
NEWSLETTER

Spokes and Spurs, Inc.

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President’s Message

When a true sportsman (or woman) respects the desire of another to learn and grow in their sport, they often “adopt” you. Some of you have experienced this. Some of you have served that role for me and others. I am humbled and amazed at the opportunities that have become available to me. I can’t begin to tell you how much I appreciate members in this club. So many have been so helpful.

Our passion is the world of driving; competitions are a celebration of achievements. The competitions may be fun days with the club or competing at the FEI level. (I wonder how many driving clubs have the good fortune of having several advanced drivers as members?). I do know that not everyone has a desire to compete. A great achievement may be a

Carrie Ostrowski has a [gofundme.com](https://www.gofundme.com) page for under “O-ski Equine 2022 Single Horse World Championships.” As of Aug. 30, 73 donors have given \$8,160 towards a \$25,000 goal. Any contribution is appreciated!

relaxing drive though the countryside. Knowing that your driving horse can handle deer, turkey or cattle and not run for home. No matter what level or achievements we share a love of this sport.

I have been fortunate to be able to return to some CDE's this year and I could not have reached my goals without the help of good friends and members of this club. As well as driving opportunities at several farms in the area. I thank you all! We have a few more events planned for this year so I hope that you will join us; both in driving and helping to set up.

As I write this, our US representatives are in Europe for the FEI World Championships for Singles, Sept. 15-18, 2022 at Haras du Pin, France. Our Singles representatives are, Carrie Ostrowski, "Gellerduht"; Taylor Bradish, "Katydid Duchess"; and Raymond Helmuth, "Kendro." And the Four-in-hand from Sept. 21-25 at Proton del Vivaro in Italy with Chester Weber and Missdee Wrigley-Miller representing the US. I'm enjoying hearing about the updates as the competition dates approach.

Locally, several members will be competing at the Indiana CDE held at the Hoosier Horse Park, Sept. 16-18, 2022. They will have a CT as well as the CDE. This is a wonderful facility; a well run event; and a great opportunity for newer drivers and younger horses. I'm looking forward to being there with my pony.

Best of luck to all! Keep us updated. Most of all, have fun!!

Ann Katona (and Cody Pony)



**Cody, being
driven by
Carrie
Ostrowski.**

Last Opportunity for Lessons with Thorsten Zarembowicz for 2022!

Don't miss your chance to be a part of the last clinic with Thorsten Zarembowicz for this year, held at Coach House Farm, 2027 Clintonville Road, Paris, KY 40361. The final dates are October 5-7.

If you are not familiar with Thorsten Zarembowicz, he did his first combined event with a single pony at the age of 8! He trained with World Champion driver Michael Freund, took team and individual gold at the Single Horse World Championship in 2010, in 2016 he became the USEF Combined Driving Coach, and in 2019 was the Division Champion for Horse Show Coaching at Devon. For more information or to reserve a lesson time, contact Katie Whaley at: hatsbykatie@gmail.com Katie has been in touch with Thorsten to set up dates for 2023!

A Few Pics from the Last Thorsten Zarembowicz Clinic





Fun Day of Driving at Valkyrie's Haven Thank you Leslye Sandberg and Jim Shanel for Sharing Your Beautiful Farm!

This was a perfect day for a Fun Day of driving at Valkyrie's Haven. Thank you so much to Leslye and Jim! We could work on our Dressage & Cones, as well as some games that Leslye had set up to test your driving skills. We also did the marathon course and practiced obstacles. Lunch was delicious and the weather was perfect!





Safety: The Marathon Driving and the Seatbelt

by Ann Katona

One of my goals for 2022 was to get back up to the Metamora CDE. I know from experience that this site has a hilly, bumpy and a winding marathon course through the woods. Getting my pony fit was my first thought. One piece of equipment that I added was a seat belt. This is specifically designed for the marathon vehicle. We tend to see this with upper level drivers who fly through the marathon and obstacles. I have known of people who went for a casual drive in a wooded area, hit a tree stump, and were flung from the carriage. A seat belt seems like a good idea on many levels. I cannot stress enough that there is a proper way to use this piece of equipment and a very wrong way to use it! As a driver you NEVER, EVER strap yourself into the seat as you would when driving a car. I was at an event years ago where a driver did this and her carriage had flipped and she was dragged along before her horses stopped. She was lucky to have not sustained serious injury.

Assume. Have you heard of the saying? Ass•u•me. The morning of the marathon at Metamora, I told my navigator that I have a seat belt on my carriage. Would you want to hold it with your right hand or left hand? Left hand she replied. OK... I assumed... that she knew about proper seat belt usage. We went through Section A. All smooth; pony quite fit. We stopped at the end of A for the vet check and a quick sponging. As my 'gator walked off to get a sponge with water I tugged on my seat belt. Hmm... it was stuck. I pulled harder. Still stuck! I couldn't see what it was stuck on. I called for my 'gator and said, "Hey, my seat belt is stuck!" Her reply.... " It's wrapped on the bar of the marathon vehicle". Remember Ass•u•me. In my Mom voice I told her to immediately un-wrap the strap!

NEVER, EVER wrap the end of the seat belt. And make sure that your 'Gator knows this. Don't Assume that, because your "gator used to compete, that she understands the proper use.

The seat belt is buckled to the carriage on ONE side and ONE side only! The other side is a strap with no holes, no buckle-nothing to tie it to the carriage.

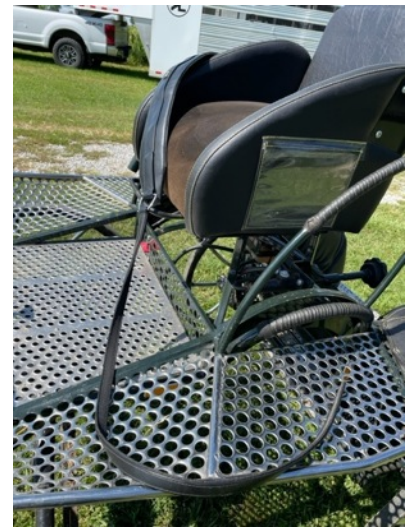


Seat belt on marathon vehicle

Buckled on ONE side.



One side, only!



Here is the strap laying along the bar, held up by the 'gator.

When the 'gator lets go,



the strap falls down.

Don't do this!



The strap is held by the 'gator (yes one more job to do). If the 'gator or driver has a fall; the carriage tips, etc. the strap is free. You do not want to be dragged along with the carriage!!

Fall National Drive: October 3-9 Don't Miss It!

It is time for the Fall National Drive at the Hoosier Horse Park in Edinburgh, Indiana. This is an easy transport to a beautiful facility. Come and enjoy being with drivers from many locations. There are workshops, question and answer sessions, get-together times, and especially driving in arenas, cones courses, dressage, marathon courses all at your leisure! Lessons are offered for a separate fee. For questions and registration: www.nationaldrive.net

Shaker Village Drive: November 12

Be sure and plan to be at the Shaker Village Drive. This is such a pleasant day, even if it's a bit chilly. In fact, the chilly fall weather adds to the beauty of the drive! Linda Freeman, who knows the trails like the back of her hand, has graciously agreed to lead us again. Plan to

also bring a your picnic lunch. It is so much fun to eat, sit, and visit with club members. Be sure to arrive plenty early so that we may line up and head down the trails at 10:00 a.m. Oh, and Spokes and Spurs is paying your fee! Riders are invited as long as your horse/pony is comfortable around carriages.

“Mini-Series for Driving” Question to Members

We originally planned three Mini-Series that included dressage, cones, and a marathon course with obstacles. The first two were at Charlotte’s Creek and Valkyrie’s Haven. The third one had to be cancelled, but Leslye Sandberg graciously volunteered Valkyrie’s Haven for the third drive. We scheduled it for Saturday, October 22, but there seems to be many conflicts for those that wish to participate on that date. Here is the question: We would like to know those who would participate if we held the third Mini-Series at Valkyrie’s Haven on Saturday, November 5th. If you will participate, would you please reply to the Facebook post on our Spokes and Spurs site or the Email being sent to you? We do realize this event is the week before the Shaker Village Drive, but we think of what could be better than to end the 2022 year with two opportunities in a row.

Treasurer’s Report

by Hugh Bellis-Jones (Edited by David Gaston)

Our excellent treasurer, Hugh Bellis-Jones, reports that everything remains pretty much the same since we last printed a Treasurer’s Report. We are taking this opportunity to provide an overview of the club’s finances. Spokes and Spurs is on a sound financial footing. The bank balance at beginning of the year (2021) was \$3,886.95 and as of December 31, 2021, it was \$4,379.42.



Income for 2021 totaled \$2,111.00, primarily due to membership dues (\$1,795.00); additionally, the silent auction held during the December 12 in-person annual meeting raised \$316.00. We’d like to thank our silent auction donors and bidders.

Expenditures for 2021 totaled \$1,521.67 with only 13 checks issued, the principal ones being:

- \$483.55 to American Reliable Insurance
- \$200.00 to Lexington Carriage Classic (sponsorship)
- \$187.08 AGM food/drink
- \$200.00 to CAA (rental donation)

January/February 2022

- \$119.88 (web hosting)
- \$100.00 to National Drive (sponsorship)
- \$80.00 for Shakertown Drive
- \$35.98 to Blue Host

During the executive committee's November 7 in-person meeting, Ann Katona, David Gaston and Hugh Bellis-Jones determined that the club would make the following donations in 2022 to support driving activities in our area:

- \$200.00 to the CAA;
- \$200.00 to Lexington Carriage Classic;
- \$100.00 per event to the National Drives

For 2021, Spokes and Spurs received 60 memberships, 35 family and 25 single, encompassing a total of 97 members. This is virtually the same as in the previous year when we had 61 memberships, 37 family and 24 single, covering 116 members. The board planned a full schedule of club activities for 2022, including a series of three mini CDEs, clinics with Thorsten Zarembowicz at Coach House Farm, a drive at Shaker Village, and in person educational meetings (unfortunately, the pandemic did intervene). Many of our members also volunteered and/or competed at the Lexington Carriage Classic which was held June 23-25 at the Kentucky Horse Park. It bears repeating that it takes a growing and involved membership to provide an interesting calendar of events, so do your part and be involved in club activities throughout the year.

Opportunity for Drivers

Michael Moore at Shaker Village has a position for driving draft horses and a carriage that fits 10-12 passengers. This begins September 23rd and would run each weekend until October 30th. The right candidate would be comfortable driving draft horses. The position is part time with the potential of full-time. Pay will range up to \$16 per hour and requires about 16 to 20 hours a week. Michael has also agreed that if more than one person were interested, he would be willing to divide up the hours. To apply for this position, contact Michael Moore at mmoore@shakervillageky.org or call him on his cell phone: 859-613-0088.

Spokes and Spurs Library Available for You to Check Out

Just a reminder . . . Spokes and Spurs has a nice little library available to our members. Let Ann Katona know if you would like to “check-out” anything.

American Carriages, Sleighs, Sulkies and Carts 168 Illustrations from Victorian Sources
Edited by Don H. Berkebile

American Horse-Drawn Vehicles - Being a collection of 218 pictures... Jack D. Rittenhouse

Bending the Driving Horse Muffy Seaton

Breaking a Horse to Harness - A Step by Step Guide Sallie Walrond

Bristol Wagon & Carriage Illustrated Catalog, 1900 Bristol Wagon & Carriage Works Co. Ltd.

Carriage Driving - A Logical Approach Through Dressage Training Heike Bean and Sarah Blanchard

Discovering Horse Drawn Carriages D. J. Smith

Driven Dressage with the Single Horse Sandy Rabinowitz

Driver Proficiency Program - Level I and Road Driving Syllabus The Carriage Association of America

Driving a Harness Horse - A Step by Step Guide (A sequel to Breaking a Horse to Harness)
Sallie
Walrond

Driving for Pleasure or The Harness Stable and its Appointments Francis T. Underhill

The Encyclopedia of Driving Sallie Walrond

The Essential Guide to Carriage Driving Robyn Cuffey and Jaye-Allison Winkel

Fundamentals of Private Driving Sallie Walrond

Horse-Drawn Vehicles at the Shelburne Museum Kenneth Edward Wheeling

Illustrated Catalogue of Carriages and Special Business Advertiser / G. & D. Cook & Co.'s
Forward by Paul H. Downing

Walnut Hill: A Grand Celebration of the Horse & Carriage Robert Iannazzi; Photographer. Bill Remley; Commentator

Calendar of Events

October 3-9	Fall National Drive, Hoosier Horse Park, Edinburgh, IN
October 5-7	Thorsten Zarembowicz Clinic at Coach House Farm, 2027 Clintonville Rd., Paris, KY 40361
November 5?	Mini-Series #3, Valkyrie's Haven 487 Cynthiana Rd., Paris, KY 40361
November 12	Pleasure Drive: Shaker Village at Pleasant Hill, 3501 Lexington Rd., Harrodsburg, KY 40330
December 4	Annual Membership Meeting and Elections, CAA Office at the Kentucky Horse Park