
NEWSLETTER



Spokes and Spurs, Inc.

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President's Message

by Ann Katona

What an incredibly busy summer we have had! June events at Charlotte's Creek then every weekend, in July, booked in the Paris area! We started off July with another wonderful Mini-CDE at Valkyrie's Haven; the Mini-CDEs are quite popular. These events offer opportunities for a young horse, the novice driver as well as experienced competitors looking for a warm up event in order to prepare for competition. Thank you to Charlotte's Creek and Valkyrie's Haven for opening their farms to our members. None of this could have happened without volunteers!

After the July Mini-CDE we were at BreyerFest. This year's theme was "Driving Forward", so several months ago I had the idea that we, as the driving community, should have a presence at this event. There is so much "behind the scenes" planning that goes on at BreyerFest. I am grateful to the folks at Breyer for meeting with me and allowing us to be there. Spokes & Spurs, ADS and CAA shared a tent/ booth at the event as well as put on demos. In the tent, we had information about driving, locally and nationwide, with handouts from ADS as well as educational materials for sale from CAA and of course many of our members generously donated their time to help man the booth and talk about driving! Linda & Van Sudduth and Colonel & Kathi Davis brought marathon vehicles to the tent so that people could sit in the carriages as well as take photos. In addition to the carriages we had a reinboard from CAA to offer an opportunity for anyone to practice handling driving horse reins. I also brought a marathon harness with each part labeled. Paul Maye was one of the demo drivers and was kind enough to spend time in the booth talking to people about proper reinsmanship. We met people who were local but also from all over the country who are interested in learning more about driving.

Reinboard from CAA



Coach brought by Paul Maye



Reining explained by Paul Maye

Lovely four of Breyer models portraying CDE competition
Breyer horses over the years featuring driving horses and a ladies turn out



Hands-On display tent



Our driving demos varied each day; showing a Pleasure class with Reinsmanship as well as a Turnout class. Carrie Ostrowski-Place was our announcer and she handled things beautifully with class descriptions as well as covering for some “behind the scenes” scrambling (i.e. When a driving Donkey decided that he was not going to come to the arena! Apparently when a Donkey makes a decision there is not much one can do to convince him otherwise!) We had to discretely lengthen the Pleasure driving class to keep the crowds’ attention for the extra performance minutes! Another day the chariot driver had a harness malfunction so our Pleasure Driving participants quickly entered the ring ahead of schedule, again, to keep things interesting and moving along for the crowd!



Carrie Ostrowski-Place talking to newcomers to driving

John Stallard set up the CAA table that was a hit with educational materials both for novice drivers as well as those who make harness for the Breyer models. It was nice to see the desire for accuracy.

Through ADS, Abbie Trexler also had driving minis in the booth as a great attraction and draw for the crowd. Abbie brought a lovely collection of the Breyer models that were made from Driving Horses and Ponies from over the years as well as a raffle for four Breyer models of some of the Driving Ponies.



Lovely four of Breyer models portraying CDE competition



Abbie Trexler (ADS), Deb Halsted, & Ann Katona holding the Breyer raffle models



We also had a small cones course that kids could ride with a scooter. Maggie Garrison's granddaughter, Ella, was a pro!

One other day we also set up a Driving Derby in the main arena. As you can imagine this is a very well received demonstration with fast paced driving.

Paul Maye with coach and shires



BreyerFest was a busy three days (plus) set up. Thank you so much to all (Shelley Hubbell, Doug & Kathy Lindsey, Maggie Garrison, Deb Halsted) who pitched in to help represent our driving community. I so appreciate all of your help!

After BreyerFest weekend there was a CDE at Hillcroft farm. Many of our members were there to compete and did quite well. And again, several of our members were there as volunteers.



The last week in July we were back at Valkyrie's Haven for a clinic with Stacey Giere. Stacey is a marvelous clinician! The weather cooperated as it wasn't too hot and Stacey worked with participants on Dressage, Cones and Obstacles! Such a wonderful learning opportunity!



John Hubbell and Jason Stronks with Stacey Giere



Jason Stronks with Stacey Giere



Pam and David Gaston at Stacey Giere Clinic



Brianna Owen Williams with Stacey Giere

But wait! There's more. We are Spokes and Spurs, right? Just this past weekend Valkyrie's Haven hosted a riding clinic with JR Robles. Some of you may have seen JR at "The Road To The Horse". JR is a talented rider and clinician. With a background from Dressage and currently competing with Reining horses as well as a degree in Psychology, JR is an astute clinician working with riders from varying backgrounds and experiences.



Working with Ann Katona's latest addition at the JR Robles Clinic

Next in the agenda?? Several Spokes and Spurs members are heading to Vienna, Austria via the CAA trip. We will be visiting historic areas housing carriages as well as the Lipizzaner breeding farm and of course a performance at the Spanish Riding School. I'm sure that a winter meeting will be featuring pictures from this fantastic trip!

Whew! I'm exhausted! Our year isn't over yet! Be sure to check our calendar for more driving fun! Be sure to keep an eye open as our advanced drivers, Katie Whaley with her Pony Pair and Jacob Arnold with a Horse Pair compete in Europe. They both have had some impressive scores at some warm up events in Europe. Our Para drivers are also in Europe representing Team USA!

Don't forget the **Shaker Village Drive** on **Saturday, September 9!** Remember, it was moved from the August 26 date since several of our members were in Vienna, Austria on the CAA trip plus many more were participating in clinics at Charlotte's Creek and in Ohio.

Colonel and Kathi Davis have been busy getting a course ready for the upcoming **fall drive** at their farm, **Bluegrass Heights Farm** in Cynthiana. The date for this is Saturday, **September 23.**

A few of our members are also entered at the Indiana CDE, September 29-30, followed by the Fall National Drive, October 3-8. Both of these events are at the Hoosier Horse Park in Edinburgh, Indiana.

Wrapping up the driving season will be the **HDT at Valkyrie's Haven** for Halloween weekend. Be sure to look up Halloween at the Haven on the ADS omnibus! (See article on page 9-10)

Shaker Village Drive News

We originally scheduled the Shaker Village Drive for August 26, but due to two other clinics scheduled that weekend involving a large share of our members and many more on the CAA trip to Vienna, that date has been moved to **Saturday, September 9 from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.** Bring your lunch so we may meet together after the drive. Spokes and Spurs is paying the cost for members. Please arrive in plenty of time to unload and tack up so that we may be under way at 10:00.

Shakertown Village is having an **equine festival** on **November 4, 2023**. They have invited the club to participate in a parade down the center of town at 4:30 p.m.. Please let Kathi Davis know by the end of September if you wish to participate. You can email her at: celiece@aol.com

HDT at Valkyrie's Haven **October 28-29**

Mark your calendars for October 28 - 29 for **Halloween at the Haven HDT** at the boo-tiful Valkyrie's Haven in Paris, Kentucky! Be prepared for a fun time with dressage and cones on Saturday, then marathon on Sunday. We're offering Training, Preliminary, Intermediate, Hybrid (Advanced dressage/cones with Intermediate Marathon) divisions in Singles, Tandem, Pairs, and Fours for equines of all sizes! There will be 5-7 obstacles, depending on the level. Check out the ADS Omnibus (updated V3) for more course details.

Costumes are highly encouraged at our spook-tacular reception on Saturday night!! Please join us for some festive fun that weekend and bring a friend.

Entries will open **September 4th** on www.DrivingEntries.com

If you don't plan to drive, we would still love to have you! **Volunteers** can also sign up at DrivingEntries.com, as well. Contact Leslye Sandberg (leslyesandberg@gmail.com) or Danielle Aamodt (info@drivingentries.com) with questions. We hope to see you there!

Clinics, Clinics, Clinics

There have been several clinics this summer besides the ones offered by Spokes and Spurs that members have attended. These clinics are so valuable to improve our driving skills and equine knowledge. On August 25-27, Bob and Esther Vance held a clinic at their beautiful farm in Milford, Ohio sponsored by the Ohio Valley Carriage Club. Carrie Ostrowski-Place was the clinician.



Carrie Ostrowski-Place providing a question and answer session on Saturday evening. (left and center)



Bob Vance talking with an Ohio Valley Club member. (upper right)



Pam Gaston working a cones grid with Carrie. (lower right)

On that same weekend, Charlotte's Creek Farm sponsored a clinic with Suzy Stafford.



Brianna Williams



John Hubble



Carrie Ostrowski-Place
with Suzy Stafford



Jennifer Harber with Suzy Stafford

Kim Moore



Jennifer Harber



Brianna Williams

Some More Pics!

Apologies to Linda and Van Sudduth. This is a picture of their pair at the previous Suzy Stafford Clinic at Charlotte's Creek!



Many of you know about Margarita Monday in Cynthiana. Recently three couples reached anniversary milestones:


Left to right: Pam and David Gaston (50 years), John and Shelley Hubbell (46 years), Kathy and Leonard (Lenny) Courtemanche (50 years)



Great Information!


HEAT INDEX vs HORSES




“COOL” FACTS:




- **Horses heat up 3-10 times faster than humans.**
- **Exercise is a major source of body heat;** even 17 minutes of gentle exercise in hot weather can raise a horse's internal temperature to dangerous levels.
- Horses, like people, need to sweat for thermoregulation (cooling); **sweat is more efficient at removing heat when it evaporates.**

How HOT is TOO HOT to work your horse?



	Heat Index > 180 USE EXTREME CAUTION Normal cooling is almost ineffectual
	Heat Index > 150 USE CAUTION Watch for signs of heat stress
	Heat Index < 130 ENJOY YOUR RIDE! Your horse can keep its body cool



Temperature + Humidity = Heat Index

HOT TIPS

Heat exhaustion should not be underestimated as it can advance to heat stroke quickly.

If you suspect your horse is developing heat stroke, or if your horse's body temperature does not drop to 101F or lower despite your best efforts to cool him off, call your veterinarian immediately!

(Thank you, Jennifer Harber, for submitting this!)

Carriages Available

Two pony/cob carriages available in central Kentucky. Used for 12.2-13.1 pony pairs in their previous lives. Both come with pole and shafts.

Kuhnle Marathon Carriage. Old and well kept. Never wrecked. Extremely stable. Black/red. Perfect for new driver with a single Haflinger or Fjord type, or a pair of similar or smaller ponies. Four wheel disc brakes. 300/350 lbs? Comes with shafts and pole. \$2,750



Pacific all-purpose carriage. Hunter green/black. Also pony/cob size, single or pair. Comes with pole and two sets of shafts and "conversion kit" for marathon... back seats come off and replace with navigator step/hold bars. Front seat moves to center or either side. Rear disc brakes and air shock in front. Never wrecked. Needs front left rubber on tire replaced. \$2,500



Message me for more photos and measurements.
Could bring either to National Drive or possibly deliver locally.

Leslie Bebensee
Kokovoko Breeding Farm and B&B
www.gotlands.net
kokovoko1@gmail.com
859 420 5246

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

Sept. 9 Spokes and Spurs Shaker Village Ride and Drive, Shaker Village at Pleasant Hill, Harrodsburg, KY

Sept. 8-10 Villas Louis Carriage Classic, Prairie du Chien, WI

Sept. 23 Spokes and Spurs Fun Drive and Ride, Bluegrass Heights Farm, Cynthiana, KY

Sept. 29- Oct. 1 Indiana CT/CDE, Hoosier Horse Park, Indiana

Oct. 3-8 Fall National Drive, Hoosier Horse Park, Indiana

Oct. 20-21 Nashoba Carriage Classic, Germantown, TN

Oct. 20-21 ADS Recognized Event, HDT at Valkyrie's Haven Farm, Paris, KY

Dec. 10 Year End Spokes and Spurs Meeting, 2:00 p.m., CAA Office at the Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington, KY

All of the above dates and details can be subject to change, mainly due to weather. In the event of changes, we will notify the membership as soon as possible through email, Facebook, and our Website.

Find us on-line at www.spokesandspurs.com