



THE Wheelhorse

NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN DRIVING SOCIETY

NL 221

Representing Carriage Driving in the United States and Canada

October 2014

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Header Photo: Jacob Arnold. Photo by Mike Arnold/DrivingNews USA

ADS Celebrates 40th Anniversary at Acadia National Park, September 25-28, 2014

Ann Davis, ADS Secretary



The sporty “Missy” (owned by Bob and Dianne Koopman) navigating the carriage roads of Acadia. Note the Ocean in the distance! Photos, ADS Staff

New England colors, a charming harbor town nestled in a cove, Acadia National Park with miles of carriage driving roads and high views of the Maine and Nova Scotia coast, a great gathering of over 160 carriage driving friends, good food, sunny warm weather, and honoring 40 years of accomplishments! Truly a recipe for a carefree long weekend!

However, the weekend also included more serious responsibilities, and American Driving Society members, despite the wonderful distractions, addressed these required tasks with their usual thoughtful engagement. The ADS Bylaws state that “a meeting of the members of the Society shall be held annually for the

Continued on page 7

Thank you Sponsors!

A Message from the Executive Director



Since the economic downturn, participation in some segments of the horse industry has been on a steady – and in some cases, rapid – decline. As the

economy has started to rebound, membership data shows that ADS is steadily gaining new members, but not at a rate that exceeds the number of non-renewals. Currently we are around a 2-3 % drop in membership which is similar to the non-renewal numbers in several related (but larger) associations. A 2% drop is of much greater consequence to an organization of our size.

Year to date, we have 2255 members. In 2012, we had 2248 and in 2013, 2297. Year to date we have 199 new members - this is up from 104 in 2012 and 181 in 2013.

Something new that we are working on is a website redesign. The site will enable the ADS to begin collecting important data about membership, competitions, officials and more.

The first ADS process to be automated will be The Omnibus. The new system will launch November 1. With the creation of the new website comes a host of new opportunities:

The new site is mobile friendly. Members will be able to print their own cards on demand. Organizers will be able to see member numbers when they look up individuals. A better classified ad section will also be part of the site.

A members-only section is in the development phase and we are working to balance content made available to the general public that gets them interested in sport, with content that gives more value to the member who supports the organization.

The ability to track competition data is new for the ADS. With the creation of the online Omnibus we now have databases that contain all the specific pieces of information that we have always been interested in tracking. Dressage Test usage, entries in a specific classes or divisions and many more statistics can help us answer important questions.

Thanks for staying engaged!

-Susie



The ADS Annual Meeting and 40th Anniversary Celebration would not have been possible without the generosity of the following individuals and organizations:

Coachmen Level:

The Hoopes-Addis Education Trust
The Myopia Driving Club
ADS Pacific Region

Four-in-Hand Level:

Black Prong Equestrian Center
Pat & Karen Garrett
Bob & Dianne Koopman & Family
Star Gallery

Tandem Level:

Hickory Knoll Farm
Jacqueline Musler
Pecard Leather Care Co.
The Old Salty Dog

Pairs Level:

Audrey Bostwick & Elaine Kendig
Driving Essentials
Maine Driving Club
Martin Auctioneers, Inc.
Wild Iris Farm

Singles Level

Aiken Driving Club
Carriage Machine Shoppe, LLC
Morven Park

ADS Omnibus Now Exclusively Online

The November issue of the Whip is in its final planning stages. In years past, this issue would mail along with the January - June (of the following year) ADS Recognized competitions. The July - December competitions were mailed with the May Whip.

After much consideration over the last few years, the issue was brought forth for a vote at Fall Board of Director's meeting. Effective immediately, there will no longer be a printed version of the Omnibus. All competition information will be available on the new and improved ADS website.

We realize that this will be an insignificant change for some and substantial for others. Please know that the ADS staff will do everything in our power to make this change as easy as possible for everyone. Thank You!



A screen shot of the new ADS website.

2014 President's Award: Jeff Morse

Each year, the ADS President gives an award at the Annual Members Meeting to an individual who exemplifies a commitment to the mission of the Society and to carriage driving as a whole.

This year, President John Freiburger selected Jeff Morse of Richmond, Massachusetts to receive the award. Morse currently serves on the ADS Board of Directors as the Chair of the Pleasure Driving Committee.

In addition to his service with the ADS, Morse owns and operates Green Meads Farm now in its 88th year training horses and people for carriage driving and Morgans for all disciplines. Jeff is a founding member of some of the largest Morgan Horse organizations on the East coast and he serves the sport of carriage driving nationally with the ADS as well as being a member of USEF Carriage Pleasure Committee and USEF Morgan Committee.

"I was completely surprised and very honored to receive the

ADS President's Award," Morse said.



Jeff Morse and ADS President John Freiburger at the ADS Annual Members Meeting in Maine, September 27.

Breed Partner News: American Morgan Horse Association

From AMHA Communications Department

Lower Registration Fees for Older Morgan Horses Begins January 1, 2015

Advances in technology and streamlining of the American Morgan Horse Association's (AMHA) work processes have enabled AMHA to trim some Registry fees. The AMHA Board of Directors recently approved a new fee schedule in an effort to encourage registrations and transfers. Doing this will fulfill the Association's mission to preserve and perpetuate the Morgan breed and maintain the accuracy of the AMHA registry. These changes will go into effect on January 1, 2015.

A Registry subcommittee conducted numerous interviews and surveys for six months of Morgan horse owners and breeders to gain insights and suggestions. In brief, AMHA has broadened the age range from 18 -24 months to 18- 60 months, giving owners an additional four and a half years to register their horse at the \$210 member fee; and lowered the top price by \$100 to \$310 for those horses over five years old. For a full list of registration fees, go to www.morganhorse.com

AMHA wants to help ensure every Morgan has a place in history. It is important to have breeding lines recorded to allow them to be perpetuated. Plus, AMHA wants to help Morgan owners have good ownership records for liability reasons.

ADS Hours to Drive Program and Youth Championships Submit Forms by November 30!



ADS members who enjoy recreational driving can earn recognition for time spent in its pursuit, with the ADS Hours to Drive Program. The program, which operates on the honor system, is designed to be a simplified version of the old ADS "miles program" for recreational drivers. You drive your horse or pony and write down the number of hours, on the log sheet spent on the box seat that day.

Drivers can earn an "Awards Pin" for 100 hours, 250 hours, 500 hours, 750 hours and 1000 hours of cumulative driving, by completing a log form. Logs must be returned by November 30, so milestones can be featured in the Whip and on the Web site.

Another great ADS program are the Youth Championships awarded by the end of December with the winners published in The Wheelhorse. Categories are CDE, Pleasure and Recreation.

Open to any ADS member under 21 years of age - at the time of the event of the submitted scores - on his/her best verifiable scores sent in by applicant and achieved during the 12 months preceding the closing date of November 30th of each year. Drivers can apply in any or all of the disciplines, but can win only one discipline per year.

Go to americandrivingsociety.org and click on the "Awards Program" tab to find entry forms for both programs. Completed forms must be emailed to info@americandrivingsociety.org by November 30. Please call (608) 237-7382 with questions.

ADS Member Feature: Expect the Unexpected!

By Daniel Peterson

I was one of a group of horsemen giving carriage rides at a local business. The rides were used to give customers a tour of the business facilities. There were literally thousands of people from all around the world attending.

I was driving a pair down a modest incline with three passengers when without any warning, one of the horse's bit broke. Half of the bit fell from each side of the horse's mouth. An experienced horse person happened to be along. One of us held the horses while the other unhitched. A bystander was instructed to put a rock under the carriage wheel so it would not roll forward. We fashioned a make-shift halter from the broken bridle and a rein and led the two horses over half a mile back to the horse stalls. We had to pass several noisy buses and, of all things, a fire truck with flashing lights!

Thankfully, this incident ended safely, but it got me thinking, what could I have done to be better prepared? Below are a few things to consider when driving:

- 1) When you drive horses, always watch for the unexpected. A routine situation can turn dangerous in seconds.
- 2) Always carry a lead rope and halter in the carriage (I didn't).
- 3) Teach your horses to stop when you say whoa, even if you don't pull on the reins. Mine stopped this time.
- 4) Brass bits may be less dependable than stainless steel since it is softer metal.
- 5) In addition to harness malfunctions, be prepared for problems with your vehicle. Always drive with your tool/emergency kit **IN THE CARRIAGE** (not in the barn!).

Happy Driving Everyone! Remember to be safe!

Dan Peterson and his wife Susan live in Janesville, Wisconsin and have been ADS members since 1997.

*Do you wish to share your driving experiences?
Please email your articles to Maria Woldt, at
maria.mcginnis@americandrivingsociety.org.*



This bit was made of brass versus stainless steel or copper. Over time, bits wear - especially copper and brass. Make sure to check your equipment regularly and replace or repair anything that is damaged. If you wrap your bits for added comfort (as pictured here), make sure to periodically change the wrap and inspect the bit for any signs of wear.



Thankfully we made it back safely to the barn despite our equipment malfunction. A few simple considerations can help us all be safer when driving.



Member Editorial: Driving at the 2018 World Equestrian Games

By Richard Nicoll

This summer it was announced that the 2018 World Equestrian Games had been assigned to the town of Bromont in Quebec, Canada. This is the second time in eight years that the WEG has been outside Europe.

We all know what happened in regards to the Driving sport when the first WEG took place outside Europe in Kentucky (2010). With Four in Hands representing Driving, we only had a limited number competing.

Those competing from abroad did so at great expense to Federations, themselves and Sponsors as each competitor coming had to bring five horses, thus a complete team of three meant 15 horses.

I think the time has come to reassess how Driving should be represented at the WEG in Bromont, Canada. I believe it should focus on Single horses.

The expense for the National Federations competing at Driving with Single horses at the World Equestrian Games in Bromont will be more in-line with other disciplines. Also I believe most importantly that this will then encourage more Federations from both Europe and the World to send Individuals and Teams to the WEG in Canada. Which in itself will help grow

our sport, in the smaller driving nations and also show those involved in other disciplines, something that is in reach of many other equestrian athletes.

I truly believe this is the way forward for the sport of Driving at this future 2018 World Equestrian Games. I hope the FEI and the World-wide Driving community will give this true consideration. I encourage all National Driving committees to put this as an Agenda item at a future meeting.

Sincerely,

Richard Nicoll

Former Chairman of the FEI Driving Committee.

Do you wish to share your thoughts on current happenings in the driving world? Please email your editorial articles to Maria Woldt, at maria.mcginis@americandrivingsociety.org. Articles featured in the "member editorial" section of the Wheelhorse are not endorsed by the ADS nor do they reflect an official position of the Society.

Jacob Arnold: Success at the FEI World Championships!

From chesterweber.com

Photos from Mike Arnold/Driving News USA

Jacob Arnold of Snow Camp, N.C. is currently serving as Chester Weber's inaugural apprentice in the Live Oak Apprentice Program. Arnold proved his talent at the 2014 FEI World Driving Championships for Singles, where he drove Karen Chandor and John Merritt's ten-year-old Morgan gelding, Hotspur's Red Rowl ("Rowley"), with eye-catching technique and accuracy. The pair's first ever drive together was just two short months ago at a competition in Piber, Austria where they won the marathon and placed fourth overall. Arnold, with the help of veteran Team Weber navigator Jaroslav (Jerry) Mamula, piloted Rowley to an impressive win the marathon phase at the World Championships, making history as the first US combination to ever win the marathon phase in a World Championship competition.

He kept up this rhythm in the cones, and was one of only seven competitors to complete a clear round in that phase on Sunday. "As a Morgan, Rowley has the biggest heart of any horse I have ever encountered," said Arnold. "His abilities on the marathon course are really something special, I truly do believe this horse is unique in that aspect. His acceleration and balance are extraordinary."

It was by chance that Arnold and Hotspur's Red Rowl first became a team. Cheryl Pratt Rivers developed Rowley up through the levels and they had traveled to Europe in hopes of earning a spot on the team for the World Championships when an injury sidelined her from competition. Arnold stepped up into the drivers seat and hit it off right away with

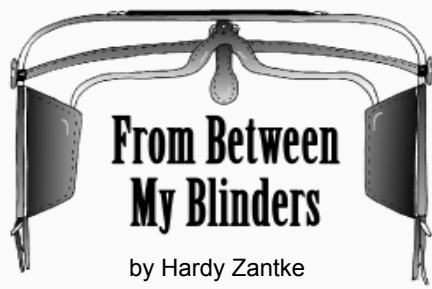
Rowley. "They then competed together in two events and were ultimately selected for the US team," Chandor said.

Chandor and Merritt were thrilled with how well Arnold worked with their Morgan at the Championships. "We were quite excited about finishing the three day event 7th in overall standing," Chandor smiled. "We were especially pleased with the coordination shown between horse, driver, and navigator in the marathon event. To win the Marathon and then to discover we were the first U.S. single horse competitor to win a marathon at a World Championship thrilled us beyond belief! Congratulations should go to all those involved in putting together the 8th FEI World Driving Championship for Singles in Izsak, Hungary, as the facilities and events were exceptional."

Read more at www.chesterweber.com



Jacob Arnold and Hotspur's Red Rowl on their way to a double clear in the cones. (Photo courtesy of hippoevent.at)



The Rule Change Process

I hope those of you who had a chance to attend the ADS's 40th birthday had a great time. Unfortunately I could not make it as I had a prior commitment for a family get-together in Germany. Congratulations also to all the 40 in 40 ! Now on to the 50th !

One of the items on my mind is our rule change process this year and some of the new things that are proposed.

The way I read the rule change process and it's deadlines - and the way we have handled it in the past, is that up to June 1st each year members can submit their Rule Change Suggestions (RCS). These are published on the website. During the months of June and up to June 30th the Technical Committees review the RCS's, make their comments and forward those to the Rules Committee. That's the end of any NEW ideas to be put forward by anybody (other than the FEI) for the current year's rule change cycle to come into effect the following January 1st.

Then during the month of July the Rules Committee (together with input from the Tec Committees) uses the information brought forward so far to now create Rule Change Proposals (RCP's) and posts those on the website by July 31st. We then should not have any Rule Change Suggestions anymore, as all those should either have been transformed into proper RCP's - or have been voted down by the

Tec committees as "not recommended". During the month of AUGUST the membership can comment on the new RCP's again. The Tec Committees together with the Rules Committee then take these new comments under consideration and then finalize the RCP's during the month of September, to present the final versions to the Board at their annual Fall Board Meeting for approval.

All worked fine this year through the Rule Change Suggestion period, but then it seems some balls got dropped. Since August 1st I have been eagerly looking onto the website for the RCP's. None appeared! Only around September 9th - over a month late - they are on the website - and there are quite a few items I think not quite the way they should be, besides just being late:

We still have many RCS's which have not been changed to RCP's nor have a note that the Tec committees disagreed with them thus didn't put them forward. So what's up with those now? Basically almost all before RCS # 70. Should we not be told what the status is on those? Either forward to an RCP or not recommended by the Tec Committee!

We also have some completely NEW ideas put forward by the Combined Driving Committee. That's too late friends. You had until June 30th to give us those. You are out of order with them now. Save them till next year! (# 110 - the Partner Entry for example as well as # 83 calling dressage tests.)

Next: I saw some flaws in the new ideas for a Driving Derby #103, the CDC's new version of RCS #51 and just now see another new version #111 created by the Executive Committee. I'm happy to see that they did follow already some of my comments to the CDC version of #103.

And RCP 2015 #83 calling dressage tests for Training Level: Why reinvent a wheel, which our history has shown already to be not even rolling? We had that when

we started the sport and modeled it after ridden dressage, only to quickly find out that it simply doesn't work in driving. Our dressage area is too large, the carriage is too noisy, the callers can not get through properly to the drivers with calling a movement only once, the drivers have a false sense of security, and in the end it creates more aggravation between drivers and callers and the officials than it was all worth it. So it was taken out of the rule book years ago. The Dressage Committee stated so unanimously. If we need some help like that, why not go the route as suggested in my column in the Aug. Whip: Make an "Assistance preferred" class and have the groom on the carriage tell the driver where to go - and throw out all the other restrictions as calling each movement only once etc etc , and do so next year, as for this year you are also too late and out of order with this anyhow!

I made my comments on the website. I hope you did too. The comment period ended October 8. Unfortunately it's a real flood of new proposals by the CDC! Even I am overwhelmed by this - and I know that while I write this, the Committees are working on it. So by the time you read it, they will probably be already further along and all their hard work is much appreciated.

P.S. It's this time of the year again: Please remind our Young Drivers to send in their entries for the Annual ADS Youth Championships. Deadline is November 30th. Details are on the website at www.americandrivingsociety.org/YD_championships.asp. The winner in each category - Pleasure-, CDE- as well as Recreational Driving gets an ADS jacket, a write up in the Whip and up to \$750 Grant towards expenses to attend an ADS Training Camp or similar event.

-Hardy



ADS Annual Meeting (Continued from page 1)

purpose of electing Directors and for the transaction of business as may be properly brought before the members of the Society at a place, date and time as designated by the Board of Directors.” This required meeting, held Saturday afternoon at the Bar Harbor Regency, was a primary reason for the event.

Minutes of this meeting with all the details will be posted by the end of October on the ADS website. Highlights include reports made, elections, and discussion regarding 2015 ADS projects. Susie Koos-Acker, Executive Director, Bill Lawson, Treasurer and President John Freiburger gave reports. The meeting also included committee reports from the Licensed Officials Committee by Dana Bright, the Rules Committee by Mike Arnold, the Combined Driving committee by Merridy Hance, the Driven Dressage Committee by Tracey Morgan, the Pleasure Driving Committee by Jeff Morse, the Development Committee by John Freiburger, the Nominating Committee by Elaine Kendig, the Board of Governors as to the Condition of the ADS Fund Investments by John Freiburger and the Breed Partners Special Committee by Ann Davis.

On even years, ADS members elect their Board of Directors, including Regional Directors, Director/Chairs of committees and Directors at Large. The Nomination

Committee worked tirelessly during the winter months to develop a slate of Directors for terms beginning January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2016, and published the slate in ADS publications and on the website over the summer. At this meeting the slate was presented as a motion for approval. There were no nominations from the floor. The members approved the slate by acclamation with unanimous consent. For a list of current Board of Directors, go to www.americandrivingsociety.org/board_of_directors.asp

Following the Members Meeting, the newly elected Directors met to elect the Officers, including President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. Again, the Nomination Committee developed a slate of Officers, and published this slate in ADS Publications and on the website. The slate was presented as a motion for approval. There were no nominations from the floor. The newly elected Directors approved the slate by acclamation with unanimous consent. For the 2015-2017 term, Mike Arnold of Snow Camp, NC will serve as President, Amanda Horton of Boise, Idaho, Vice President, Bill Lawson of Durham, Conn. will return as Treasurer and Ann Davis of Lakewood, Wash. will again serve as Secretary.

The American Driving Society Board

of Directors met on Sunday morning at the Hotel. Again, minutes with details of this meeting will be posted on the website by the end of October.

Highlights of the meeting include four short reports: the Treasurer’s (Bill Lawson) report on the year ending 2013 and 2014 to date; the Development Committee/ Governors’ (John Freiburger) report on the ADS Endowment Fund; the Executive Director’s (Susie Koos-Acker) report summarizing the ADS website update; and the President’s (John Freiburger) report. Further, there were three motions approved.

The first approved motion provided a means to recognize “schooling shows” and offer reasonably priced liability insurance to the organizer. The second motion affirmed meeting dates through 2015 for Board of Directors’ meetings. The third motion was regarding the digital distribution of the ADS Omnibus. After a lengthy discussion, the Board approved the motion.

The 2015 Annual meeting was a great success. The serious business of ADS governance was addressed but scheduled and planned so that members also had the opportunity to socialize, explore the carriage roads of Acadia, and enjoy all that Maine had to offer!



Keith and Linda Yutzy, along with their famous Miniature Bull Terrier “Pearl” enjoy a beautiful day of casual driving in Acadia.



Saturday evening included a traditional Maine Lobster Bake. Even the most refined of guests donned plastic “bibs” for the night!



Gloria Austin and David Saunders gave three fantastic clinics relating to multiples and reinsmanship using the British Hand.

2014 Calendar of Events 2014

Omnibus Changes

For a complete up-to-date Calendar and Omnibus, visit www.americandrivingsociety.org

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

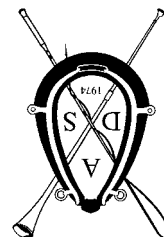
View Omnibus Web pages for complete updated information.
http://americandrivingsociety.org/06_omnilistings/adsomnibusindex.asp

October 25: *Union Bridge Pleasure Show*, New Show in MD
Cancelled

November 22-23: *Windridge HDT*, New Secretary

View all ADS recognized events in the electronic version of the Omnibus

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