



**Horseless Trot
Sunday, February 10
Red Dot Restaurant
5673 Main St. (Market Square Mall)
Osgoode***

**AGM – 4:15 p.m.
Dinner – 5 p.m.**

(DRAW FOR A FREE DINNER! Everyone is responsible for ordering and paying for their own dinner from the menu – but one lucky couple will have dinner free of charge!)

**Speaker: Mary Trafford will talk
about Centered Driving**

Mary Trafford has over 35 years' experience in teaching dressage, hunter seat and therapeutic riding. In 1986, she trained under Centered Riding founder Sally Swift, and is now a Level III Centered Riding clinician. She owns two horses and lives in Chelsea, Quebec.

RSVP to Mary Mulligan at 613-692-3296 or mianfarm@xplornet.com. Memberships available at the meeting.

There will be some vacancies on the executive this year. If you are interested in serving on the executive or have time to volunteer for a project or serve on a committee, contact Maney McNeil, Chair of the Nominating Committee, at 1-613-347-2541.

We strongly encourage you to come out to support the EOPDS, share your ideas and suggestions, and chat with fellow driving enthusiasts.

*From Hwy. 416 or River Road, take Roger Stevens Drive into Osgoode. See map at www.reddotcafe.com

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President's Message:

The Directors of EOPDS wish everyone a very successful year in their driving activities. As we endeavour to accommodate the young carriage drivers in our club, we are embarking on a course of new directions.

In the November issue of the EOPDS newsletter, we addressed the idea of funding for professional training for interested young carriage drivers during the coming years.

Recognizing that young drivers are the grassroots in the future of pleasure driving, the board of directors at the November 14, 2007 meeting approved a bursary of \$300 for each young driver (family or individual EOPDS membership in good standing required) to be spent on training and coaching. An individual candidate can apply for financial assistance annually to EOPDS up to a limit of five years in total, subject to EOPDS guidelines.

A vote of approval of an application form, developed by a committee comprised of Kathy Harding, Mary Mulligan and Margaret Monnelly, was recorded. The Application Form for Educational Funding for Young Drivers will be used by prospective applicants who are interested in availing of this special funding.

At the January 16, 2008 meeting of the board of directors, the Guidelines for Funding, prepared by the same committee, were discussed and approved. The funding is designed to be used for driving lessons given by qualified pleasure driving coaches, which would further the driving skills of young drivers. Interested candidates should send their completed application form to Margaret Monnelly before May 1, 2008. The application form is designed to give the directors a resume of each person's achievements to date.

Parameters:

It is anticipated that training will be given using ADS /Equine Canada pleasure driving rules or guidelines. The rules make ample provision for young drivers, including Junior to Drive, Novice Classes and Maiden horses or ponies. The Revised ADS Rules (2008) allow for the use of pneumatic or wire wheeled vehicles subject to show management's discretion in the above classes.

Young Driver:

For the purposes of EOPDS funding, a young driver up to 25 years of age will be considered for the first year of the program. Thereafter, the upper age limit will be 21 years of age. For further information and an Application Form, please contact: Mrs. Margaret Monnelly,

12 Merkel Drive, Nepean, Ontario K2J 1Z8; email monnelly@magma.ca
– *Margaret Monnelly*

OEF Volunteer of the Year: June Pelot By Diana Trafford

EOPDS member June Pelot was among the volunteers honoured November 24, 2007 at the Ontario Equestrian Federation (OEF) annual banquet in Alliston, Ontario.

A formidable competitor herself on the local scene and a generous supporter of newcomers to the sport, June has been driving horses for some 60 years. June can be counted on for a prompt offer of help whenever some event is in the planning, and her "I could do the food" is music to the ears of any organizer.

To June, "It's a giving-back of what other people have done for you. People helped me so much when I started, and now it's my turn to help."



OEF Award Winner June Pelot with her beloved Welsh mare Bambi

June says she has always found people in the driving community to be genuinely helpful to one another, even when in the ring competing. She adds, “I hope we can carry on this tradition and keep the emphasis on the pleasure of driving rather than cut-throat competition. Pleasure driving should be for the pure joy of bringing on your horse.”

The OEF People Make a Difference awards are given annually in recognition of the behind-the-scenes efforts of the many volunteers involved in horse sport in the province. Previous EOPDS volunteers of the year include Joe Nuth (2004), Margaret Monnelly (2005) and Mary and Ian Mulligan (2006).

A Look Back...

By Maney McNeil

The Eastern Ontario Private Driving Society – the forerunner to the EOPDS – was first established in 1975 to promote the association of people with an interest in vintage vehicles and pleasure driving.

The Private Driving Society’s first two annual meetings were held at the home of John and Shan Kelso in Prescott. There was a dinner at both meetings followed by a social get together. The cost of the dinner was divided amongst those present.

The Eastern Ontario Pleasure Driving Society was incorporated in 1977 when the directors felt the club had become more focused on pleasure driving.

The third and last annual meeting of the Private Driving Society was held on March 4, 1978 at the Lion’s Den on the fairgrounds in Metcalfe. The purpose of the meeting was to arrange for the winding up of the affairs of the Society. Immediately following was the first general meeting of the Eastern Ontario Pleasure Driving Society Inc. which was celebrated with a dinner and dance. This became one of the Society’s largest attended events.



Morrisburg Drive, 1977

Former EOPDS President Walter Unsworth and wife Sheila chat with visitors at a Private Driving Club event at Upper Canada Village, 1977

Starting in 1979, the EOPDS gathered every year at Pierce’s Corners Hall near North Gower for the annual meeting, which was always followed with a pot luck supper, music, dancing and fellowship. It was a real family affair with many young children enjoying the evening along with the adults.



Metcalfe, Hackney Futurity, July 1977

Former EOPDS President Morris Douglas at a Private Driving Club outing at the Hackney Futurity, Metcalfe, July 1977

This annual function eventually outgrew Pierce's Corners Hall, which could only accommodate 100 people. In 1982, with a large turnout of 163 for dinner, an auction and dancing, it was evident that the time had come to move the annual meeting to the larger Roebuck Hall north of Prescott where it remained until 2004. After that, the AGM and dinner dance was held at different locations closer to Ottawa.



Morrisburg Drive, 1977

Glen Shoniker with the Private Driving Club at Upper Canada Village in 1977. His father, George, was a past president of EOPDS.

*Calendar of Events 2008**

February 10: EOPDS Horseless Trot, Red Dot Restaurant, 5673 Main St., Osgoode: AGM 4:15, dinner 5 p.m.; speaker Mary Trafford on Centred Driving; info Mary Mulligan at 613-692-3296 or mianfarm@xplornet.com

February 23-24: Austin Horse Park Pleasure Driving Competition, Weirsdale, Florida; info 352-750-5500 x 221 or robyn.orser@fcmr.org

March 7-9: Bill Lower Clinic, Beaverwood Farm, Hillsburgh. Private and semi-private lessons, auditors welcome, stabling available on site, info Kirsten Brunner at 519-833-7169.

April 11-13: Southern Pines CDE, North Carolina, info 910-692-9114

April 25-26: Martin's Carriage Auction, Lebanon, Pa., info 717-354-6671 or www.martinauctioneers.com

May 10-11: EOPDS Gerry McCallum Clinic, Sunset Farms, Stittsville. Beginner drivers May 10; open clinic May 11; auditors welcome, info Wayne Byrne 613-838-9699 or Barry Beach 613-839-2127

May 21: EOPDS Social Drive, Ferguson Forest, Kemptville, 5 p.m.

June 15: Central Ontario Pleasure Driving Association (COPDA) pleasure driving show, Georgetown, info Gregorismary@aol.com

June 19-22: Metamora CDE, Metamora, Michigan, info 248-969-8220 or rtcecile@aol.com

June 21: **EOPDS Fun Day of Driving**, Mian Farm, Manotick (rain date June 22), info 613-692-3296

June 27-29: Can-Am FEI CDE, Bromont, Quebec, info 819-478-1411 or lapierre@9bit.qc.ca

July 5: Ottawa Valley Light Horse Association Show, Richmond, info 613-257-1558

July 18-20: Metamora Pleasure Driving Show, Metamora, Michigan

July 19-20: Lorenzo Driving Competition, Cazenovia, NY, info 315-684-9229 or lisa@coachstopfarms.com

July 26-27: East Aurora Carriage Drive & Competition, East Aurora, NY, info 716-662-5198 or mbyers159@roadrunner.com

Aug. 8-10: Merrickville Fair, info 613-269-2229

August 13-17: Walnut Hill Pleasure Driving Show, Pittsford, NY, info www.walnuthillfarm.com

Sept 5-7: Laurels at Landhope CDE, Unionville, Pa., info 610-486-6484

Sept. 10: **EOPDS Social Drive**, Upper Canada Village

Sept. 6: Spencerville Fair

Sept. 20: Richmond Fair, info 613-838-3420

Sept. 20: Tri-County Carriage Association Driving Show, Witteveen Farm, Brantford, info 519-848-6288

Sept. 27: Carp Fair, info 613-839-2172

(*EOPDS dates subject to change.)

Classifieds

For Sale: Natural wood stained dark cherry road cart, fits 14-15.2h horse, excellent condition, \$2,500. Call Kirsten Brunner, Beaverwood Farm, 519-833-7169.

For Sale: Two registered Standardbred mares, full sisters, never raced, home raised, ridden English, trail riding and dressage, trained single, pair and four-in-hand to drive, 7 and 8 years old, in foal to registered Welsh stallion. Asking \$5,000 per horse. Call Kirsten Brunner, Beaverwood Farm, 519-833-7169.

For Sale: Antique French-Canadian "Curiolle" sleigh (cutter) totally ready to use, complete with newer shafts, seating for the driver and separate seat for passengers. Ideal for deep snow as it floats on top! \$750. Contact Anne Marie Anderson, Lucknow, at 519-357-1628 or stewart@wightman.ca

For Sale: Pair harness – chrome/stainless with black leather, suitable for 15.1h+ horses. New custom made patent breast collars, new back pads, breeching, lines, etc., only 1 set of (new) traces, bridles used sparingly, \$1,500. Contact Anne Marie Anderson, Lucknow, at 519-357-1628 or stewart@wightman.ca

For Sale: Pony pair lines with baghide hand parts, like new, \$300. Call 613-489-2431

For Sale: Black synthetic harness, including bit, to fit small or medium pony, good condition, \$250. Contact Val Everson at 613-488-3066 or rockingh@magma.ca

Other suggested classified sites:
www.equistation.com,
www.equestrianconnection.com, and
www.driveontario.ca, click on COPDA and then on Classifieds.

Contact the EOPDS:

Margaret Monnelly, President
12 Merkel Drive
Nepean, Ontario K2J 1Z8
613-825-3853

Directors

Maney McNeil (Sec.): 613-347-2541
Mary Mulligan (Treas.): 613-692-3296
Barry Beach 613-839-2127
Sally Jorgensen 613-258-5462
Wayne Byrne 613-838-9699
Ian Mulligan 613-692-3296
Lynda Rivington 613-567-7347

Let us know about your driving-related activities. The next newsletter should be out mid-April. Send items by April 10 to Lynda Rivington, 9 Belgrave Road, Ottawa, Ontario K1S 0L9; telephone 613-567-7347; email rivington@rogers.com Classifieds are free for club members.

Please Note: If you have not renewed your EOPDS membership by mid-February, this will be your final newsletter.
