving dynasty: Karl's daughter Krista drove an irresistible pinto pony. (Karl's other daughter, Kathi Dancer, whose husband and children also drive, is a hopeful for the US Pairs Team.) The PCDC circuit always includes a stop in front of the legendary Buck's Restaurant to sing Christmas carols. Even though one of the club's members had brought along an accordion, the singing had the air of Monty Python's Flying Circus as the crowd of enthusiastic onlookers plied the whips with question after question about driving.

The San Mateo Horse Association had just passed through with their annual caroling ride. SMHA may have been better singers, but the PCDC was surely the more entertaining. (We understand that SMHA beat a hasty retreat when they heard that carriages were coming.) More pictures of the turnouts and the mobs of enchanted onlookers—including the Buck's waiters and diners who raced outside when the carriages arrived—may be found at www.smha.org/photos.htm. What better way to introduce people to the sport of driving?

Photo by Sue Winslow



A Message from The Executive Director



Happy New Year! Every January, just like many of you, I take a moment to reflect on the past year and relish the good times,

be thankful for whom and what I have in my life, and enjoy a laugh at the remembrances of fun spent in the company of horses and horsemen across the country.

One of the great benefits of being in my position is the opportunity to meet hundreds of people over the phone, through email and in person at driving events across the country. I sincerely enjoy hearing the stories of people making connections with their horses, accomplishing their goals large and small, and of how the driving community has really supported its members and encouraged others to join the group.

As our vice president Pat Cheatham pointed out in the December Wheelhorse, 2010 is the 35th anniversary of the American Driving Society's founding. This is a time for reflection on and appreciation for where we have been, where we are today and the wonderful people who worked very hard to get us here. It's a time for celebration. The World Equestrian games will be in the United States this year for the first time in the event's history. Many ADS members will be making the trek to Kentucky in October to witness the very best drivers and horses our sport has to offer as they compete at the highest level in the world.

We have secured space in the Equine Village and under the experienced leadership of John Freiburger, Midwest Regional Director, our official presence at the Games is being choreographed.



ADS member Steve Siegel of Wyoming wrote that the new webinars are "a wonderful opportunity for us all to grow."

John and his committee of dedicated volunteers are planning a booth, live driving demonstrations and other educational opportunities. In addition to a host of different publications that will be available, these activities will help spread the message about the exciting options the sport of carriage driving has to offer.

Our new educational webinars show great promise in providing a cost-effective means of sharing information across our driving community. What better way to spend your off season, or at least your off hours, than learning more about your recreational passion from experts in the sport? Steve Siegel, an ADS member located in Wyoming, wrote, "This is an exciting and innovative move by the ADS. The ability to network with other drivers from all over the globe is a wonderful opportunity for us all to grow as drivers, navigators and grooms."

With all these promising experiences and touchstone moments that are upon us, I hope to repeat my annual reflection a year from now.

Susie

Licensed Officials News: Web Page For Prospective Learners

A new document describing the process of becoming a learner official, and application forms for the various categories (Pleasure Driving or Combined Driving Judge and Technical Delegate), are now available on the ADS website at www.americandrivingsociety.org/learner_judge.asp.

All currently licensed officials should reference this document to stay current on the process, so they can provide information and encouragement to members interested in becoming officials.

Application forms for "r" and "R" promotion will also be up shortly.

ADS Fund: 2009 a Record For Grants Supporting Driving

By Jamie O'Rourke

The ADS Fund approved a record 35 grants supporting every aspect of your driving sport in 2009. That is a 205 percent increase over our first year of operation in 2005. The grants have aided the training and participation of international teams, provided scholarships encouraging the involvement and education of young drivers, and helped to launch clinics and new competitions—all for the expansion and improvement of opportunity within the carriage driving disciplines.

As a result of ADS Fund grants in 2009, ADS Young Driver Champions received scholarships; regional initiatives brought meetings, clinics and other educational programs to members around the country; international hopefuls and teams were given training grants and World Championship support; driving-related educational videos have begun production and we have undertaken outreaches aimed at breed organizations. All this has happened through the hard work of many individuals and organizations in

concert with the Fund. Our partnerships with energetic organizers around the country greatly multiply the impact of the grants.

Contributions in every form are important to the future of our sport and greatly appreciated. Your generosity will bring additional opportunities for you and all of our members to enjoy and grow in the sport. The ADS Fund depends on the enthusiasm and backing of our members; your help both individually and through your clubs and competitions in furthering the work of the ADS Fund to the benefit of the sport of driving is critical. If you would like to help the ADS do more for driving individually or through your club, competition, show, drive or by developing a fundraising project, we would welcome your assistance. Please contact Jamie O'Rourke for more information about how you can help, at 484-832-4365 or ADSFUN@aol.com.

Thank you!

'Navigating 101' Webinar a Big Hit with ADS Members

The American Driving Society broke new ground on December 10, 2009 with its first educational webinar: *Navigating 101*, presented by Northeast Regional Director and Combined Driving Technical Delegate Marc Johnson. Among the 297 people who attended this webinar, most were from all over the US and Canada but we even had a few attendees from Australia and South America.

Webinars are online presentations, lectures, workshops or seminars that are transmitted over the internet and viewed through a browser like Internet Explorer. "It's not a new technology and has been used in the corporate world for a number of years, but has become more mainstream as the technology has improved and the costs have gone down," explained ADS Executive Director Susan Koos Acker. "What we want to accomplish is to offer quality driving education readily accessible to anyone who is interested."

Because of the large number of attendees, the initial ADS webinar was limited in its interactivity to participants' posting questions to the presenter through the webinar program. Questions that were not addressed during the presentation have been gathered and logged into a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document that will be posted to the ADS web site. Some who missed the presentation have asked if the webinar will be recorded so they can view it at a later date. Some sections will be recorded and available, including the one on the calculation of time; other parts will not be, due to copyright issues. However, Marc has agreed to do an encore presentation in the future.

One of the most valuable outcomes of this first webinar was the list of future topics generated by the survey at the

end of the presentation. "We received an absolute outpouring of great ideas for future webinars: Combined Driving for Beginners, Dressage Test Scores Explained, Turnout, Building Obstacles at Home, Conditioning the Driving Horse, and much more," said Susan. "Our huge challenge now is to engage the proper presenters and develop these webinar topics for future presentations."

Another wonderful offshoot of this program is the development of a new carriage driving social event: Webinar Parties! Quite a few members contacted us and said they were inviting people from their clubs to participate in the webinar at their homes. This allowed people with lower speed connections like dial-up, or those who didn't have access, to still participate. What could be better than food, fun and a little learning on a Thursday night?

The Navigating 101 webinar was offered at no cost and was available to members and non-members alike. Future webinars will have different member/non-member availability and may have pricing based on the requirements of the presenter and the nature of the topic. All invitations to webinars will be distributed through email and future topics will be posted on the ADS Web site at www.americandrivingsociety.org/webinars.asp

We have two January webinars scheduled. The presenter for both will be Jeff Morse, ADS Pleasure Driving Committee Chair and a member of the USEF Pleasure Carriage Driving Committee. Jeff will share the ins and outs of Super Reinsmanship and the Continuous Day of Driving, two driving activities that are new to the 2010 ADS Rulebook.

USEF NEWS: Young Drivers Eligible for USEF Athlete Recognition



High-school-age ADS drivers have until January 29 to enroll for the 2009-2010 school year in a new USEF program that recognizes young equestrians' accomplishments with a High School Equestrian Athlete letter, a current year pin and a certificate.

Enrollment this month will enable participants to earn a letter and pin on a shortened schedule; drivers who enroll as of June 1 will be part of the regular program for the 2010-2011 school year that runs until May 31, 2011.

The High School Equestrian Athlete program was created to provide young equestrians with recognition consistent with other high school varsity programs. It is open to equestrian athletes in all breeds or disciplines.

"Many high school equestrian athletes are not currently recognized by their school athletic programs . . . In many cases, organized programs at the high school level do not exist and many young equestrians do not have a team or

club in their area," states the USEF. The statement goes on to point out that dedicated equestrian athletes spend as much time, if not more, preparing for competition as any other athlete in a high school program—and the commitment required by equestrian sports often prevents participation in other athletics.

Criteria for recognition within the new program are:

- * Current USEF member in good standing.
- * Enrolled in high school or verified/certified home schooling program, grades 9-12.
- * Complete at least 100 hours of equestrian practice/training per year (including time spent in competition).
- * Compete in at least two USEF-recognized competitions per year, or at least five competitions affiliated with or sanctioned by a horse show association.

Full details and application materials may be downloaded at www.usef.org/documents/Youth/HighSchool-Athlete.pdf. For questions, email Laura Fahey, Assistant Director, Hunters and Jumpers at lfahey@usef.org.

My Lady's Manor Offers Two-Part Intro to Driving

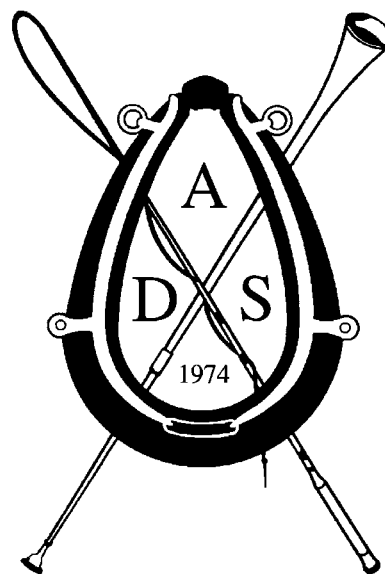
My Lady's Manor Driving Club is offering a two-part Intro to Driving at Goucher College (Towson, Maryland) that combines classroom learning with hands-on instruction from Anne Councill and Dana Bright.

Part I is scheduled for February 13 (snow date February 21) with classroom lecture from 9 to 12 followed by demonstration and harnessing practice in the covered riding arena. This is open to both members and non-members; cost is \$40.

Part II on March 20 will continue where Part I left off. It is open to members only, with new members welcome. Once again the morning will be classroom learning; the hands-on afternoon session will this time feature demonstration and practice driving. Fee for full participation (which will be very limited) is \$50; to audit, \$30.

Participants should bring their own lunch for each session.

Contact Kathy Schmitt, 717-235-7061, kawschmitt@att.net; or Julia Skelley, 410-891-8475, jmskelley89@gmail.com



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

Training Level: A column and forum for new driving enthusiasts

By Deby Stewart

Happy New Year to Everyone! I hope all of your Holiday wishes came true and you are as ready to start another year as I am. Here in Florida it is the start of our show season; the Carriage Affair at the GORGEOUS Florida Carriage Museum and Resort (if you get the chance, this is a not-to-be-missed destination!) and the Live Oak International are on the top of my list to go see.

I know everyone has made their New Year's Resolutions and mine is to DRIVE MORE!! I want to earn my ADS 100-hour pin this year, as well as get out and spread the word about driving.

Here as promised is the second letter I received about the "perfect driving horse." Nubby Errickson from Clatskanie, Oregon sent a wonderful story about how she found her rescued Standardbred Can D. Her story made me wonder why Standardbreds aren't more often marketed to the driving community for recreation or competition; I am going to do some research and get back to you with what I learn. Meanwhile, please enjoy Nubby and Can D.'s story.

Dear Deby,

After reading your story, I was inspired to share our success story with our new horse "All I Can Do", aka Can D.

I always had an interest in driving and as I got older and stiffer, I decided I would have one of my Trakehner cross mares trained to pull. To make a long story short, she liked "whoa" too much, and going with me behind her was not her favorite thing to do. If we could have put the cart before the horse, it would have been the perfect solution!

So while judging a dog show in British Columbia, I asked my husband if we could visit Green Acres Standardbred Rescue Farm and see the "recycled" ex-racehorses. "Of course," I assured him, "I don't want one, I just want to see them."

When we arrived at the farm the horses were all out in pastures, divided primarily by sex, and by the friendships that had evolved. Some, not sound enough to be hard working, were to be adopted as companion horses, Some were young, flawless, and ready to go. Others were in between: older, with a few race track problems, but sound enough to be wonderful riding horses. Some were pacers, some were trotters, and all had been turned into riding horses--walk, trot and canter--by the wonderful farm staff. Temperaments were also evaluated during retraining to be sure of successful adoptions. (Visitors also answer questions, complete questionnaires and provide references before getting an appointment to visit the farm.)

We had made it to the last pasture and I had not seen one horse I wanted to take home (thank heavens!). There were three mares--a small one, an unsound one and a big tall



girl. They ran off when we entered their pasture, so we went to another gate to view the rescued Clydesdales. We were looking at the Big Ones when suddenly there were lips lapping at my ears, pulling at my fingers which were latched behind my back. When

I turned around, there was the big girl, with big eyes, her big lips pulling away at my shirt, hair, fingers, saying to me, "I like you, take me home—please!" We laughed and the director asked if I wanted to try her and I said, "Why not? But I want to drive, not ride!" The director assured me that All I Can Do knew how to drive.

Well, I loved her! We made arrangements for me to drive back up the next weekend, to bring Can D. home.

We hitched her to our cart and the rest is history. We had a wonderful year at Training Level. We placed well at our Northwestern CDEs, except when our human brains forgot important things like gates, obstacle order, etc. Can D has been a star and our CDE community loves her. She is beautiful and so willing to do whatever I ask! She is learning to collect and bend and lengthen and we actually moved up to Preliminary this fall. She WAS a pacer on the track, but now she almost always trots. She loves to canter in the obstacles and is very balanced and forward, yet stops immediately when I ask. Time will never be a problem with her. Obedience and humility are her biggest and best traits.

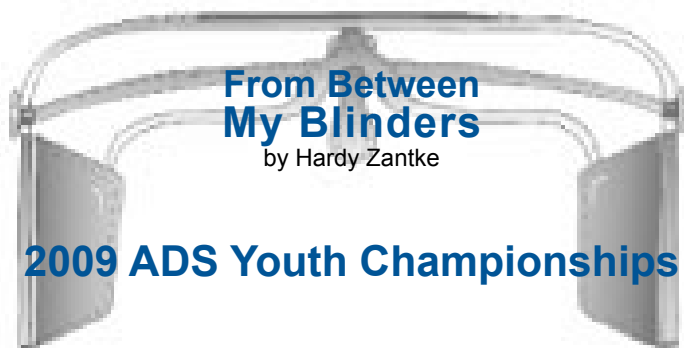
I have heard from many guest judges that not all Standardbreds are as good as Can D. so I feel so very lucky to have had her choose me as her new, and for always, home. And my husband also loves her, for with her, he feels safe enough to navigate for me--something he wouldn't have thought of doing with our first driving horse!

*Sincerely,
Nubby*

I would love to hear other drivers' success stories (well ok—maybe even some not so successful stories since we can surely learn from other's mistakes) about using a rescued Standardbred off the track. What challenges did you face and what advice would you give to others who are thinking of finding their driving partner this way? Please share your stories!

Till next time – Drive On! ---

Deby



This year we had 16 entries for our second annual ADS Youth Championship. While I would still like to see many more entries next year, the 2009 number is an increase of 33.3 percent over last year. I am happy with that growth rate. Please help spread the word, especially among the young recreational drivers who might not be ADS members (yet) and thus might not even know about this opportunity. They can all start their logbooks for hours driven in 2010 right now. But please make sure they read the rules, which are posted on the ADS website. The rules are easy to follow and not that complicated; there is just one simple paragraph for each category.

Recreational Driving (most hours driven win):

Champion: Marcia Bisbee, 13, from East Troy, Wisconsin with 81.5 hours.

Second Place: Jason A. Korell, 11, from Santa Rosa, California with 53.5 hours.

(We had one additional entry; unfortunately, it was not eligible, as the individual days of driving were not signed off. To be fair to all, each daily entry in the logbook should be signed off individually by an adult ADS member verifying that the logbook entry of that day is correct. One can hardly do that at the end of the year *en bloc*, going by memory or trust. Also, the logbook should only list hours of actual driving, not time spent grooming or tacking up.)

Pleasure Driving (high points win):

Champion: Taylor Nedurian, 17, from Muncy, Pennsylvania with 35 points (19 points for a 1st place of 17 drivers in Single Horse/Road Cart-Ladies Reinsmanship, plus 16 points for a 2nd of 16 drivers in Single Horse/Road Cart Progressive Obstacles, both at Walnut Hill).

Second Place: Valerie Dingman, 17, from Fredonia, Wisconsin with 27 points (13 points for a 1st of 11 drivers in Working Pleasure, plus 14 points for a 1st of 12 drivers in Cones, both at the Villa Louis Carriage Classic).

Third Place: Christopher Smith, 16, from Rudolph, Wisconsin with 18 points (10 points for a 1st of eight drivers in Junior Reinsmanship, plus 8 points for a 2nd of eight drivers in Junior Town & Country, both at the Columbus Carriage Classic).

Fourth Place: Jason A. Korell with 10 points (6 points for a 1st of four drivers in Junior Turnout, plus 4 points for a 3rd of six drivers in Junior Timed Cones, both at the Fall Classic Pleasure Show).

We had two more entries, which unfortunately were not eligible. One had both results from the same category of classes, e.g. one result was from Pleasure Working, and the other from Turnout. The rules state—at the request of the Pleasure Driving Committee, in order to award a diversified driver—that one result must be from a Working/Reinsmanship or Turnout class and a second result must be from any other Pleasure class. The other entry had results from non ADS/USEF-recognized events.

Combined Driving (low points win):

Champion: Maggie Sullivan, 17, from Guilford, Connecticut with 87.96 points (from 103.48 points minus 15 percent credit for Intermediate at the Green Mountain Horse Association CDE).

Second Place: Jan Jan Hamilton, 15, from Alva, Florida with 91.72 points (107.90 minus 15 percent credit for Intermediate at Bromont).

Third Place: Jacob Arnold, 16, from Snow Camp, North Carolina with 96.27 points (from 113.26 minus 15 percent credit for Intermediate at the Pine Tree CDE).

Fourth Place: Kaylee Angstadt, 17, from Bradford, Massachusetts with 98.24 points (from 85.43 plus 15 percent debit for HDT, at Prelim at the Connecticut Valley Driving Trial).

Fifth Place: Brianna Ek, 16, from Southern Pines, North Carolina with 110.91 points (at Prelim at the Southern Pines CDE).

Sixth Place: Lindsey M. Nevitt, 20, from Zionsville, Indiana with 121.20 points (from 173.14 minus 30 percent credit for Advanced at the Lexington CD Classic).

Seventh Place: Charlie Veinotte, 15, from Maple Ridge, British Columbia with 134.80 points (from Prelim with a team of VSEs at the CDE at Inavale).

As last year, each of the three Champions is eligible for an ADS Grant of up to \$750 for attendance at an ADS Youth Clinic or similar event in 2010. They will also receive a special sports jacket showing their Championship. Congratulations to all participants and especially to the three Champions. I hope to see all of your entries as well as many more again at the end of November 2010. I am happy to note that many of these young drivers were entered last year as well, and all improved their points this year. What a great proof of their progress in driving!

Happy and safe driving to all.

ONE COOL PONY!

Photos by Pam Knisley



Pam Knisley, a frequent and valued contributor to both the *Whip* and the *Wheelhorse*, was on hand with her camera to capture a great moment of equine-human cooperation at the Lexington CDE last October.

Janelle Marshall, driving Muffy Seaton's Connemara Captain Jack Sparrow (left), came second in Intermediate Single Pony with a double clear cones round that was just short of incredible.

Halfway through a blazing tour of the course, Captain Jack got a little too exuberant around a turn and his right hind leg became lodged between the trace and shaft of the cart (below). Janelle brought him to a halt after a few strides on three legs, the clock stopped and the pony calmly waited for assistance in untangling his leg.



With the help of several officials, all was set right (below left) . . .

The clock resumed and they finished their round as if nothing had happened (below right)—for a final total score of 124.84.

See Pam's full story and photos from the Lexington CDE in the February 2010 *Whip*.



The Frightfully Fun Little Everglades Continuous Drive

By Jean White

We've just arrived at the Little Everglades Continuous Drive in Dade City, Florida. The weather is perfect, with highs in the mid-70s. (Weep loud, our northern neighbors).

We turn the trailer around in the ample parking field to face up the hill like everyone else. Then we soon realize that mom was right in saying we don't have to be just like everyone else as we carefully unload the cart down the trailer ramp while hanging on to make sure it doesn't take off down the hill with three ladies of a certain age gamely hanging onto the shafts while the fourth lady is lying flat after having been run over.

We overcome gravity (unfortunately, only where the cart is concerned; our faces and bodies still being cruelly affected) and get the cart safely stabled beside the trailer. Little Everglades Ranch has wonderful stalls available but we live close and our five-year-old Welsh pony cob stallion, Wilson, is well educated to hitching at the trailer, so we are here sans stall.

The prize list for this drive stated that bribes were allowed for the show management as well as for volunteers judging at the "hazards." We took this to heart, even as we were momentarily taken aback by the "no alcohol" rule. What bribe is better than alcohol? DARK CHOCOLATE! We were also going to be judged on our spares kit with "creativity" to be rewarded. We load our spares bag with chocolate bribes in addition to all the regular stuff and added duct tape, hay string, bottled water, GPS, and double-end snaps. We are ready to go!

Our wonderful Hammock Farm team of Judi Carter, Jean White, Joanna Compton-Mys, Robin Swanger and Dorothy Bradley gets Wilson groomed, harnessed and hitched just in time to check in at #1, the safety check, the required 10 minutes before our start time. Here we are able to practice our bribery by giving Katie Carris--general manager of Little Everglades Ranch, part of the show management, the safety judge AND birthday girl--a birthday card and Godiva chocolates. We use up our wait after the safety check to limber up Wilson and look at the gorgeous big live oaks and magnolias spread across beautiful acreage surrounding the start. We have chosen to do the shorter course of 9-10km (which is about 6 miles to us Southern Crackers).

And Off We GO! I'm driving and Judi is hanging on as we start at an energetic trot up the hill toward the Steeplechase track, then follow the well-marked turn left toward our first challenge: the Pandamonium Circles. I do think alcohol might have been involved in making this challenge. It seemed simple on paper: Just follow a circle painted on the ground, keeping the painted circle between your wheels and doing it in both directions. They did say to watch out for the panda bear. What they didn't say is how



hard it is to keep Wilson on the circle with a giant 15-foot NINJA PANDA statue in the middle of the circle. (Wilson said it was 20 feet tall with laser eyes and vampire teeth.) We check in with the hazard volunteers, tell them our number, give them our scorecard, bribe with chocolate, thank them for being here, and then more or LESS successfully drive a circle with the pony looking sideways and a few rocket booster trots. We exit, collect our scorecard, and off we go again.

We are now on beautiful sand/clay roads with an occasional trek through the shaded, cool, and mysterious woods. We hope to see some Sherman Fox Squirrels. These little guys are much bigger than our grey squirrels and can be quite friendly. They are a 'Species of Special Concern' in Florida. We do spot some noble Sand Hill Cranes that seem less than concerned about our carriage. Judi now reminds me that I am supposed to be driving and not bird watching, as Wilson is trotting like a drunken sailor. We straighten up and get to challenge #3, the Nautilus Spiral. The wonderful volunteer (after bribing) tries to give us hints on how to drive this spiral in and out. We listen carefully and giggle with delight going through the obstacle, but the execution is below par. We collect our scorecard and on we trot to #4, the Wait for Weight. Here we get to drive up onto the cattle scales. (Little Everglades Ranch has a yummy-looking herd of commercial cattle as well as one of the largest herds of Belted Galloways, aka Oreo cows, in Florida.)

We guess our combined weight of pony, rig, and people at 1,302 pounds, but we weigh only 1004 pounds! Judi and I are obviously not as stout as was thought. Off we go just a little ways to #5: Hazard of Hay. Here is just a little hazard made of rolls (round bales) of hay. Gates A to F. Pretty easy, huh? Not so! In keeping with the Ranch theme this hazard's rolls of hay are decorated to resemble cows, pigs, pumpkins, and smiley faces. We are told to do five gates. Nobody said we had to add while on course so we (and, as it sounds like, most of the competitors) did all six. BUSTED! But we did have the fastest time so far.

continues on p. 10

2010 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.

January

- 13-17 **WINTER ADS BOAD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING: in conjunction with USEF Annual Meeting., Louisville, KY.**
- 23 **Ohio Winter Indoor Driving Games:** Training & Prelim; VSE, Pony, Horse; Windy Knoll Farm, Sullivan, OH; Heated indoor arenas for competition and warmup; rpburrows@carriagesinthepark.com, 330-697-8325.
- 24 Winter Carnival Sleigh & Cutter Festival, Phalen Park, St. Paul, MN. All breeds of horses and ponies and all types of sleighs welcome. Ribbons awarded in multiple classes. Current equine health rules apply. John or Mary Block 651-433-5312, johmarl@frontiernet.net.

February

- 5-7 **SUPER CLINIC, Tampa, FL: Will coincide with the Florida State Fair show.**
- 6 Gilcrest Farm HDT, Windsor, SC. www.gilcrestfarm.com, Renie Gillis 803-648-4500.
- 14 CAA Proficiency Evaluations with Marsoe LaRose: Hesperia, CA; contact Suellen Hall, 661-944-4677, suellen62@aol.com.
- 20 **Ohio Winter Indoor Driving Games:** Training & Prelim; VSE, Pony, Horse; Windy Knoll Farm, Sullivan, OH; Heated indoor arenas for competition and warmup; rpburrows@carriagesinthepark.com, 330-697-8325.

March

- 13-14 The Driving Forum Carriage Driving Conference & Trade Show; The Courtyard by Marriott, Nashua, NH; Linda Roth, 508-344-1529; www.driving-forum.com.
- 20 **Ohio Winter Indoor Driving Games:** Training & Prelim; VSE, Pony, Horse; Windy Knoll Farm, Sullivan, OH; Heated indoor arenas for competition and warmup; rpburrows@carriagesinthepark.com, 330-697-8325.

April

- 3 Gilcrest Farm HDT, Windsor, SC. www.gilcrestfarm.com, Renie Gillis 803-648-4500

May

- 1-2 **Ohio Schooling CDE:** Windy Knoll Farm, Sullivan, OH; rpburrows@carriagesinthepark.com, 330-697-8325.

June

- 26 Susquehanna Valley Whip & Wheels Pleasure Driving Show, Lycoming County Fairgrounds, Hughesville, PA. Final show for the 2010 Mid-Atlantic Whip Challenge. Division Championships for Novice, VSE, Pony and Horses. Classes: In-Hand, Turnout, Working, Reinsmanship, Scurry and Town & County. Show one day, or combine scores with the Sporting Day of Traditional Driving on Sunday for overall Grand Championship. Tina Cornell, 570-784-4793 or 570-204-5536.
- 27 Susquehanna Valley Whips & Wheels Sporting Day of Traditional Driving, Lycoming County Fairgrounds, Hughesville, PA. Novice, Pony and Horse. Pleasure Drive & Turnout Inspection, Task Drive and a cones course. Grand Championship awards offered for those who wish to compete in both this event and the Pleasure Show. Tina Cornell 570-784-4793.

July

- 9-11 **METAMORA PLEASURE DRIVING SHOW:** Horse, Pony, VSE. Turn-out, Reinsmanship, Working, Dressage. Linda W. Piette, quailhlw@aol.com, 248-310-9966. Opening May 21, 2010; closing June 21, 2010.
- 17-18 **Hickory Knoll CDE:** Hickory Knoll Farm, Fitchburg, WI, www.hickoryknoll.net; Training, Preliminary, Intermediate; contact Hickory Knoll Fund, Inc. c/o John Freiburger H: 608-835-7473, Fax: 608-835-2156; frei@chorus.net;
- 17-18 Birds Hill International CDE: Birds Hill Park Equestrian Centre, Winnepeg, Manitoba; www.manitobadrivingsociety.com.
- 23-25 **Ohio CDE:** Howe Meadow and Hale Farm and Village; VSE, Pony & Horse, singles and pairs; new routes; rpburrows@carriagesinthepark.com, 330-697-8325.
- 24-25 **35th EAST AURORA CARRIAGE DRIVING & COMPETITION:** Chur Equestrian Center, Knox Farm State Park, East Aurora, New York; Pleasure, Obstacles, Marathon, Concours d'Elegance. Liz O'Donnell, LizOdonnellEADS@aol.com, 716-380-5724; opening date June 1, closing date July 1.
- 31-Aug. 1 **PACIFIC REGION DRIVEN DRESSAGE FESTIVAL,** Arroyo Grande, CA. Training - Advanced Tests, Musical Freestyle, Pas de Deux, Test of Choice. Diane Kastama dkastama@verizon.net, 805-343-6026

August

- 22 MLM Schooling Driving Trial: Spring Valley Park, Wintertown, PA; open to non-members; organizer Anne Council, 717-993-8956, birchhollow_anne@verizon.net

September

- 3-5 **Indiana CDE:** INDIANA CDE: Hoosier Horse Park, Edinburg, IN; www.iwwi.org; CDE Levels: Training, Preliminary, Intermediate; Combined Test: Training only. Contact: David Sadler, H: 217-548-2300, C: 217-621-5547, F: 217-548-2400, davlin@sadlerfarms.net

October

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

OMNIBUS CHANGES

In response to ADS member comments, the Wheel-horse Calendar of Events will henceforth 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

Correction: Hat's Off Boutique information in the January-June 2010 Omnibus should have appeared as follows: Tel/Fax 352-486-8423

Frightfully Fun . . .

(continued from p. 8)

With renewed confidence we trot off across this beautiful big hay field. On the other side is #6, the Spell Check. All 12 of the dressage letters are set in the field. Each letter has a circle drawn around it. We draw a card out of a hat with the words "CRABS." We have to give the card back, which means we have to remember how to spell our word. Now we drive to each letter in the field to "spell" our word. We have to cross into the circle surrounding the letter for that letter to count. WE SUCCEED! We trot on following our arrows to the 10-minute rest station. They have water for the horses and johns for the people. What more could any woman want?

Our 10 minutes is up and off we go with our eager pony heading at a big trot to #7, the Square Dance of Cones, a square of cones with a cone in the middle. You have to drive in and out of the cones to cross every plane. I think that there are nine planes to cross and we do 11-- but who's counting? Now we are trotting along the backside of the Steeplechase track, then out driving along curvy dirt roads with herds of cattle roaming around and sometimes lying in the road. We choose not to challenge their right to the road and make a detour around one BIG mama. (Luckily it is too chilly here on the shaded roads for the gators to be out.) Out of the pastures we go and up past a few of the hazards just built for the First Annual Little Everglades International Driving Event to be held January 28–31, 2010. They look so cool. I envy the drivers that get to show here in January.

We now arrive at #8, the Wonder Whip. I have to drive down a curved fenced alleyway one-handed while touching balloons tied on both sides of the fence with my whip lash. We listen to good advice and walk this challenge. Success again! Trotting off and following our trusty arrows, we are now back in the wooded fields. On we go and up over the wooden bridge with a few encouraging "get up there's" to Wilson. We go around the Little Everglades barns and paddocks where they raise Hanoverians and Thoroughbred racehorses. Down though some dry creeks, and back up we go to #9, the Care Free Cones. This is a cones course of ten cones that we are driving blind. What Fun! By now Wilson is feeling the miles and is not quite as perky. But at the sight of the cones he rallies, and we zip through with no balls down. We are now on to the finish where we hope to finish the course as close to the predetermined pace time as possible. We come to the finish line all smiles and we would happily hitch up another pony and go again!

After taking care of wonderful Wilson, the Hammock Farm team eats lunch provided by the South Creek Foxhounds; the proceeds go to keeping the Foxhounds in the style which they are accustomed. Then we all go off to volunteer. It was fun watching the more advanced ponies and horses go through the "challenges" as this was a "trot only" drive and the advanced horses were anxious to show how fast they could canter. This event was a great training opportunity and super fun; there is not a prettier place to put miles on your steed than Little Everglades. I want to go again!

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