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Wheelhorse

Pat Nelson Eglund drove her Saddlebred at the Columbus (Wisconsin) Sleight Rally. Story on p. 3. Photo by Cindy Gallagher Schmitt

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ADS Annual Winter Meeting

By Susie Koos-Acker, ADS Executive Director

The ADS Board of Directors held its annual Winter Meeting January 14, 2012, in conjunction with the USEF Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio. Twenty of the 32 Board Members were present. The following is a brief synopsis of the meeting. For a complete copy of the minutes, go to the ADS Web site.

ADS Executive Director Susie Koos-Acker reported that membership renewals for December are at 74 percent, which is fairly typical for this time of year. Rulebooks have been selling briskly and we are already at a break-even point. The News Bits email letter will be sent out bimonthly beginning in January, and the Organizer's Newsletter will be sent out quarterly.

The Board decided to discontinue the Forum on the ADS Web site as it was receiving an over-abundance of spam. An addition to the Web site will be the posting of meeting times and details of ADS committee meetings.

The Board passed a motion to hold its 2012 Annual Members Meeting September 28-30 instead of September 21-23, 2012 as was originally voted at the October 2011 Board of Directors Meeting. The reason for the change was to avoid a conflict with a University of Wisconsin home football game. The Board also voted to hold its Annual Members Meeting on September 27-29 in 2013, and not to approve any events on the same weekend.

The majority of the meeting centered on the 2012 ADS Operations Budget and the Endowment Fund. Vice President Mary Jo Stockman updated the Board on the process of state registrations for purposes of the fund-raising upon which she has embarked on behalf of the Society; this process is moving along and will continue in 2012. ADS Treasurer Bill Lawson distributed copies of the proposed 2012 budget and supporting financial documents. In preparing the 2012 budget, the Finance Committee concluded that the ADS has a revenue problem more so than an expenses problem. Therefore the committee proposed a new fee for competition support, assessed to each recognized event. Much discussion was held around this subject, with the Board being in agreement that it didn't want to "nickel and dime" its members. The Board passed a motion that requires each event to submit a \$5 per competitor fee to the Society. Competitors may see raised entry fees either per class or per entry, or the organizer may seek outside sources to cover this fee.

Another important financial topic was the new ADS Endowment Fund. President John Freiburger presented a document drafted jointly by the Development, Finance and Executive Committees with input from the Governance Committee that outlines the structure of the Council that will be charged with managing the assets of the ADS Endowment. The Board approved the Investment Council structure unanimously.

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A Message from The Executive Director



In today's economy the small businesses that get creative, repurpose themselves and rise above the statistics are the businesses that are the successful entities you are hearing

about on CNN and your local news shows. In the horse industry you see similar trends in the advent of more inclusive registries and more awards and programs that include more recreation-based activities.

In our own extremely small corner of the horse industry, event organizers have also been challenged by the realities of our economic climate and have risen to the task. For some shows the loss of just a few entries can mean the difference between an event moving forward or cancelling. In speaking with organizers from around the country, I have learned that more and more are thinking outside the box to bring competitors as well as spectators to their events. The organizing crew at Live Oak is one of these creative groups. This premier Combined Driving Event has added a Jumping Speed Event on Friday after Dressage and again on Saturday following the Marathon. What a great way to showcase Combined Driving to an already enthusiastic, speed-loving equestrian crowd!

On a smaller scale, the Columbus Sleigh Rally invited a model horse club to have its competition during the rally. Model horses of all shapes and sizes crammed the ample ballroom (which was a roller skating rink in the past) at the Fireman's Park Pavilion. Many adults and a plethora of children lined the windows of the balcony, watching the (full-size) live horses trotting in the crisp snow. Maybe some watchers secretly wished they could trade their model for a real live horse. Someday their dream could come true, and hopefully they will remember the excitement they felt when they watched the sport of Driving.

— Susie

The Officers' Column: The Budget Process

By Bill Lawson, ADS Treasurer

The Goal:

Each year starting in early November, the ADS Finance Committee together with our Executive Director begin regular meetings by teleconference to hammer out a budget for the coming year. Throughout the process, we attempt to combine past financial results, the projected cost of operations for the coming year and estimates of future revenues, to come up with a tool to measure our performance throughout the new year. There are times that each of us wishes for a nice reliable crystal ball to help us out.

Historic Results:

Someone probably smarter than me once said that if you want to know where you are going, you have to know where you have been—or something like that. We begin by looking at our actual results through October of the current year and project what the end of the year will look like. That estimate, together with the history of all prior years, is the starting point. We also look at prior years' budgets to measure our successes, and to analyze the areas where things didn't work out as planned.

Projected costs of future operations:

This is where we look at the cost of carrying on with normal operations as well as considering new goals or programs and non-continuing costs. An example of this was our presence at the 2010 World Equestrian Games, which had a huge impact on our budget for only one year.

I think we have done reasonably well at projecting these costs in past budgets. Historical costs are a great help and a budget period of one year out is reasonable to work with. Also, when new things are considered they are usually well-defined, making their costs more predictable. For example I have written in the past about incurring accounting costs during 2011 for a full audit of our financial records for 2010. This became necessary to support our registration process in various states as an organization soliciting donations. Those costs were not anticipated or included in the 2011 budget, but now, with the knowledge that they will continue, we have planned for them going forward.

Projecting Future Revenues:

This is the part of the process that we find the most difficult. Our largest single revenue source is memberships. Despite our best efforts during the past few years, however, we have fallen short of our goals as reflected in past budgets. The next largest revenue source is advertising in our various publications. Here the track record is a little better, but we have been affected by things beyond our control such as the current general economic conditions. Then there are the areas where we take a little short cut. An example of this is the costs associated with Board and Membership meetings. Costs are usually not known at budget time, so we project the net of revenue and expense. This sets the goal, and as costs become known we need to develop the revenues to meet the goals.

Summary:

Budgets are not, nor will they ever be, a perfect science. Many things can happen that result in differences between actual numbers and budgets. They should, however, set a basic framework and make it easier to see when things are going better or worse than they should. Living within one's means is necessary for the long-term survival of any organization, and the ADS is no exception. The first step in correcting any financial issue is recognizing it. A well thought-out budget is an important tool to help watch over our progress.

Sleigh Bells Ring at the Columbus (Wisconsin) Sleigh Rally

Story by Susie Koos-Acker

Mother Nature decided that Wisconsin had been without winter for long enough and decided to drop a cold snap right on top of the Columbus Sleigh Rally on February 1. But even with temperatures dipping into the teens, and an icy wind that took your breath away, hardy sleigh enthusiasts braved the elements and were rewarded with a wonderful winter experience. In the days leading up to the event it was questionable if it was going to be “wheels” or “runners.” Thanks to the dedication of the Columbus community, snow was trucked in for the event and Mother Nature put a little icing on the cake with a one inch dusting late Friday afternoon. The call went out, “It’s runners!” and the game was on.

Competitors arrived late Saturday morning for the event, which started at 12:30. Because of the light, crisp snow, those that had cutter-type sleighs were in heaven as the conditions were ideal for these delicate and, in some cases, rare antiques. Spectators lined the edge of the course to witness the awesome spectacle that only 12 horse-drawn sleighs streaking in front of them, including a four-abreast of Welsh ponies owned and shown by Joe Abell, could offer. The melodious tones of hundreds of sleigh bells could be heard across the entire park.

After their Cones and Pleasure classes the competitors took a cross-country tour of a nearby golf course. On their route they passed the bay windows of a nursing home where residents gathered to enjoy the wintery display from the warmth of their parlor. It was reported that as competitor Pat Nelson



A bald eagle followed Pat Nelson England and her Saddlebred across the golf course. Photo by Cindy Gallagher Schmitt

steamed up the small rise in front of the nursing home, a bald eagle decided to join in the fun and followed Pat and her elegant Saddlebred for quite some distance. Hopefully the bird wasn’t just interested in Pat’s lovely fur hat!

After everyone had unhitched and began packing up, Ingrid Krause and her sporty Haflinger mare, Leps Vanessa, decided that they weren’t quite ready to surrender to the cold yet. Ingrid unharnessed Vanessa and put a saddle on her but left the driving breast collar and traces in place. With Haley Madden up in the saddle, Ingrid slapped on her downhill skis (something she hadn’t done in five years) and attached a tow rope to Vanessa’s traces. Off they went across the park and back to those of the crowd who were still present, milling around the warm fire and drinking hot chocolate. As they approached the pavilion Vanessa broke into a lovely rocking canter, whizzing



Haley Madden rides Leps Vanessa, a Haflinger mare, around the course pulling Ingrid Krause in an exciting ski-joring demonstration. Photo by Cindy Gallagher Schmitt

Ingrid past the cheering crowd. After a few laps and only one wipe-out, Ingrid headed back to her trailer and the crowd began to dissipate, returning home with lovely memories of sleighs, bells and crisp winter air.

If you would like to enjoy more photographs from the event, find us on Facebook under American Driving Society and go to our Photo Albums.



Annette and Joe Boeser drove six hours from their home in Northern Minnesota to participate with their Percheron/Welsh/Haflinger cross, Elmer. Photo by Chad Rhinehart

The Countdown to Lezirias, Portugal (Site of the 2012 Single Horse World Championship)

Part I: Team Selection Strategy

By Kent Brownridge

A hot “Santa Ana Wind” of excitement is blowing through the Single Horse ranks of Combined Driving, because this is a World Championship year for Singles. There’s a new coach, a focused strategy and a new determination after 10 years of frustration and disappointment.

A United States team of three drivers and up to six horses will be chosen to represent U.S. in Portugal. The Selection Committee—Misdee Miller, Jimmy Fairclough, Katie Whaley, Elizabeth Keathley and Keady Cadwell—will evaluate the capabilities of all aspirants in five competitions designated as selection trials, and then will determine the make-up of the Team.

“Our charge from the U.S. Equestrian Federation is to pick the best group to bring home a *team* medal,” says one of the selectors. “The Federation cares about national glory, not individual glory,” said another. “There is no ‘I’ in T-E-A-M.” (For understandable reasons, the selectors requested we not attribute their quotes until the selection process is completed.)

The selection trials—Sunshine State, Little Everglades, Live Oak, Southern Pines and Bromont—take place between February and June. Most of the selectors will attend most of the trials to “observe,” and will then consider the scores from each competition. Ultimately, new coach Michael Freund will have a lot of input regarding the composition of the final team.

Michael Freund is a 12-time German National Champion; he has also been the World Champion twice and is a five-time World Cup Champion. Since 1992 he has guided a number of the top drivers in the world, including Chester Weber and Tucker Johnson. “We couldn’t have a better trainer, he’s the perfect guy, and his resume speaks for itself,” said one selector. The competitors are equally enthusiastic: “We have a goal, we have a direction and we have a training program. This is really different from the past, when everyone had their own agenda.”

The selection criteria are not simple, because of the way team scoring is calculated. A nation can enter three drivers in the Championships. After each competition phase (Dressage, Marathon and Cones), the worst score is thrown out and the top two scores, added together, become each nation’s score for that phase. A particular competitor’s poor dressage score might be dumped, for instance, but that same driver may have a top score in Cones.

In the last four Single Horse World Championships (2004, 2006, 2008, and 2010), the best Team USA placing was ninth, in 2004. In 2010, the U.S. was 11th. This is disappointing compared to our team results in Pony and Four-in-Hand Championships, which include team silver



Sterling Graburn drove Ulano to third place in the FEI Single Horse division at Little Everglades International CDE. Photo by Louisa Emerick for Pics of You

(Four-in-Hand Horse, 2002 and 2010), and team bronze (Combined Pony, 2007 and 2011).

One positive fact jumps out when we examine past Single Horse results in greater detail: Team USA has performed well in Cones. On average, our Cones performance in the last four World Championships has been equal to the average performance of the three medal nations. But our record is pretty dismal in Dressage and Marathon: On average, Team USA has placed 14 points behind the medalists in Dressage; in Marathon, the average deficit is 19 points. (Note: this average marathon deficit does not include the disastrous 2006 results, when the team gave up 162 points due to two turnovers and an elimination.)

To address the long-standing dressage deficiencies of the U.S., Freund has held meetings with individual aspirants and told them he’s looking for horses and drivers that can score in the low 40s. “Michael was pretty brutal,” said one contender. “He sat people down after Katydid [the National Single Horse Championship, held in South Carolina in November 2011] and told them directly what he thought of their horses. He actually had a rating scale (10 down to 1) and only three horses got an 8; most were 6, 5 or lower.”

The general belief is that it takes a fancy mover to nail
(cont’d on p. 5)

Countdown to Portugal (cont'd)

a good dressage score, which in these days of FEI Test 9 constitutes scoring under 50. It's an article of faith that European judges want more than a horse that moves in the correct frame (rounded, connected and engaged): They want to see horses that literally float across the ring, with all four feet off the ground at times (what American trainers call "air time"). "I've been to Europe, I've seen what wins, and that's what we're sending. If not, why even go?" asked one selector. So great is the imperative for good movers that one leading contender declared, "They don't necessarily want me; they want my horse."

Freund has been relatively low-key about Marathon. In fact, Sterling Graburn, who likes to test the outer edge, says that Freund asked him to "take it easy" at Katydid—and he did. Freund's strategy seems to be: Do very well in Dressage, drive somewhat conservatively in Marathon to avoid turnovers and other costly mistakes, then go in and ace the Cones like U.S. teams of past years.

To bring back a team medal, the U.S. needs to score 250 or lower (remember, the top two scores count in each phase). A possible scoring scenario to garner this result is as follows:

	Team Score	Aver. Indiv. Score
Dressage	94	47
Marathon	144	72
Cones	12	6
Total	250	125

As of this writing, two of the selection trials have taken place: the Sunshine State and Little Everglades International CDEs. While we have not as yet demonstrated the capability of achieving the magic 250, several strong contenders have emerged: Jacob Arnold, Leslie Berndl, Sterling Graburn, and JanJan Hamilton.

Jacob, Leslie, Sterling and their respective horses have shown great promise in Dressage. JanJan has put up spectacular times in the Marathon, on a level with the best in Europe.

Another hopeful, Olof Larson, may be out of the running because of citizenship red-tape issues. Waiting in the wings is the ever consistent and unflappable Kim Stover.

Live Oak (March 22-25 in Ocala, Florida) now looms as the "Superbowl" of selection trials and should be a big factor in determining the final team. It features five dressage judges (at least four of them from Europe) and a 16km marathon with seven obstacles. All the top contenders are entered. Cones will be crucial for Sterling and JanJan. Jacob and Leslie must continue to demonstrate consistency in all phases. Kim has a reasonable chance to bust through to the top rank.

What a great year!

Live Oak International Adds Show Jumping to Format

The 2012 Live Oak International CDE has added show jumping to its weekend of competition, which will also include the USEF National Championships for Four-In-Hand Horses. Celebrating its 20th Anniversary, Live Oak International will be held at the 4,500-acre Live Oak Plantation in Ocala, Florida, March 22-25.

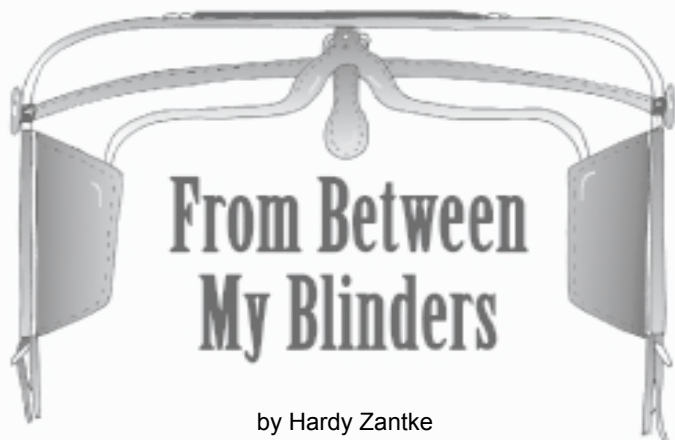
"My sister, Juliet W. Reid, has worked hard to develop show jumping at the event, and we are pleased to once again donate proceeds to the Marion Therapeutic Riding Association," said Chester Weber, the eight-time United States National Four-In-Hand Champion; he is based out of Live Oak and will compete at the event again this year.

Reid, who serves as the President of the Washington International Horse Show, brings a great deal of show jumping knowledge to the table. "We are excited to offer world class jumping at Live Oak's 20th anniversary and we consulted with Spruce Meadows with respect to technical coordination for the jumping competition," she said.

Raffle Benefits Disabled Drivers World Championship Team

United States Driving for the Disabled is assembling a Team to represent the U.S. at the World Para-Equestrian Driving Championship August 30-September 2, 2012. The World Championships, a biannual international event for disabled drivers, will be held this year in Breda, The Netherlands. Team USA is composed of 3 para-equestrians of whom at least one is a Grade 1 driver (most disabled). The U.S. Para-Equestrians have been very successful in the past, bringing home individual and team medals. This year all team members will be driving leased horses or ponies from The Netherlands. Some drivers will be able to borrow carriages in Europe, but others need their own specially modified carriages and equipment from home. All other items will need to be shipped.

To help cover some of the costs associated with competing at the world level, USDFD Team USA is holding a Harness Raffle for a Comfy Fit Single Harness made by Countryside Manufacturing Harness Shop. The winner's harness will be custom fit. Tickets are \$10 each or six for \$50 and can be purchased from USDFD, a 501(c) 3 Organization, at <http://usdfd.org/old/> or by calling (800) 360-5774 or from an active USDFD member. Only 1,000 tickets will be sold. The drawing will take place July 28, 2012.



From Between My Blinders

by Hardy Zantke

2012 Rule Changes

Forgive me for being a little late this year with bringing you up to date on the few rule changes that we had effective January 1, 2012, but with the recent webinar about them—as well as the timely article by Simon Rosenman in the January Wheelhorse, plus the great feature of having a copy available for download on the ADS Web site with the changes highlighted in red—perhaps you don't even need me any more.

I urge all who compete to take a look there for complete updates. There are a few minor changes in the General Rules, and I won't go into the changes in the Pleasure Driving rules, as that's not my area, but will list the major changes in the other sections.

I did see, though, that in the Pleasure Driving Rules there are some changes to the Draft Horse rules, which I hope will be welcome news to the Draft Horse drivers. You might recall that I had encouraged the Draft people to work for the changes, so I am glad to see them—proving once again that all it takes is dedicated people to get together and use the available tools that we all have at our ADS.

In the Dressage section, the sometimes misleading statement in Art. 124 as to what kinds of bits were allowed was taken out, as well as the snaffle drawings. Art. 124 refers now only to Art. 19 of the General Rules, thus making clear that no special biting requirements apply in dressage other than what our General Rules state already. The language in Art. 19 was also streamlined, forbidding all wire bits instead of just twisted wires.

In Part VII (Competition Officials), the new officials categories S and S-A were added, as previously reported by the Chair of our Licensed Officials Committee.

Under Art. 916 we see a good new requirement for horse identification numbers with a different-colored background for ADS entries at FEI and USEF events, assuring that officials can easily identify the entries and hold them only to the rules that apply to their levels.

Art. 917.2.8 disallowing passengers now spells out that it includes animals other than service animals.

Art. 917.2.9 now makes grooms optional on the Marathon for single small ponies (less than 120 cm), similarly to the

VSEs (also shown under Art. 940.1.4.)

Art. 918.2.2 does away with the requirement for lamps and reflectors for ADS entries.

Art. 917.6.4 requires helmets now on the entire marathon for ADS entries (whereas USEF and FEI entries only need them on Section E). Let's hope we won't get officials, volunteers, spectators and even drivers confused, when they might see an Advanced level driver taking off his helmet on the walk section.

Art. 941.1 now allows Training and Preliminary competitors to walk or trot in Section E, where previously they were required to maintain a trot.

Art. 942.3.9 requires course designers now to offer a dry, measured, legal, optional route through water obstacle gates, so Training level entries can avoid going into the water in marathon obstacles.

Art. 947.1.4 allows the President of the Ground Jury to position the jury members on the marathon.

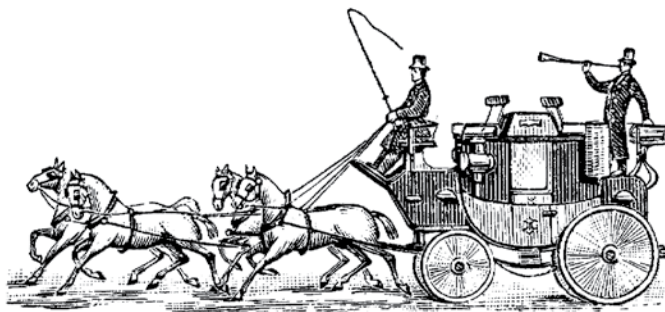
Art. 956.9 now penalizes Training level entries for cantering in the cones with one penalty point for each five seconds.

Appendix B for Arena Driving Trials relaxed the required number of officials slightly; it now asks for a TD only when there are more than 25 entries, but allows the Judge to fill that position too if he is also licensed as a TD.

The FEI added a new section in their rulebook in Annex 10 with slightly scaled-down requirements for children from 12 to 14 years of age driving single ponies. We basically have that already under our ADS rules, with our Junior B drivers.

The FEI also took out the FEI Dressage Test 10 for pony fours, pairs, and tandems. Instead, they have the pony pairs do the same test—FEI 8B—as horse pairs, and modified that test slightly for fours and tandems to FEI 8C by not requiring the deviation to be driven one-handed, in line with Achenbach or Coachman driving style. Because this change came after our Omnibus deadline for the first half of 2012, some events still list FEI 10 for pony fours, pairs and tandems, but I see that some organizers are making the changes already, as Sunshine State just did. So if you are an Advanced level pony four, pair or tandem driver, make sure by checking with the organizer that you know which test to drive.

Happy driving to all.



2012 Calendar of Events 2012

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.

March

- 7 Gilcrest Farm HDT, Gilcrest Farm, Windsor, SC, www.gilcrestfarm.com. See Web site for more details. Renie Gillis, 803-648-4500
- 17 Way Out West Driving Group ADT Clinic. Edelweiss Training Center, 8400 Littlerock Rd SW, Olympia, WA. Entries open now, close March 10. Open to Horse, Pony, VSE. ADT Test 1 for Training, Preliminary, Intermediate. Details and entry form on www.wayoutwestminis.com/SSRecreation.htm. Merridy Hance, 360-692-0532, merridy@wayoutwestminis.com.
- 24 MY LADY'S MANOR DRIVING CLUB INTRO TO DRIVING PART II, Goucher College, Towson, MD. Members only - new members welcome; with Anne Councill and Dana Bright, 9-12 lecture in Kelley Lecture Hall, 1-3 demo & practice drive in covered riding arena. Continue your driving education where Part I left off. \$50 full participation very limited; \$30 audit; contact Kathy Schmitt, 717-235-7061, kawschmitt@att.net or Marjorie Richmond, marjorie.b.richmond@gmail.com, 443-934-3573,
- 25 Spring Warm Up for Carriage Drivers sponsored by James River Driving Association, Manakin Sabot, VA. www.jamesriverdrivingassociation.com. Harness fitting, turnout, course walk and drive, Q&A with local experts. No charge to observers, drivers must be JRDA members, registration of \$15 membership fee applies. Lynn Legg, 804-229-9708, vicepresident@jamesriverdrivingassociation.com.
- 30-4/1 Black Prong Schooling ADT in Bronson, FL. www.cypresskeep.com. Have it your way, and choose your own dressage tests, drive cones twice, and drive hazards twice. A Florida Whips/Cypress Keep event. Erika Matulich, 813-982-2200, ematulich@ut.edu.
- 31 Sporting Day of Traditional Driving at Blalock Lakes: Newnan, GA. www.PeachStateCarriageEvents.com/ Traditional Day of Driving. Pat Cheatham, P: 678-634-2356, fathorse@bellsouth.net.

April

- 7 Gilcrest Farm HDT, Gilcrest Farm, Windsor, SC, www.gilcrestfarm.com. See Web site for more details. Renie Gillis, P: 803-648-4500

May

- 5 Delmarva Driving Club Spring Pleasure Show, Denton, MD Divisions include VSE, Pony, Horse, Novice, Multiples, Draft. Jane Ramsey, 302-659-2827, ramseyjb@yahoo.com.
- 12 Red Bricks and Roses Spring Flowers Horse Drawn Carriage Parade, Oxford, OH. Come join us for a step back in time as we enjoy elegant horses and beautiful flower-decorated carriages as they work their way among the red brick university buildings, and brick paved historic streets of Oxford, OH. Alyce Sheehan, 513-967-6687, parksideac@aol.com.

May (cont'd)

- 19 Prairie Home Carriage Festival - The Landing, Shakopee, MN. www.MNWhipsandWheels.com. Come and join us as Minnesota Whips and Wheels Carriage and Driving Society celebrates our fourth annual Carriage Festival at a new location: The Landing, an 88-acre living history museum with the Minnesota River as its northern border and with great areas to drive amongst the 1800s village, by the 1889 and 1857 farm buildings and the fur post. Heidi Block, 612-875-1004.
- 26-27 Annual Cypress Keep Schooling HDT in Plant City, FL. www.cypresskeep.com. Dressage/cones Saturday, Marathon (4-6K, 5-6 hazards) Sunday. A Florida Whips/Cypress Keep event. Erika Matulich, 813-982-2200, ematulich@ut.edu.

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).

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

March 10-11: **Black Prong Driving Trial**, Black Prong Equestrian Center, Bronson, FL. Dressage tests updated for Advanced Pony Multiples. Officials updated.

March 22-25: **Live Oak CDE**, Live Oak Plantation, Ocala, FL. Dressage tests updated.

April 13-15: **Southern Pines CDE**, Carolina Horse Park, Raeford, NC. Secretary's info, marathon info, Rule 917 info updated.

May 5-6: **Carolina Carriage HDT**, Windridge Farms, Mooresboro, NC. Secretary info updated.

May 18-20: **Carriage Classic in the Pines**, Pinehurst Racetrack, Pinehurst, NC. Venue changed, marathon info updated.

June 15-17: **Metamora CDE**, Windrush Farm, Metamora, MI. Secretary info, accommodations updated.

June 22-24: **Bromont International CDE**, Parc Olympique E'questre de Bromont, Bromont, QC, CAN. officials, other info updated

June 22-24: **Summer Festival CDE**, Clay Station Horse Park, Wilton, CA. Date corrected.

July 7-8: **Gladstone HDT**, Hamilton Farm, Gladstone, NJ. Date changed.

July 13-15: **CDE at Inavale**, Philomath, OR. Dressage tests updated, small pony division added.

What the Nominating Committee Does

By Natasha Grigg, Perpetual Chair of the Nominating Committee

Hi, ADS-ers!

Election time is not until the fall of this year, but I thought I'd try to catch your attention. Below is a letter I sent to someone who was asking what exactly the Nominating Committee does. This was my reply:

The duty of the Nominating Committee is to create a slate of Officers and Directors to present, in the Officers' case, to the newly elected BOD, and in the case of Directors to the present membership at the Annual Meeting. The details are in the Policies and Procedures. I think it's on the web site.

First we poll the current group to see who wants to stay and who doesn't. We publish a notice in the Wheelhorse and the Whip regarding the forthcoming deliberations and elections. In this notice we invite members to step up and offer themselves for any post that interests them. We look at attendance, we note who works and who doesn't. We listen to gossip, we ask for advice. We always try to keep the best interests of the ADS at heart.

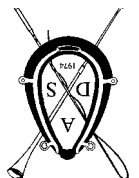
All our deliberations, which are largely by email and sometimes by phone, are to be held in complete CONFIDENCE!

The NomCom is made up of representatives from all the standing committees (hopefully no chairs), and two Regional Directors chosen by the BOD at this coming meeting.

We send letters of thanks and regret.

That about covers it!

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