

September/October 2026

DRIVING NEWS



Spokes & Spurs Inc Newsletter

1-President's Message

2- Driving Derby Series

3- Used Tack Sale

Halloween at the Haven CDE

4- Calendar, Library



Photo by Lisa Pellicano

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

Spokes & Spurs wrapped up the three part educational series with a creative presentation by Carrie Ostrowski-Place. The clinic covered what one may see in an obstacle as competitors work their way through the gates. This marvelous clinic was a great learning opportunity for competitors, volunteers and drivers of all levels. Carrie started off with a written quiz which prompted discussion about the various rules; one can certainly appreciate all that we can observe when a competitor is in the obstacle. We then went out to an obstacle to watch Sonia Williams drive her mare, "Bonnie", giving us examples of the different levels of drivers going through the obstacle; Training, Prelim & Intermediate. The clinic participants were given various jobs as timers, observers, etc. Our driver also made a mistake through the obstacle to see if we were paying attention! It really was a fun learning experience. Thank-you, Carrie, Sonia, Travis (Sonia's 'Gator), Bonnie and Leslye at Valkyrie's Haven for hosting these and the other events! As usual, we also had a delicious pot-luck lunch.



Several of our members were also on hand for the United States Pony Club Festival, held at the KY Horse Park at the end of July. A Driving Derby Demo was put on (thank you Jennifer Harber, Esther Benitez and Charlotte's Creek for bringing in the elements for the course). USEF/ADS had a booth set up with a rein board and so much information about the world of driving. Jacob Arnold and Leslie Berndl gave driving lessons to a number of Pony Club students. There was quite a bit of interest in driving (in fact the lessons were full and some of the kids were disappointed that they weren't able to give driving a try). Thank you to Karen Cherry and Carrie Ostrowski-Place for putting this all together and coaching the young drivers. They did a super job with the derby.

Our next club event will be held at Charlotte's Creek in Georgetown on Saturday, Sept 5. This will be the final driving derby of the year. Be sure to get your entries in ASAP. Ann Katona, katdogpony@gmail.com cell (815) 761-5335

The Board will hold a planning meeting in November in order to plan events for 2027. What event would you like to have? We are open to any and all suggestions. We would also like to continue with the educational events. We had three fantastic learning events this year. What would you suggest for next year? We'd love to hear from you.

-Ann



SPOKES & SPURS
DRIVING CLUB

2026 SPOKES & SPURS ★ DRIVING ★ *Derby Series*

COMPETE ★ IMPROVE ★ HAVE FUN!



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH, 2026
★ **START TIME AT 10 A.M.** ★



POTLUCK LUNCH
WITH BEVERAGES
PROVIDED BY THE CLUB.

AFTER LUNCH, OPEN DAY OF DRIVING.
Go out and play on the obstacles
or drive at the farm!

ENTRIES OPEN NOW!

★★★

ENTRY DETAILS

- ★ ENTRY COST: \$50 PER EQUINE.
- ★ DRIVERS MAY ENTER MORE THAN ONCE WITH DIFFERENT EQUINES.
- ★ \$25 GOES INTO THE PRIZE MONEY POOL FOR FINALS.
- ★ \$25 GOES TO SUPPORT SPOKES & SPURS.

CLASSES: VSE, PONY, HORSE, PARA

DIVISIONS: • TRAINING (NO CANTERING) 

• PRELIM/OPEN



TOP THREE OVERALL DIVISION
SCORE TOTALS AT THE FINALS
WILL EARN **PRIZE MONEY!**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- ★ DETAILS TO BE SENT OUT WITH ENTRY FORMS, WAIVERS, AND REQUESTS FOR EQUINE HEALTH INFORMATION.
- ★ **MUST HAVE:**
 - ✓ CURRENT COGGINS WITHIN 12 MONTHS
 - ✓ FLU, RHINO, EHV WITHIN SIX MONTHS
 - ✓ HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR OUT-OF-STATE HORSES



★★★

CONTACT ANNE KATONA AT
✉ Katdogpony@gmail.com
FOR ENTRY FORMS.

★★★

Check your email for Entry Forms!

Classified Ads are FREE in the
Newsletter for Spokes and Spurs
Members! Sell your used harness,
carriages, and tack here!

Send ads to: dunhorse1220@gmail.com

★ COMMUNITY ★

TACK & EQUIPMENT Sale!

**ONE DAY ONLY!
GREAT FINDS!
GREAT DEALS!**

 **SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 5,
2026**

 **9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**


CHARLOTTE'S CREEK FARM
(SMALL INDOOR ARENA)
3176 NEWTOWN PIKE
GEORGETOWN, KY 40324

LOTS OF HIGH-END USED TACK!

★ **MULTI-DISCIPLINE TACK SALE** ★

 Dressage Tack	 Grooming Equipment
 Driving Equipment	 Horse Blankets
 Harness	 Buckets
	 Lawn & Garden Items <i>and more!</i>

 **SHOP. SAVE. SUPPORT.**
Our Equestrian Community!

**VENDOR SPACE
STILL AVAILABLE!**

\$25 PER TABLE

CONTACT
Jen

 dunhorse1220@gmail.com
 (304) 208-5224

HALLOWEEN AT THE HAVEN OCTOBER 23 - 25, 2026

**ADS Combined Test &
Driving Trial** *Concurrent
Events!*

**USEF Combined Test &
Short Format Driving Trial**

- Party
- Prizes
- Fun

Entries open September 8th

Details at valkyrieshaven.com/events

Valkyrie's Haven Farm Paris, KY



DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Aug 28-30	Suzy Stafford Clinic	Charlotte's Creek Farm
		Georgetown, KY
Sept 11-13	Villa Louis Carriage	Prairie du Chien, WI
Sept 17-20	Tryon Fall CDE	Tryon, NC
Sept 25-27	Indiana CDE	Hoosier Horse Park Edinburgh, IN
Oct 5-11	National Drive	Hoosier Horse Park Edinburgh, IN
Oct 16-18	Nashoba Carriage	Germantown, TN
Oct 23-25	Halloween at the	Valkyrie's Haven Farm Paris, KY
Nov 6-8	Stableview CDE	Aiken, SC

Spokes and Spurs Library

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. Rit-tenhouse
- *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 Asso-ciation 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. Un-derhill
- *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 Lannazzi; Photog-rapher. Bill Remley; Commentator