

Spokes and Spurs Shirts

If you are planning on ordering a shirt, please do so ASAP! Virginia needs your money and a copy of the attached order form before she can make the order. These shirts will be a great way for Spokes and Spurs to stand out in the coming driving activities!

Thanks, Virginia for all your hard work!

USDFD Fundraiser Fun Day at the Gayla Driving Center

Hopefully, this gorgeous weather will hold for our fun day on Sept 22. The day will begin around 10 am and finish around 4 pm. You may choose to drive/ride in the morning or the afternoon or both. There will be recreational driving or riding trails marked for the morning drive at will. Lunch will be provided by volunteers at 12pm and you will have time to walk the cones courses and/or obstacles if you choose. After lunch you may drive/ride again on your own or play some of the games that are set up. We'll have two "Pick Your Own Route" cones courses. We will also offer three different Obstacles/Hazards for driving or riding. There will be a prize for those who "Match Our Route" THEY WILL NOT BE TIMED. If you plan on driving in the obstacles/hazards, you MUST wear a helmet and have a groom/gator.

This is a fundraiser for US Driving for the Disabled. To drive for fun, the minimum donation is \$10, with \$5 for each guest/groom. This includes lunch. If you would like to drive the cones courses and/or obstacles, you have two choices. You may pay \$5 per course/obstacle or we are offering a package deal to pay \$30 for the entire day (plus \$5 for each extra person) if you would like to try everything. We will have sign-ups for obstacles & cones at lunch.

Please contact Kathy Courtemache if you plan on attending 859-235-8721, kcwolfhillfarm@hotmail.com. If you don't want to bring a horse/pony to drive, we will need some volunteers to help with cones & obstacles.

US Driving for the Disabled is a nonprofit organization that focuses on teaching challenged individuals the joy of driving equines. Many of our members are directly involved with this fantastic organization. Debbie Banfield is the President, Chuck Ellman is the Fundraising Chairman & Board Member, Gail Austin Ellman is a gracious sponsor & Board Member, Maggie Garrison is the Secretary, Kathy Shepard Jones is the Treasurer, Cindy Goff is the Vice President, and Lee Quisenberry is on the Board & Chair of the Nominating committee. For more information about USDFD, visit www.usdfd.org.

October

October is going to be a full month here in Kentucky for the driving community.

Lexington Combined Driving Classic kicks off the month from Oct 4-7, 2007. We have many members volunteering in this Pre-World Equestrian Games Test Event. Renowned organizer Susan Gilliland is putting together a top-notch show. The jury panel will feature several international judges: President of the Jury: Klaus Christ, Ground Jury: Diana Brownlie, Martha Nicoll, Technical Delegate: Philip Bateman, and the course will be designed by none other than Richard Nicoll, the 2010 WEG driving course designer. We also have several members competing or navigating for the Preliminary through FEI level Combined Driving Event. The dressage will kick off with FEI level on Thursday afternoon at 1:00 pm, continuing to Friday at 9:00 am for Intermediate & Preliminary. Saturday will be the Cross Country beginning at 10:30 am. Sunday will conclude the event with Cones beginning at 9:00 am. Spokes and Spurs is graciously sponsoring the volunteer lunches for Saturday. We still need a few volunteers for Saturday during the marathon. We could also use a volunteer or two to pick-up the officials during the week of the event at the airport. If you are interested in either positions, please let me know.

Closely following the LCDC is the National Drive Oct 11-14, 2007. Organized by our own Mike Lyon and friends, the National Drive is an opportunity to drive around the Ky Horse Park. There will be semi organized drives, clinics, private lessons, driving at will, and even some shopping. There are many members who are already signed up to attend or volunteer. Spokes and Spurs will be assisting with sponsoring a clinician. For more information, visit: www.nationaldrive.net or contact the Lyons.

October 27 is the tentative date to reschedule our Elmendorf Farm drive. With a little luck, we'll continue to have great weather for this fantastic experience. We'll send out more information regarding details as the date nears.

So keep those equines driving! October looks to be a fresh and exciting month for driving in Kentucky! Even if you aren't participating in the National Drive or Lexington Classic, consider inviting a horsey friend to come along with you. It's a great month to show off our wonderful sport!

SNS Trek Revisited

With an emphasis on safety and fun, this game is for everyone. It requires a minimum of volunteers, a little bit of land, and an imagination of the organizer, in this case, Maggie Garrison.

The Game begins with Phase 1: Safety Presentation-Suggested 50 points awarded per turnout to start, with points to be awarded or deducted for: Correct or incorrect harnessing procedure, fitting of harness & balance of vehicle, Safe putting-to, Driver & grooms attire (suitability for the task), Comprehensive spares kit, and any additional safety features such as florescent wear or a cell phone.

Phase 2: The Drive-Turnouts to leave at intervals with their score cards. Excessive speed is not desirable. Turnouts must keep on the move at whatever pace. If stationary anywhere other than a checkpoint, points will be deducted. A compulsory walk section might be included with points deducted for any break of pace.

Phase 3: The Skills-Turnouts now attempt a minimum of 6 un-timed skills, with a possible 10 marks awarded for the skillful completion of each one, for example: Reversing alongside a straight line painted on the ground. Trotting a 20 meter circle, perhaps one-handed. Walk a straight line between 2 markers Complete standstill, whilst groom dismounts, walks around the turnout, then remounts the vehicle. Trot between 3-4 offset pairs of cones with balls set on top. Drive through `L` shape of ground poles. Whilst in vehicle, groom to move flag from one cone to another. Safe negotiation of any available uphill or downhill slope.

Doesn't it sound like fun?! We will need volunteers and ideas for the "skills." Contact Maggie to volunteer yourself or ideas! Stay tuned for updates.

Number of members who turned out for dinner at Mi Casita-20

Number in degrees that the temperature felt like outside-110

Number of Chimichangas ordered-10

Number of hours SNS members spent total at dinner-3

Added together, it was a relaxing and enjoyable evening with good friends, good food, and good discussions.

Driving and Horsey Travels

Many of our members have been doing some driving abroad this summer and in the past couple of years. Gail & Chuck Ellman traveled with Heidi & Micheal Boel on a coaching trip to Germany. Ann Katona, one of our new members has recently returned from Hungary. Below is Ann's synopsis of her trip before she left. Perhaps in February we can cajole our traveling members to bring pictures and stories, enlightening us on the highlights of their trips? Until then, here is Ann's Adventure:

"Well, now that I have spent a few months in Kentucky, it is time to leave the country. The heat and humidity are pretty bad here!!

"Since ya'll have an interest in driving, I hope that you have come across the history of driving. You should know by now that Hungarians pretty much invented the whole idea! OK, so being Hungarian, I suppose that I am a bit jaded in my history, but keep in mind the Hungarian word, "kocsi" - cart, rig, wagon, coach, carriage.

"My great-grandfather was a wagon maker and my grandfather raced trotters in Hungary. He was a well known trainer, with about 40 horses in his barn. WWII and the Hungarian Revolution took care of any land and horses that my family owned. In 1957, my parents escaped from Hungary because of the Hungarian Revolution and my father's involvement. But even though I never had the opportunity to know my grandfather, my love of horses followed through. And somehow, I ended up in the world of driving.

"For many years, my mother has been trying to get me to go to Hungary to visit family. Well, I came across an interesting vacation in Hungary. There is a program where you can take lessons with Sandor Fulop. Mr. Fulop has been an individual champion (1974) and part of the team championship (1976, 1978, 1984) for Hungary with Four-in-hand competitions. So, I leave for Hungary on August 23rd and will spend about one week taking lessons with pairs and four-in-hand driving!! Then we will spend another week with relatives in Budapest. One of my uncles has already found a large tack shop in Budapest for me to visit. We will finish our trip with a train ride to Vienna and a performance of the Spanish Riding School!

"I'll be back on Sept. 10th and I will be sure to share photos and stories of my adventures of driving with the wild Hungarians across the Puszta (Great Hungarian Plain)!"

Ann Katona

Fred Dearborn would like to know if any of our members are interested in an endurance driving competition the first weekend in December. If you are interested, please contact him.

Don't forget to turn in your volunteer, competition, and recreational driving forms. We will use these to determine our awards for 2007. If you need copies, please let me know.

In The Know...

Last month's answer was D.

Pneumatic wheeled (bicycle tired) vehicles are: D. Both B & C. B. Allowed at the discretion of management only under certain conditions. C. Allowed at the training level.

According to the Ladies' Turnout section of the CAA Turnout & Appointments, which of the following is NOT a ladies vehicle:

A Park Phaeton

B George IV phaeton

C Stanhope gig

D Runabout

WANTED!

Heather & David Schneider are looking for a groom for the Lexington Classic and National Drive. David is competing Advanced Single and she is bring a pair for the National Drive. They are looking for someone to help. Mainly cleaning stalls, bathing horses, etc. Anyone who is interested can call her at 615-563-9591. The Schneider's own Advanced Equine Products, home of Zilco Harness and many other driving items.

Horses For Sale:

High Socks 17 mo. filly, AWA registerable, 14.3+, wild colored, straight legs & great feet. Very personable, leads, loads, & stands for the Vet & farrier. Owned by a Vet and Farrier, has not missed a shot, worming & feet trimming in the last 15 months. \$3,000 Call Julie Roberts-Daugherty

Sea Spirit-7yr, 14.2h gray Arabian gelding, broke to ride & drive. Great trail horse, dressage & endurance prospect. Russian breeding. Contact Pam Wilson

Got Milk-3yr, 12.2h Gotland/Welsh cross. Descends from jumpers, green broke to drive. Will make nice driving or dressage pony. Contact Diana Charles

Blue-4yr, 14.3h Chestnut paint mare, quiet good natured horse who loves attention & being groomed. Worked under saddle but needs experience to become an all-purpose family horse. \$1,500 obo. Contact Maggie Garrison

Tribute-11 year old Morgan horse. Well-bred & handsome. He is green broke to ride, not a driving prospect. 15.1 hands. Best Offer Contact Kathy Courtemanche

- September 22: Fun day and Recreational Drive at Gayla Driving Center to benefit USDFD

- October 4-7: Sponsor Volunteer lunches at Lexington Classic CDE

October 11-14: Sponsor Clinician at the National Drive

- October 27: Drive at Elmendorf

- November 3: SNS Trek at Masterson Station Park

December 15: Holiday Party at Heidi Boel's House

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