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# NEWSLETTER



## President's Message

*by Ann Katona*

Spring is almost here!! Days are getting longer and we have been having those nice weather days that tease us with 60° warmth. I hope that, like me, you are able to get out and work horses even if it's simply ground work.

We had one of our first club events/meeting in February. Thank you to all who attended our presentation of the CAA trip to Vienna. If you are not a member already, I can't speak highly enough of CAA and what it has to offer. In reference to CAA, we are well on our way in planning the CAA Proficiency exam to be held on April 13 and 14. We still have a few spots open.

As I write this, several of our members are in Florida competing at the Florida Horse Park CDE where there are 104 entries! I am so proud of our members who are doing so well at this event.

Our March visit to Charlie Poppe's carriage collection has been postponed. It seems that Charlie and his wife are enjoying Florida too much and decided to stay down there a bit longer. We are rescheduling this visit in November.

Your board and member volunteers are busily planning our local driving venues. Be sure to mark your calendars (see Spokes and Spurs Calendar, page 13 )as we are looking forward to another busy summer. We welcome all levels and of course, we need lots of volunteers!

Speaking of volunteers, did you know that the American Driving Society, (ADS) now recognizes volunteer hours? As an ADS member you can log your “Hours To Drive” and also “Hours to Volunteer”. Milestones are recognized for 25, 50, and 75 hours; Lapel pins for 100 and 250 hours. (You must be an ADS member).

Looking forward to seeing you all at our upcoming events!

## **Pictures from the CAA Vienna Trip April 2023**

Schloss Hof - Rare Austro-Hungarian White Donkey



Spanish Riding School Arena



From a private collection: Kutschenmuseum Laa an der Thaya

Lippizan stallion at Schloss Hof. This stallion was so well behaved. His owner/handler emphasized that if a stallion is not well behaved, he shall not remain a stallion! He was obviously very proud of his beautiful Lippizan





A Nonius

At Schloss Hof - Home to one of the largest surviving homesteads in Europe. They participate in breeding programs to prevent the extinction of old Austrian Breed such as the Nonius horses, Lippizaner, Noriker, spectacled sheep, camels and the last Austro-Hungarian White Donkeys.





Schoss Hof Palace



At Piber - They also have a small carriage collection.

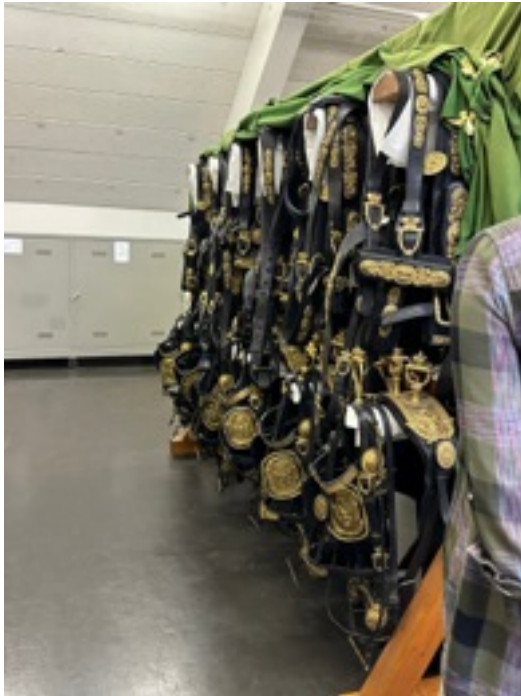


Piber Federal Stud Farm - Where the Lippizans are bred and begin their training.



At the Schönbrunn Palace - Imperial Carriage Collection - Restoration Area

At the Schöbrunn Palace - Imperial Carriage Collection - The private area where harnesses and other driving related items are housed.



### Schönbrunn Palace - Imperial Carriage Collection





### Schönbrunn Palace



St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna

## Membership Time!

by David Gaston

Please make sure you renew your membership now! You can renew on-line at: [spokesandspurs.com](http://spokesandspurs.com). All information and instructions are on the one page form. I know it's easy to make renewing your membership a low priority, but all of us need to understand that Spokes and Spurs major funding is through your dues. Your administrative board has planned an exciting year for 2024. These activities cannot proceed unless we have membership funds. Take a moment to send in your membership and pay your dues today!

## Treasurer's Report

by Hugh Bellis-Jones

On January 14th, Spokes and Spurs hosted a successful and well attended annual membership meeting at the offices of the Carriage Association of America, located at the Kentucky Horse Park. Members enjoyed a lunch catered by Cracker Barrel, desserts provided by attendees, our popular silent auction which brought in \$623.00, and last, but not least, an enjoyable time with other driving enthusiasts.



During the meeting, I provided the Treasurer's Report with a concise account of club finances. At the beginning of the year, the club's account balance with WesBanco was \$5,259.22. Receipts for the calendar year totaled \$5,433.00 (membership and dues) while expenses totaled \$6,366.05. These figures resulted in a 2023 year-end balance of \$4,336.17.

During 2023 checks were issued, including reimbursements to Ann Katona and David Gaston for various club expenses.

Principal expenses were:

- Suzy Stafford Clinic fee - \$2,599.60
- MCF LLC Stacey Giere clinician - \$1,200.00
- American Reliable for liability insurance - \$507.30
- Betty Orlieb for CT judging fee - \$250
- Betty Ortlieb for mini-CDE judging fee - \$250.00
- Deb Halsted for 6 walkie-talkies - \$224.70
- Dana Banfield for cone measuring sticks - \$180.00

- Blue Host for website hosting - \$139.79

Memberships for 2023 were similar to the recent past. The club received 59 memberships in 2023 comprising 31 family and 28 single, with 105 actual members. The club is on a sound financial footing and I'm happy to continue as Treasurer until such time that someone else would like to take over.

For 2024, we appreciate members paying their dues in a timely manner as this funds the club's various activities. Our hard working volunteer board has scheduled a full series of events for 2024 which will of course incur costs by the club. Many thanks are due to the CAA's John Stallard and Ann Katona for recently preparing and mailing renewal notices to the membership. This initiative clearly worked as renewals are coming in steadily. So far this year, I have received 36 memberships (36 family and 10 single) and I anticipate more in the coming weeks. The club's current balance is \$5,553.75.

A number of members take the time to include a note with their renewal, including the following from Theresa Lever:

*Ann and Team,*

*Thank you for having/offering such a great organization. You all do such a great job with offering and organizing such great events for your members! Thank you!*

This year's events calendar is posted on the club's website and we look forward to seeing many of you throughout the year.

## **From "The Whip": Winter 2024 Volume 52 - Number 1**

Be sure and read the latest "The Whip". Many Spokes and Spurs members are featured in this publication. Some highlights:

- Page 43: Bob Vance has logged 2500 Hours of Driving
- Page 56: Carrie Ostrowski-Place pictured for teaching a cones clinic and braiding demonstration at Aiken, SC
- Page 60: Ann Katona is featured in an article for the 2023 ADS Volunteer of the Year

If we missed someone featured from our club, please let us know. We're very proud of all of our members' achievements!

## 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



# Spokes and Spurs 2024 Calendar

<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Description of Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
March 31	Derby	Aiken, SC
Apr. 4	Southern Pines DT/CT	Raeford, NC
Apr. 13-14	Aiken Carriage Classic Pleasure Show	Aiken, SC
<b>Apr. 13-14</b>	<b>CAA Driver Proficiency Program Level 1 and Road Driving</b>	<b>Valkyrie's Haven, Paris, KY</b>
Apr. 17-21	Katydid CDE at Tryon	Tryon International, Mill Spring, NC
Apr. 26-28	National Drive Spring Fling	Hoosier Horse Park, Edinburgh, IN
May 16-18	Suzy Stafford Clinic	Charlotte's Creek, Georgetown, KY
May 19	USEF CT <b>(Volunteers needed)</b>	Charlotte's Creek, Georgetown, KY
<b>June 1</b>	<b>Mini-CDE</b>	<b>Valkyrie's Haven, Paris, KY</b>
June 6-8	USEF Developing Driver's Clinic	Charlotte's Creek, Georgetown, KY
June 15-16	Kentucky Classic <b>(Volunteers Needed)</b>	Hillcroft Farm, Paris, KY
<b>July 27</b>	<b>Pleasure Schooling Show (Volunteers needed)</b>	<b>Coach House Farm, Paris, KY</b>
<b>Aug. 30-Sept. 1</b>	<b>Suzy Stafford Clinic</b>	<b>Charlotte's Creek, Paris, KY</b>
Sept. 6-8	Villa Louis Carriage Classic	Prairie du Chien, WI
Sept. 27	CT	Hoosier Horse Park, Edinburgh, IN
Sept. 28-29	CDE	Hoosier Horse Park, Edinburgh, IN
Sept. 28-Oct. 6	CAA Tour of Portugal	
Oct. 8-13	Fall National Drive	Hoosier Horse Park, Edinburgh, IN
Oct. 25-27	DT/CT <b>(Volunteers needed)</b>	Valkyrie's Haven, Paris, KY
<b>Nov. ? (TBD)</b>	<b>Visit Charlie Poppe's Carriage Collection</b>	<b>Cincinnati, OH</b>
<b>Dec. 8 - 1:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Annual Spokes and Spurs Meeting</b>	<b>CAA Bldg., Kentucky Horse Park</b>

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](http://www.spokesandspurs.com)