



Christina Moniz drove Betlar Royal Thomas at Orleton Farm. Photo courtesy Lisa Cenis, www.ShootThatHorse.com

THE Wheelhorse

NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN DRIVING SOCIETY

NL 196

Representing Carriage Driving in the United States and Canada

September 2011

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US Whips Head Home After Conty



Photo by Joe Delfino

Amiens, France, August 29: Joe Yoder of the US Pairs Team is packed up and ready to head home to Aiken, South Carolina after the World Pairs Championship in Conty, France.

Joe Delfino, a Florida ADS member who attended the Championship, encountered Joe Yoder and his horses' owner, Jack Wetzel, as they were all checking out of their accommodations. He sent the following update:

“They were feeling pretty good about Joe’s performance. As you probably know, he was sixth in Dressage [the highest US placing, with a score of 44.03]. And the judges were not forgiving. His marathon would have been much better but for his offside horse getting its inside leg over the trace while cantering in Hazard 5. Joe was excited about a week off, getting back to Aiken and starting fresh.”

The US team finished 10th in the Championship. Individual results were:

Kathi Dancer - A(58.88):34th, B:45th, C(3/6.66):29th, Final:27th

Misdee Wrigley-Miller - A(52.86):20th, B:28th, C:Eliminated

Joe Yoder - A(44.03):6th, B:57th, C(6/0):21st, Final:33rd

Watch for Joe Delfino’s exclusive coverage of the World Pairs Championship in the November issue of the *Whip*.

A Message from The Executive Director



Have you had a chance to listen to the new Driving Radio Show? HorseRadioNetwork.com has an entertaining new show about driving, and people who are into it.

Hosted by Glen the Geek and Wendy Ying, the show features guests such as Miranda Cadwell, David Saunders and Kathleen Conklin. My favorite episode to date features former Wells Fargo stagecoach driver David Helmuth. Born into an Amish family, he left the community at a young age to work for Dick Sparrow, famous driver of the Belgian 40-horse hitch. David tells of his adventures driving a team across the country for Reiman Publications, a World Championship team once owned by single pony driver Phyllis Grupe. You can listen to this episode and more at: <http://drivingradioshow.horseradionetwork.com/2011/08/02/driving-radio-show-episode-4-driving-zebras-and-stagecoaches/>

Each week I am invited to give an ADS update; I do it over Skype, using the same equipment as for the Webinars. Glen records our chats and combines them with other clips to create an hour-long podcast that you can listen to on your computer or download to your iPod or iPhone. I would like to expand my ADS news by including club and event announcements as well as fun member stories. If you have something you would like me to share, please pick up the phone or drop me an email. We have also started a new weekly email blast. It's still called News Bits, but has a little different look and feel. We're trying to corral all the little bits and pieces of information that we feel are of interest to our membership and combine it in one email, to help reduce your inbox clutter. From time to time we will also send out paid advertisements, which help us offset the ever-increasing cost of our print publications. We hope that you will open, read and find value in these announcements from companies and individuals who are helping us keep the lights on!

The Officers' Report: Unraveling the Mystery of an Audit

By Bill Lawson, ADS Treasurer

Most businesses, whether for profit or nonprofit (like the American Driving Society) routinely engage the services of an accountant. Many other organizations maintain financial records with little or no outside accounting support throughout the year, until it's time for preparation of annual tax returns. The ADS falls into this second group. In addition to the preparation of tax documents, accountants are frequently asked to prepare financial statements, including statements of profit and loss and balance sheets. How these statements are to be used dictates the level of review done by the accountant in preparing them.

An accountant can prepare three types of statements. The simplest is called a "compilation" statement: numbers are provided and the accountant pulls them together with minimum review. In this case, the accountant offers no opinion regarding the accuracy of the finished product. The second level is called a "review" statement. Here the accountant reviews various documents such as actual bank statements to verify the accuracy of the numbers provided. A letter is attached to the statement, confirming that this review process was done.

The third and highest level is called an "audited" statement. Here the accountant goes through the records in great detail to verify the accuracy and structure of the published statements. He or she then includes a letter stating that the audit was done. Anyone receiving this statement is assured that it has undergone the highest level of review following generally accepted accounting principles.

The ADS recently arranged with the accounting firm of Johnson & Block located in Madison, Wisconsin to prepare audited statements of our 2010 records. One reason for this is to meet the requirements of various states where we are registering as an organization doing business, but it brings us several other benefits as well. The entire process of our financial record-keeping has been reviewed and over all we did pretty well with a few suggestions made for us to consider. Internal procedures have been discussed from the viewpoint of safeguarding the assets of the ADS by distributing workloads in a way that results in crossing-checking the work. For example, since I have signature authority with bank accounts, I do not reconcile bank statements. This gets multiple people involved in the process.

Although ADS invested time and resources in the audit process, it is always beneficial to get an outside look at what goes into our financial record-keeping. We are now beginning the review of all suggestions made, to produce the best and most accurate records we can.

Annual Meeting Reminder

This is just a reminder to get your signup information to the ADS office for the October 14-16, 2011 American Driving Society Membership/Board of Directors meetings.

The Portland, Oregon area, the location of these events, is a uniquely beautiful region of the country. Join Northwest Region drivers, ADS participants from around the country and the ADS Board of Directors for an exciting schedule of activities, including a Saturday fun and educational day and the Membership meeting. You will find more details, including the registration form, in a supplement mailed with your August *Whip* or go to the ADS Web site: americandrivingsociety.org

Chester Weber Leads World Cup Standings, Is Chef for US Whips at Pair & Pony Worlds



Chester Weber finished third at the Aachen CHIO, his best-ever performance there. Photo courtesy of Franz Steindl

Chester Weber capped a successful European tour this summer with a win at the Riesenbeck CAI in late July that catapulted him to the top of the standings for the FEI World Cup Driving competition that takes place in Europe this winter.

FEI World Cup competition for Four-in-Hand drivers was first held in November 2001. Six drivers who have qualified

during the summer compete at a series of eight indoor shows whose format includes no dressage competition, and where the popular marathon and cones obstacles are combined. The World Cup Champion is the driver who accumulates the most World Cup points at the conclusion of all eight competitions

Riesenbeck, where Chester won the prestigious *Farhderby* for the third time, concluded a campaign in which he also won at CAIO Vecses (Hungary) and CAI Altenfelden (Germany) and came third at CHIO Aachen. Chester returned to Europe in August as *chef d'equipe* of the US Pair and Pony Teams competing (respectively) at Conty, France August 24-28, and Lipica, Slovenia September 22-25. He served as *chef* for the Pony Teams in 2007 and 2009, and this was his first time as *chef* for the Pair Team. He was nominated for the *chef d'equipe* position by the Pair and Pony Team subcommittees and chosen by the USEF Driving High Performance committee.

Remembrances: Goodbye to Matador

By Melinda Takeuchi

“You are fighting a battle with that horse that you are never going to win!” declared Hardy Zantke when he first encountered my Dutch Harness Horse, Matador, at a CDE in 2006. Hardy was right—if you define winning as demonstrating competitive-edge submission at events. But I hadn’t bought Matador as a competition horse; I didn’t even know what CDEs were. I had got him as a tutor horse for my Girlz. His talent lured me into competing him, but he proved just too excitable. I found him another job: as a tutor horse for me. As I became a better driver, this FEI-level horse increasingly gave me his all. One professional photographer nicknamed him “Greatheart.”

Matador was beset with demons. But in our six years together he learned to relax, love, trust and respond. When you keep your horse at home, you are available for each other 24/7. I spent hours looking out the window, just relishing his glossy dappled beauty and his exuberant athleticism. He blossomed for being cherished, and he loved being honcho at our Takeuchi Silver Toad Ranch. He had a wonderful sense of humor (though not always appropriate) and helped out at corral cleaning time by sashaying around with the rakes or pitchforks. We played tag together, as if he were part cutting horse. I scratched his withers while he gently groomed my neck. He would stare over the fence into the house, silently willing us to let him out into the pasture. I gave up taking him to shows, but my daily drives at home with this schoolmaster are among my most precious memories. At least 30 people had their first carriage rides behind Matador, who never pulled shenanigans at home. He put driving on the American Horse Publications’

map when his two-part profile in the *Whip* won third place among articles on all disciplines.

August 18 we had a joyous Cones practice session. By dinnertime he was pawing. During surgery the vet discovered a twisted small intestine. I had to give the order to put him down. My husband and I, fearing the worst, had kissed that whimsical white nose goodbye before we left the clinic to await the vet’s verdict. Matador had looked at us with the pleading eyes of a horse in mortal distress, begging us to make things right. He was 17, but remained a 3-year-old at heart.

As Gerald Fisher observed, the ineffable joy of pets comes with one great big heartbreaking balloon payment at the end. But I would not have traded it for the world. Matador enriched a lot of people’s lives.



Photo by Susan Friedman

Fox Valley, the Third (and Final) Time

Story and photos by Myrna Rhinehart

The last time I wrote about the Fox Valley Pleasure Driving show in Hampshire, Illinois, our photos showed corn “as high as an elephant’s eye” in neighboring fields. This year, we had to squint to see the corn. It was hardly up yet, because the show was moved from the middle of August to the end of May.

Regardless of the height of the corn, the Fox Valley show was great. The organizers were friendly and flexible, and the facility is wonderful. The tireless Fox Valley Saddle Association volunteers even decorated the grounds with American flags, honoring the Memorial Day weekend.

Clouds darkened the sky for most of the day, but didn’t dampen the spirits of participants. The indoor arena was utilized for only for a couple of classes while a passing shower settled any dust. Spectators could sit in the clubhouse and watch either the indoor or the outdoor arenas without moving their seats. If they chose to sit outside, they could enjoy the patio with wonderful landscaping overlooking the outdoor arena.

This year there were divisions for Novice Whip, Novice Horse & Pony, Open Horse, Open Pony, VSE, Draft, Multiples, and even a Non-Traditional Vehicle division that enticed three drivers of marathon vehicles to participate. There were many first-time exhibitors as well as seasoned competitors, and some of those first-time exhibitors earned top awards!

The obstacle courses were set up on the grass dressage field and the permanent eventing course. The creative organizers and course designers used some of the jump standards for obstacles on the Town & Country course (to drive around, not over!). Some competitors took advantage of the trail that surrounds the property and drove their horses recreationally in between classes.

During the awards party in the clubhouse, every competitor received a sample bag of Finish Line products. Grand Champions were awarded a bucket of Feet First hoof supplement as well as a brass bridle hook and big purple ribbon. Afterwards, competitors and their families and grooms enjoyed a delicious catered dinner of grilled steak and potatoes.



Dr. Robert (Bob) Long was the winner of the Multiples division and the Concours d’Elegance. His wife, Donna, is seated next to him, and Amy Hartwig is the groom



Volunteers watch as Chad Rhinehart negotiates the Scurry course with his pair of VSEs. Kyle Rhinehart is the groom

Why No 2012 Fox Valley Show? Organizer Julie Kniep Explains

Any time our club (Fox Valley Saddle Association) takes on something new, we give it a minimum of three years to develop. We thought we were in an excellent location for this type of driving show and could be a good warm-up competition for either Columbus or Villa Louis; however, we only got a couple of entries who were ultimately aiming for those venues. When we had Fox Valley in the summer, we fought the heat. When we thought we’d try earlier in the year, we had comments that if we had it during the summer we’d get more Juniors—but that hadn’t been the case. So I felt it was a no-win situation.

Fox Valley holds other events that make it possible for us to keep the gates open every year, and I can’t continue to use resources (e.g. volunteer hours) on an event that breaks even at best. I have a Board to answer to.

I so enjoyed the driving show, and the driving people are some of the finest and kindest horsemen I have ever known. We had wonderful officials and I would like to thank the competitors who did attend. I understand that it’s always ‘iffy’ going to a new venue, and they were the brave souls who tried it. I know I will be seeing them all at other driving events, and I hope we gave some of them a place to get started.

My thanks to Susie Koos-Acker and all of the ADS staff for their patience and assistance throughout the three years that this show was put together by the greenest of green organizers! I have learned so much that will enable me to assist at other events in the future.

2011 ADS Mid Atlantic Region Pleasure Driving Weekend at Fair Hill

By Margaret Grillet, Mid Atlantic Regional Director

Wind, rain, a bit of lightning and thunder—who cares! By all estimates, a record number of “fun-loving carriage driving enthusiasts” enjoyed the Mid Atlantic Pleasure Driving Weekend this year; all had a great time despite a few storms that interrupted the otherwise sunny August days. The grounds and staff at Fair Hill Department of Natural Resources proved to be perfectly accommodating for our group for the four days we were there. The rangers were wonderful and kept track of the occasional severe weather that blew through to be sure that everyone in our group was safe. Most importantly, the new and improved carriage trails held up to the rains and were put to good use so that everyone could safely enjoy driving through new parts of the park.

We appreciate all the hard work Darrell Martin invested to coordinate the CAA proficiency testing that was offered during the weekend. Everyone enjoyed getting to know Jerry Trapani, who conducted the level one proficiency tests and who also helped Dana Bright with the safety checks throughout the event.

Heidi Ferguson coordinated the “Super Silent Auction” whose proceeds benefitted the Fair Hill Trail Fund. Our generous donation to this Fund will help to support, maintain and improve the trails that we all use. We are grateful to everyone who participated in the auction!

This year, three local driving clubs hosted breakfasts for the group on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Endless thanks to all who helped and especially to the organizers of each



Susan Roberts doing her safety check before “acing” her CAA Proficiency test!

of the breakfasts: Sue Fair from My Lady’s Manor Driving Club, Teresa Palumbo from Brandywine Valley Driving Club and Debbie Todd from Garden State Horse and Carriage Society. The yummy breakfast feasts were enjoyed by hundreds and included yogurt parfaits, pancakes, sausage, fruit, cereal and eggs. Breakfast is the most important meal and we had it covered!

This was a wonderful weekend for friends to reacquaint, relax, drive and make new friends. I know many are looking forward to having a wonderful time again next year at Fair Hill for the Mid Atlantic Region Pleasure Drive.

Thanks to the committee whose months of hard work made the weekend a successful event: Vicki Baturay, Dana Bright, Darrell Martin, Gayle Stinson and Ellen Weisfield.

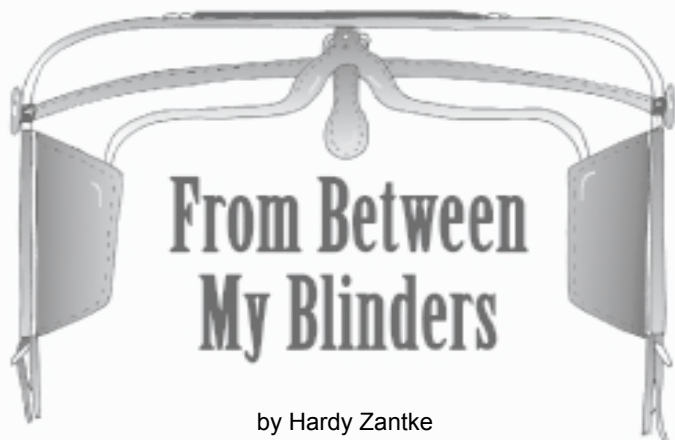
Thank you all for coming and having fun—the Mid Atlantic Region Rocks!



(from left) Newt Brosius, Tim and Judy Canavan and Jacques Grillet



Dana Bright and Gayle Stinson, organizers



Thoughts on Rule Changes and Penalties

I like our annual rule change process with its clear procedure and firm deadlines. You can find the process and the dates on the ADS Web site under Rules, or read Rules Committee Chair Simon Rosenman's explanation of the process in the June 2011 *Wheelhorse*.

Anyone can suggest rule changes before June 1. Then the Technical Committees review them and forward their suggestions to the Rules Committee, which forms the actual Rule Change Proposals, and posts those on the Web site at the beginning of August for members' comments.

As I write this column during the month of August, I am looking at these RCPs. Unfortunately, when you read this in the September *Wheelhorse*, the deadline for comments has passed, and we can only hope that the Technical Committees and the Rules Committee will then come up with good solutions.

I am not so happy with some of the RCPs, and have sent my comments to the Rules Committee as requested. But what troubles me most is that I see quite a few RCPs in the Combined Driving section with comments that the Combined Driving Committee only "supported with change." That, of course, brings up the question: With what change? Wasn't it their job to do that before the RCPs are published, so that we know what the proposal now really is, and what we can comment on?

Take, for example, RCP 39, the "Twice Around" rule of Art 917.2.2—as well as RCP 44 on Art 940.1.3, on which I just wrote my last column in the July *Whip*, explaining my opposition to the suggested change. I can see now that the Event Standards Committee shares my opinion, and does not support either RCP, while the Combined Driving Committee states "supported with change." So, with what kind of change? Since we don't know that, I believe such a statement defeats the purpose of public input to the rule change process.

I also believe we should keep our rule changes to an absolute minimum, only change what is really necessary and keep the penalties as low as possible. If the committee thinks it's really necessary, then a couple of penalty points

will do just as well as Elimination. Nobody wants any penalty points—but why always right away Elimination?

Example: RCP 42, requiring helmets the entire marathon, rather than (as in the past) only on Section E. Is it really necessary to eliminate a competitor who might take the helmet off by mistake on a really hot and humid day in the walk section? Wouldn't five penalty points be sufficient?

Or take RCP 57, a new rule disallowing cantering in Cones at Training level, citing safety concerns and consistency with the marathon rule. Do we really need that? In the 30-plus years I have been with the sport, I have never encountered a problem with Training level competitors in Cones in that respect, nor have I seen a problem in the more than 100 competitions at which I've officiated in my 15 years as a judge. But if indeed the committee feels we need it (again they say "supported with change" by the CDE Committee, while again Event Standards does not support it, and I agree with Event Standards), then at least give us clear language and keep the penalties low. Right now it does not state what constitutes a "break of pace" (while in the marathon section we clearly say the penalty only applies if a break of pace is longer than five seconds), and once again has the provision to eliminate competitors if they do it intentionally. Who can judge if it was really intentional? This is something that I don't like in the marathon rules either.

Let's make our sport more competitor-friendly, rather than coming up with new and more penalties.

Happy and safe driving to all.

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. Payment must accompany ad text (checks, Visa, Mastercard accepted).

WINTER IN SOUTHERN PINES, NORTH CAROLINA: Lovely apartment available November-May. Spacious, 2-bedroom, 2-bath, bright, clean, new. Miles and miles of roads, lanes and trails for riding and driving. Stalls may also be available. Please call 910-693-0304 or 910-315-3150

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)

2011 Calendar of Events 2011

Bold Type Indicates an ADS Recognized Competition

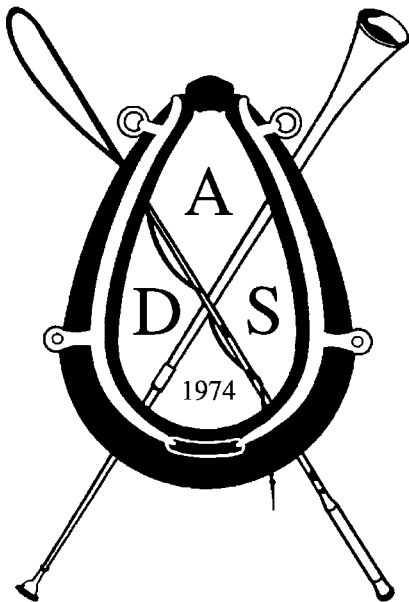
All driving activities may be listed in the Calendar, but as space is limited, please submit only dates of activities that are open to all ADS members. ADS recognized events that are printed in either Omnibus will not be listed in the Wheelhorse calendar. For a complete up-to-date calendar listing, visit www.americandrivingsociety.org/calendar.asp.

September

- 3 Cypress Keep Everything Cones Clinic, Plant City, FL. www.cypresskeep.com. Spend the day learning about and practicing all versions of Pleasure and CDE obstacle classes. Contact Erika Matulich for more information, 813-982-2200.
- 4 Cypress Keep Hazards Clinic, Plant City, FL. www.cypresskeep.com. Spend the day learning about driving techniques and practice through different types of hazards. Contact Erika Matulich for more information, 813-982-2200.
- 11 Introduction to Driven Dressage: Willow Tree Equestrian Center, Bangor, MI. Rosaland Diekema, P: 269-427-8007.
- 17-18 Rocky Mountain Carriage Club Fall Follies CDE & 2 Phase, Greeley CO. Nancy Bruckhauser, 303-776-6246, nbruck@earthlink.net.

October

- 4-9 The National Drive, Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington, KY. www.nationaldrive.net. Kathy Blank, P: (270) 378-5330, tnd2010@live.com.
- 15 **ADS ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING:** The Governor Hotel, Portland, OR / Happ's, Ethel, WA.
- 29 JRDA Arena Driving Trial: Meadow Event Park, Doswell, VA. Training, Prelim, VSE, singles, multiples. \$60 entry fee, stalls available thru Meadow Event Park. Judge Martha Nicoll. Sally Sutherland, 804-784-3168, ssutherland.ppp@juno.com.



OMNIBUS CHANGES

In response to ADS member comments, the Wheelhorse 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_omnibustings/adsomnibusindex.asp

Sept. 2-4: Indiana CDE, Hoosier Hoorse Park, Edinburgh, IN. Pre-Advanced level added.

Sept 3-4: Dressage Extraordinaire, Clay Station Horse Park, Wilton, CA. NOT Cancelled, Show will go on! Officials updated.

Sept. 10-11: GMHA Fall Classic, Woodstock, VT. CANCELLED

Sept. 11-12: Happ's HDT-Twice!, Happ's, Ethel, WA. Vet information updated.

Sept. 15-18: Shady Oaks CDE, Lodi, CA. Officials updated, changes regarding article 917 and Coggins information

Sept. 17-18: TCA HDT at Black Star Farm, Rockwall, TX. Secretary's contact info, directions updated.

Sept. 24-25: Hermitage Classic HDT and CT, Hermitage International Training Center, Goshen, KY. Combined Test added, tests updated.

Sept. 25: Oakhill Farm and Ranch HDT, Nunda, NY. CANCELLED

Oct. 8-9: Garden State CDE, Horse Park of New Jersey at Stone Tavern, Allentown, NJ. Mailing address updated.

Nov. 5: Houston Area Carriage Association ADT, Burleson County Saddle Club, Caldwell, TX. **RESCHEDULED FOR NOV. 12.** Cones info updated.

Inaugural KY Classic Is Oct. 7-9

The inaugural Kentucky Classic Combined Driving Event will take place October 7-9 at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington. A new, dedicated driving arena is currently under construction and will host the dressage and cones competitions for the new Kentucky Classic CDE.

Singles, pairs, and four-in-hand teams of horses and ponies at the Preliminary, Intermediate and Advanced levels will compete over three days. For this first year only, the event has adopted a slightly modified competition schedule with Advanced dressage and cones on Friday afternoon, Preliminary and Intermediate dressage and cones on Saturday, and the marathon on Sunday. For the marathon phase, the Kentucky Classic CDE will use seven of the eight marathon obstacles designed by Richard Nicoll for last year's Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games.

Charity Drive-a-Thon or Ride-a-Thon

Sponsored by the Whip'r Snapper Driving Society to benefit ANGELMAN and DOWNS SYNDROMES

1. Come drive / ride on November 13, 2011 at Moonraker Ranch in Mojave, California. Cost: \$50.00 includes lunch
2. Take a Virtual Drive / Ride for \$30.00
3. Sponsor your favorite driver / rider with any amount.

The driver / rider who makes the most money for the charity will earn a Special Award.

For more information contact:

Melanie Brooker at 661-816-7177 or

email: dulciepi@verizon.net or

Suellen Hall at 661-944-4677

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