



Temoc, an Azteca, came back from serious injuries to compete with Ann Katona. Story on p. 4

THE Wheelhorse

NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN DRIVING SOCIETY

NL 206

Representing Carriage Driving in the United States and Canada

December 2012

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ADS Secretary Ann Davis Receives President's Award

By John Freiburger, with Merridy Hance

My grandfather and his brother worked their farms with horses, leaving the tractors in the barn, long after it made much sense. But they enjoyed the companionship, the idea of teamwork that made day-long tasks rewarding. They had big Perches. "You want a good team," they'd say. "You want them to pull together."

The ADS President's Award was given to Bill Lawson in 2011 for his unfailing attention to the ADS finances, his work on the Executive Committee and Board and his dedication to the details of taxes, 501 law, 990s and audits.

In 2012, I was able to give the Award to the second half of that hard-working team, Ann Davis.

Read more about Ann on page 2.

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A Message from the Executive Director



As I listen to Christmas carols on our favorite radio station here in the office, I am flabbergasted that the year is coming to a close so quickly. I did brave the Black

Friday crowds at the mall after Thanksgiving so that my daughter, Mia, could help a friend ring the bells for the Salvation Army. My cones driving skills came in handy negotiating the insane parking lot traffic. The advice from a particular clinician—“line yourself up straight before going through”—rang in my head as I whipped into a narrow parking slot that drivers of big SUVs were avoiding.

Since I had a prime parking spot, I decided to look around for a few Christmas gifts. I must say that, despite the long lines at the registers and the disarray on the shelves as hundreds of hands pawed through the racks, all the sales associates I encountered were still pretty cheerful. Everyone was polite and patient and I heard the words “thank you” often from patrons and sellers alike. What a wonderfully simple sentiment in such a chaotic environment.

In that spirit, I would like express another important thank you: to each and all of our ADS BOD members for their participation in the ADS. It really is a tough job that can leave your hide a little abraded and your wallet a little lighter, but at the end of the day it does give you a chance to make a difference and contribute to a sport that gives you so much back, and that is a good thing.

Of our 34 Board members, 11 will be exiting over the next few months and each has made significant contributions to the Society and the sport of carriage driving. Hours that could have been spent driving their own horses and ponies were sacrificed to the computer to develop educational programs, write articles for the *Whip*, develop long-term solutions to business problems and answer questions from fellow members. Without the contributions of members like these, our Society would cease to exist.

Ann Davis Receives President's Award (cont'd)

Ann was educated at Stanford University, where she graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in History. She went on to graduate with a Master's Degree in Business from the University of California San Francisco. Following college, she taught junior high school in Germany and San Francisco and then entered the family business, the Kirk Christmas Tree Farm, where she became the marketing director and later served as president of the American Christmas Tree Association.

Ann has always been service-oriented, serving on her local Clover Park School Board for eight years and the Lakewood City Council for six years. She served on the Sound Transit Board for six years as it developed a light rail system. Ann also served on Lakewood Rotary and the Pierce County YMCA Board in Lakewood. She received the honor of being selected to the American Leadership Fellowship.

She is a world traveler—just give her a map and a rental car, and she's good to go. Okay, forget the rental car. She'll get out her boots, and she'll still go. She has engaged in white water rafting, including going down the Grand Canyon. She's climbed every peak in the Northwest.

Ann owns and loves five Friesians, one of whom is a champion ridden dressage horse and four of whom drive. She has served in every office of the Northwest Friesian Association as well as being highly involved nationally in FHANA. She began her career with horses at age 12 as a barrel racer. It's hard to count her broken bones. Her adult daughters have threatened her with an “intervention” if she doesn't take it easier with the horses. Ann has compromised by taking her trainer along as navigator.

As the ADS Northwest Regional Director, Ann Davis moved aggressively to promote driving and the important role the ADS plays in its development and expansion. She developed many materials that most Regions now use such as extensive email lists, places to drive, resource guides, etc. She was instrumental in organizing the first-ever ADS members meeting in the Northwest, and in making it a success. When I became Midwest Regional Director, I discovered Ann and stole everything I could. She was immensely helpful and guided me as I assembled my materials.

As a member of the ADS Marketing Committee, Ann helped initiate the very successful Breed Partnership and naturally became the Friesian representative. Upon becoming Secretary of the ADS and a member of the Executive Committee, she not only led in devising agendas, planning meetings and producing accurate minutes, but gave Board members and ADS members alike good council, kind words, reliable information and enthusiasm. Ann is someone many of us rely upon for advice. Her enthusiasm is matched by her kindness, her common sense by her commitment to the ADS.

I'm truly grateful to be able to recognize her for all she gives to the ADS as one of its most energetic leaders, and to thank both her and Bill again. They are members of a great team. They pull together.

(Executive Director's Message cont'd)

If you don't know who they are, check out the list in your next Whip or the Board of Director's page on the ADS Web site. Next time you see them at a carriage driving event, introduce yourself to say hi and offer a heartfelt Thanks. I bet it will go a long way to making their day that much brighter.

Happy New Year,

— Susie

ADS Shines at Eastern States Exposition

By Glna Handy, Northeast Regional Director

For four days in November, horsepeople from all disciplines converged on West Springfield, Massachusetts for Equine Affaire, which bills itself as “North America’s Premiere Equestrian Gathering.” The American Driving Society was among the hundreds of exhibitors at this year’s event. Our booth was organized and managed by myself (as Northeast Regional Director) and a host of extremely helpful, very much appreciated volunteers from driving clubs such as the Saratoga Driving Association, Colonial Carriage and Driving Society, Litchfield Hills Driving Club, Connecticut Valley Driving Club and the newly formed Southern New England Carriage and Driving Association. Saratoga Driving Association also generously donated club T-shirts as thank-you gifts for my hardy volunteers.

Equine Affaire holds annual events in Ohio and Massachusetts, attracting thousands of equestrians for a feast of clinics, breed demonstrations and the ultimate in horse lovers’ retail therapy. A snowstorm that started late Wednesday and continued on into Thursday kept attendance down on our Equine Affaire’s first day; Connecticut and eastern Massachusetts were especially hard-hit, with reports indicating almost a foot of snow in some areas. However, things were definitely back to normal by Saturday morning.

Hundreds of attendees made their way to the ADS booth. Some were experienced drivers just stopping by to say hello, but the majority were people who had horses but were new to driving, and eager to learn how. We handed out plenty of information about ADS and local clubs to our visitors, and encouraged them to seek them out. However, perhaps the most important piece of literature we were able to hand out was a pamphlet called “A Carriage Driving Resource Guide for Northeast Equestrians.” This pamphlet, originally started by former Northeast Regional Directors Marc Johnson and Cat Luce, contains listings of trainers/driving instructors, clubs/organizations and equipment dealers in or near our Region. It’s an invaluable guide to point people in the right direction to get help before they try to hook up their daughter’s old eventing horse to the wagon they found hidden away in granny’s barn.

As mentioned before, Equine Affaire is also known for showcasing clinicians covering a wide range of topics, from veterinary care to equipment fit and selection to training for just about any horse-related activity under the sun. Lisa Singer handled the honors for the driving division this year. Lisa gave four seminars over two days. On Saturday, she began with “Take the Lines and Drive: Helpful Guidelines on How and Where to Start for Individuals New to the Sport of Driving.” Later, she followed up with “Starting the Driving Horse: Preparing the Horse for Hooking Up to the Cart.” On Sunday, Lisa narrowed the focus to Combined Driving and took her audience through the skills needed to successfully

navigate dressage, marathon hazards and cones.

Carriage driving was also represented in a number of the breed demonstrations—Morgans and Haflingers for example—sprinkled throughout the four-day event. Drivers who wanted to splurge on a new vehicle, some fancy apparel or other driving accoutrements found awesome shopping opportunities at Driving Essentials, AW Harness, DD Rapps and Griffinbrook Ltd.

I again want to thank all of my volunteers for generously donating their time in helping me make the ADS presence at Equine Affaire a success: Cat and Anastasia Luce, Marc Johnson (who braved the aforementioned snowstorm to set up our booth at the Big E), Nancy and Bill Lawson, Jeff and Jen Morse, Sue Lathrop, Cindy Baehr, Dick Mangino, Marguerite Tomany, Lisa Singer, Kay Konove, Kathleen Conklin and Laurie Neely.

Intermed. Championship Winners

Congratulations to all the winners of the Intermediate Championships. This program is intended to recognize, encourage and inspire drivers in ADS Combined Driving Events in the Intermediate Division and to enable these drivers to measure themselves against others at the same level of proficiency, acknowledging that it is not practical for them to meet to compete head-to-head because of the size of our country. For more information go to: http://www.americandrivingsociety.org/cde_interm_champ.asp

Single VSE:

Ch. Mandy Hood, Lynnwood, WA (265.58)

Res. Lori Hanes, Roy, WA (272.98)

Pair Pony:

Ch. Boots Wright, Ocala, FL (222.22)

Res. Meghan Bengel, Chappell Hill, TX (290.95)

Single Pony:

Ch. Dwayne Pash, Pennington, NJ (211.61)

Res. Tracey Morgan, Beallsville, MD (218.21)

Pair Horse:

Ch. Weibe Dragstra, Southern Pines, NC (245.67)

Res. Pat Hastings, Hartland, VT (286.48)

Single Horse:

Ch. Lowell Nelson, Kent, WA (196.51)

Res. Kim Stover, Smyrna, DE (232.85)

Team Pony:

Ch. Katie Whaley, Paris, KY (333.39)

Res. Frank Luetz, Templeton, CA (336.24)

Team Horse:

Ch. Jose Hernandez, Goshen, KY (304.68)

Temoc: An Azteca's Amazing Comeback

By Ann Katona

I drive an Azteca, a breed developed by crossing the Andalusian with Quarter Horses and Criollos for agility, quickness and cow sense. I happened upon this horse by chance. I needed a driving horse because my Morgan was getting too old to compete in CDEs and her daughter has a stenosis in her neck, preventing her from competing above Training level. My fiancé had this Azteca that was green broke under saddle and had worked cattle, but was really not doing much else. After some pleading and convincing from me, Temoc the Azteca was working in harness. He took to driving surprisingly well, a testament to the versatility of the cross.

We had moved from Northern Illinois to Kentucky in 2007 and I hoped to compete at the 2008 Gayla CDE not far from us. Gayla is in May, it was a particularly wet winter and I had three business trips in a row, which meant Temoc would not be worked for the month of April. I decided to send him out of state to a trainer I had used in the past with good results, for more experience and to become more fit.

Week one seemed to go well; week two —not good. Apparently the trainer was out of town for the weekend and our horse was turned out and had some injuries to his legs. To this day I am not sure what happened but his legs were cut up and warranted a veterinarian's visit (his tail was also shredded). When I asked if I needed to come down and get him (a two-day drive), the trainer said, "Oh no, I want to give you a finished product." I figured that if the trainer thought that the legs would heal and the horse could be worked, it must not be too bad. But some time later we got another call to tell us Temoc had banged up his legs again. This time he was stalled alone in the barn and must have become upset overnight during a thunderstorm. I knew we had to get him as soon as possible, and probably should have done so when we got the first call.

We were presented with a vet bill when we went to pick up Temoc; we were told that the joint capsule was intact on the left leg, where the injury involved the front of the hock—but radiographs were never taken for some reason. Upon Temoc's arrival home I immediately took him down to Dr. John O'Brien in Bowling Green, Kentucky for another opinion. Radiographs showed that the right hind leg had a shattered splint bone that needed to be removed surgically.

Temoc was back home soon for the healing process. Thank goodness, I was a veterinary technician and had also worked with Thoroughbred layups when I was in college; I felt comfortable wrapping legs and changing dressings on a frequent basis. Stall confinement with only hand-walking for exercise was a fun issue. As anybody knows, this can be a frustrating part of rehab—especially with a horse that usually is out 24/7. Temoc's favorite companion, a mare named Raven, stayed in with him while he recovered.



Ann and Temoc are finally competing after his comeback from serious leg injuries. Photo by Sheri Haviza

Temoc never took a lame step throughout his rehab but he had bouts with gastric ulcers. We sometimes feared that he would never be able to be used for any sport—riding or driving. Little by little, though, his legs began to heal. I researched all I could about various ointments, dressings and miracle healing products—and, of course, heard all kinds of advice. We should have bought stock in gauze and Vetrap. We followed Dr. O'Brien's recommendations, kept the wounds cleaned and changed the dressings often. Eventually we could turn Temoc out for short periods. He remained sensible and did not tear up bandages or re-open wounds. Months passed; it took a good year for the wounds to close completely. The left leg did develop some proud flesh (normal granulation tissue that overgrows the wound edges), which we treated. I also kept Temoc on supplements for joint support as well as for skin and coat, gut health and to alleviate stress.

Several months passed before I was able to start working Temoc again, slowly conditioning him with the two-wheeled cart and, eventually, the marathon vehicle. Over time, we went to some small events and drives. This year we finally made it to the Gayla CDE and, more recently, the Indiana CDE (where we placed second in Training Single Horse). His dressage still needs work (whose doesn't?), but he earned the best cones score in his division. The marathon was driven in the pouring rain and Temoc never missed a beat; we made our times in all sections.

This horse has so much heart and trust in me and it is a thrill to simply be able to compete with him, not to mention place well. Next year, we will move up to Prelim.

I must give special thanks to my fiancé, who let me drive this wonderful horse. Even after the injuries, he never held back on letting me continue with Temoc. Also special thanks to Dr. O'Brien for all of his help, and to the host of friends who are always there for me and to help me at CDEs. I could not have done this alone!

Recent Tax Court Case Highlights Importance of Business Plan and Advertising

By John Alan Cohan, Attorney at Law

Peter and Carolyn Bronson, California residents, lost their Tax Court case on the issue of whether their horse-breeding activity was a business rather than a hobby, and their related expense deductions were disallowed. The case, reported at T.C. Memo 2012-17, involved Welsh ponies for the years 2001-2005. The Court held that the Bronsons' persistence in the activity despite mounting losses suggested a lack of profit motive.

Mrs. Bronson devoted substantial time to the couple's horse activity, while Mr. Bronson practiced law full-time and was much less involved in the horse activity. Their daughters rode some of their horses recreationally and in shows, while Mr. and Mrs. Bronson themselves did not ride.

The couple did not develop a written business plan before starting the activity in question, but Mrs. Bronson testified that their original plan was to acquire, breed and train high-quality Welsh ponies and cobs and sell them. Later, they wrote a "Five-Year Plan and Mission Statement" that retroactively summarized their goals, but the document was never updated.

The only breeding or training records offered into evidence were two undated "stock summaries" that listed general information about their horses, with a brief description of the discipline in which each horse had been trained.

In 1999, they decided it was necessary to control costs by acquiring their own facility; they visited horse farms, but did not acquire land for their own facility until 2005. Meanwhile they continued to acquire horses, including two imported from Wales, and they produced three foals.

They had only one sale, a horse that was sold for \$500 to a charitable organization, and they took a \$5,000 charitable contribution deduction, claiming that the horse was worth \$5,500 at the time of sale.

Mrs. Bronson was involved in breeders' organizations and civic groups, and wrote an equine column for a local newspaper. She also sponsored a summer riding clinic for at-risk teenage girls. The Bronsons claimed the purpose of Mrs. Bronson's involvement in these activities was to establish their farm brand and build credibility in the equestrian community.

The Court said that the Bronsons' advertising was inadequate. They placed occasional advertisements in national and regional equine publications, but for 2004 (for example) they reported only \$170 in advertising expenses.

The Bronsons maintained expense records for the horse activity in spreadsheet form, categorizing expenditures for all five years at issue. Most expenditures were partly allocated to personal expenses. The full amount of each expenditure and the amount related to the horse activity were

recorded. They had no other financial records.

The Court said that the taxpayers lacked a businesslike operation in that they lacked a business plan, and failed to maintain a consistent and concentrated advertising program. The Court said they failed to change operating methods or adopt new techniques with an intent to improve profitability, and that they waited too long before buying their own facility.

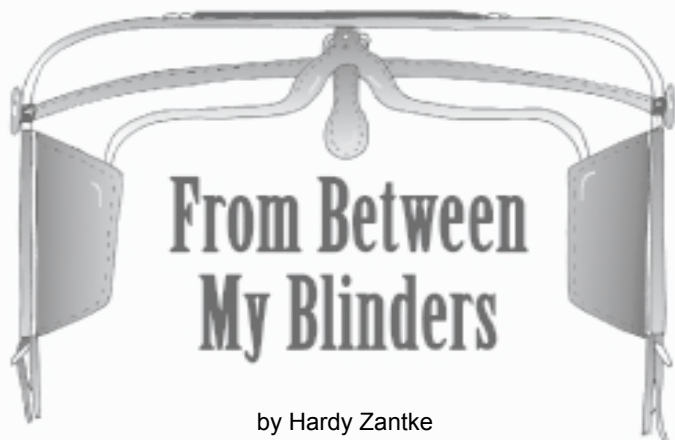
The Court discussed various other elements of the case in its lengthy decision. Overall, the Court was also influenced by the fact there never had been a profit year. The Court also said that the Bronsons' involvement with various horse organizations suggested that the motivation behind the horse activity may have been personal rather than business.

It is hard to predict how a case will turn out in Tax Court. A different judge may well have ruled differently. Surely, had the Bronsons implemented a business plan prior to entering the venture, and if they had evidence of more substantial advertising and promotional efforts coupled with additional horse sales, they would have had a better case. Moreover, it is always recommended to prepare extensive records above and beyond mere spreadsheets, to build credibility as to the taxpayers' intentions to be engaged in a business. Also, whenever possible, it is important to present evidence of credentials of any professional trainers employed in the activity, as well as evidence of the taxpayers' ongoing efforts to develop their own expertise.

It is always an option to settle cases with IRS Appeals prior to going into Tax Court, but at times taxpayers or their attorneys might not be able to negotiate a satisfactory settlement.

John Alan Cohan is a lawyer who has served the horse, livestock and farming industries since 1981. www.johnalancohan.com.





Everyone Makes Mistakes . . .

Nobody Is Perfect . . .

. . . so let me first correct two of my mistakes:

Writing about dressage movements in the November Whip, I wrote on page 71 about the 20-meter circles in Intermediate Tests 3 and 6 starting at X. I wrote that those circles were going to the quarter lines. As observant reader Sharon Silva pointed out to me, that is only correct for Intermediate Test 3; in Test 6 (which I had added later, dumb me), the figure 8 is turned by 90 degrees, so those two circles go to E and B. Sharon is of course very correct.

In the October Wheelhorse I wrote about the FEI proposal on how to change the marathon and combine Section A and D into Section 1, with no end of A and start of E timer in between. That of course was wrong, and I meant "start of D" (!) timer.

My apologies for both those mistakes and any confusion they may have caused.

The last one, however, is a moot point by now, as the FEI—fortunately—has modified its original proposal. Now they leave Section A and E as we always had it, and only change Section D to "Transfer." They took out the pace and speed requirement and only say: ". . . time allowed to be confirmed by the Technical Delegate." Was this the ultimate wisdom? Why didn't they just leave Section D as we had it and just lower the speed? With "Transfer" all we have is a new name (and new signs needed). I believe we still need timers, and the FEI will need to come up with a penalty for anybody not making the time allowed. Otherwise folks with a stressed horse might just stop in the Transfer section to cool him out.

So perhaps by the time you read this, the FEI will have done so already; otherwise, see the title of today's column.

With this change, even though I am usually in favor of staying in sync with the FEI, I can now support the decision of our ADS Combined Driving Committee to stay with our Walk Section as we had it before. So nothing changes in this respect for our lower levels.

The FEI also created quite a stir when they announced in the wrap-up of their recent General Assembly that they would ban from FEI competitions for six months anyone

who competes at an unsanctioned event. This would have pulled out the rug from under any lower-level competitions whose entries usually include FEI-level competitors with young or green horses they are bringing along.

Fortunately, in the meantime the FEI acknowledged a poor choice of words, as they were not targeting lower-level events, but rather top-level international events on which they want to keep the authority. I am happy that the ADS promptly posted that correction on its Web site.

Further, the FEI is replacing the word "Competitor" or "Rider/Driver" with "Athlete" in the entire Rulebook for all disciplines. Many question that as, to most of us, the real athlete is the horse. I am not sure of the reasons behind this change, but understand that in some countries public funding is available for top "athletes." That might be a good reason for the change.

So much for discussion under my title today. Now some more good news:

- I am happy to report that the FEI awarded the next World Championship for Singles, in 2014, to Luhmuehlen in Germany, a great event site (and close to where I grew up).

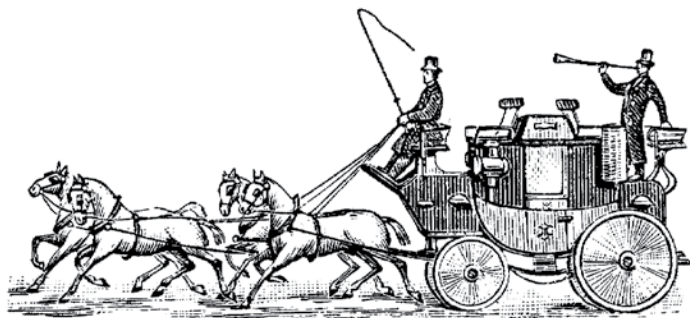
- The FEI also introduced a new Multiple Obstacle, "The Wave," in Cones. The revised ADS Rulebook for 2013 is on the ADS Web site, thanks to once again great work by Simon Rosenman and his Rules committee as well as the discipline committees; you'll see "The Wave" in there and it should be fun to see it come up in some of our upcoming events.

- I am also happy to see that some controversial RCPs—for ADS-licensed course designers, as well as a requirement for Advanced competitors to go HC when entering at Training level—were withdrawn. The "Twice Around" rule was changed a little: In the future it is always allowed, subject to schedule availability, and organizers who do not wish to allow it should state so in the Omnibus.

- Finally: We do have a new ADS Advanced level, which so many were looking forward to. So it looks like we'll have a great next year.

- Further, I am delighted to see the new FEI Dressage Test 11 for Pairs & Four-in-Hands, which I think is a GREAT test moving our sport forward in the right direction. I will write in more detail about it in the February Whip.

Happy Holidays to all!



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.

February 2013

- 9 Carriage Driving Winter Seminar featuring Shelly Temple, Paul Maye, Dr. Rich Forfa and Tim Wright. \$50 per person includes coffee, snacks, lunch and door prizes. Registration deadline 2/5/13. Registration form available at www.jamesriverdrivingassociation.com. Paula Hennessey, 757-619-6566, phenness@vagov.com.
- 10 Driving Clinic with World Bronze Medalist Shelly Temple. Lessons are \$90 (includes \$15 membership/insurance fee for non members). Location is Glamorgan Manor, Doswell VA. Indoor arena with sound system, no charge for auditors. Overnight stabling available and limited number of guest rooms. Registration deadline 2/5/13. Registration form at www.jamesriverdrivingassociation.com. Paula Hennessey, 757-619-6566, phenness@vagov.com.

LICENSED OFFICIALS UPDATE

Whaley, Katie. Contact phone number should be (859) 707-0818

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).

HORSE, HITCH, HARNESS: Perfect match. 1999 Black Morgan 15.2 hand gelding. Driven Prelim single, pairs, 4s CDE. 2010 Red Kutzmann Cob Light Carriage, 29" hard rubber wheels, stainless shafts/side rails, 5th wheel brake, storage box and pockets. Synthetic Harness. 830-755-8708/jmhomes@gvtc.com

COMPETITION FEI YELLOW CONES: \$27 each. Orange Marker Balls \$2.70 each. Number Boxes 1-20 Red and White; \$30 each. Letter Boxes A-D Red and White; \$30 each. Complete Dressage Arena with Letters now available. Accept MC/Visa. Phone Gayla Driving Center 1-800-360-5774. (KY)

OMNIBUS CHANGES

View Omnibus Web pages for complete updated information. http://americandrivingsociety.org/06_omnilistings/adsomnibusindex.asp

2012

Dec. 8-9: **Central Florida HDT**, Grand Oaks Resort, Weirsdale, FL. Accommodations, camping info updated.

2013

Jan 18-20: **Nature Coast HDT and CT**, Black Prong Equestrian Center, Bronson, FL. Officials and dressage tests updated.

Feb 2-5: **Sunshine State CDE**, Florida Horse Park, Ocala, FL. Horse Four-in-hands will be doing the FEI 11 Dressage Test.

Feb 23-26: **Little Everglades CDE**, Little Everglades Ranch, Dade City, FL. Horse Four-in-hands will be doing the FEI 11 Dressage Test.

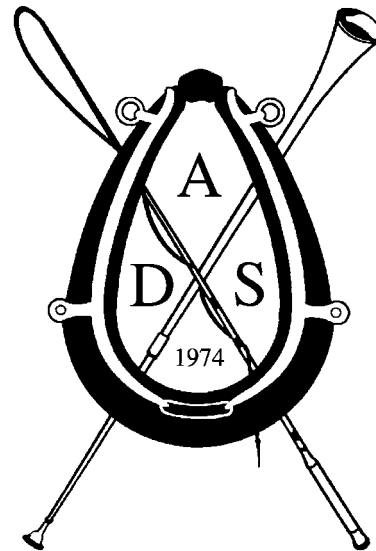
March 8-10: **Arizona CDE**, Goree Farms, Coolidge, AZ. Advanced HDT removed, ADS Advanced added.

March 8-10: **Black Prong HDT and CT**, Black Prong Equestrian Center, Bronson, FL. Officials and dressage tests updated.

March 22-25: **Live Oak CDE**, Live Oak Plantation, Ocala, FL. Horse Four-in-hands will be doing the FEI 11 Dressage Test. Course Designer updated.

June 26-28: **Ohio CDE**, Windy Knoll Farm, Sullivan, OH. Official added.

July 12-14: **CDE at Inavale**, Philomath, OR. Social Events, Marathon updated.



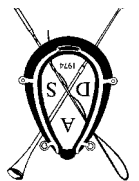
On the Road to Top Competition with an ADS Grant



Doris Leacy of Oro Valley, Arizona received an ADS International Opportunity Initiative grant this year. The ADS IOI program provides access to training opportunities for those who seek to participate at the highest level of the driving sport. This is done in the form of training grants available to US Equestrian Federation long-listed drivers "so that we may attend USEF and other qualified training opportunities on the path to the highest level competition," she explains. This photo was taken as she drove her pony, Melody's Moment, at Hermitage Farm (Goshen, Kentucky). Her full story of how the grant enabled her to train and compete is in the February 2013 *Whip*.

www.americandrivingsociety.org
e-mail *info@americandrivingsociety.org*
Fax 608-237-6468
Phone 608-237-7382
Cross Plains, WI 53528

P.O. Box 278



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