



In This Issue...

President's Message.....1
 Out & About With EOPDS Members.....2
 Welcome New Member.....2
 Congratulations Wayne Byrne.....2
 Walnut Hill 2010 by Lynda Rivington.....3
 Local Show Wrap-Up by Barry Beach.....5
 Fiddler's Green Social Drive by Mary Mulligan.....6
 Phantom Farm Social Drive by Mary Mulligan.....7
 Minis at The Horse Exhibit by Mary Hume.....8
 WEG by Margaret Monnelly.....9
 Two Ladies at WEG by Jane Watts.....10
 RCMP Stables Tour by Lynda Rivington.....10
 Get Working On Your Bucket List
 by Mary Mulligan.....12
 Walnut Hill: A Junior Perspective by
 Jordan Alma.....12
 Junior Driver Appreciation:
 Kilby Brunner-De Forest.....13
 Classifieds.....14
 EOPDS Needs You/Raffle Tickets/Christmas Gift
 Ideas/Winter Sleighing.....14
 Contact the EOPDS.....14



Diana Trafford (left) and June Pelot in the Old Guard Class at Walnut Hill. Photo: Maney McNeil

Christmas Party
Date: December 3
Time: 6 p.m.
Place: Rideau Carleton Racetrack
More Details To Follow

President's Message:

As the 2010 driving season is drawing to a close, I am happy to reflect upon a very successful year. Thank you to our board members for their hard work!

The two clinics we held at Sunset Farm and Mian Farm were well attended and I believe



Walnut Hill Parade of Champions: double champion Mary Mulligan with husband Ian and footman Maney McNeil. Photo: Barbara Broughton

everyone learned a great deal and improved their driving skills. Having Morris Kerr back for some 'tune-ups' for our competitors who were heading for Walnut Hill was a bonus!

Our social drives at Ferguson Forest, Hawkridge, Mian Farm, Fiddler's Green and Phantom were all lots of fun and safe. So we got a little wet at Phantom....

We had three of our 'youth' take advantage of our bursary program and they obviously all benefited from the instruction they received as they were all in the ribbons at Walnut Hill.

Our adult competitors were not to be outdone by our youth and they, too, made our club proud by bringing home many ribbons and trophies from Walnut Hill as well as other smaller shows.

Our field trip to the RCMP Stables was another highlight of our year.

We have acquired some new members and I'm pleased to note that several new vehicles, harnesses, horses and ponies were purchased by our members.

All these things point to growth in our club and I sincerely hope that this trend continues into the 2011 season!

– Mary Mulligan

Out & About With EOPDS Members:

- At the East Aurora Carriage Competition in New York in July, in the Novice/Junior Division, **Shelby Heinbuch** driving **June Pelot's** Welsh mare was first in reinsmanship, second in working and third in timed obstacles. **Jeff Kohler** brought home first in reinsmanship, second in both turnout and working, and third in timed obstacles in the Multiple Horse/Pony division.
- **Jordan Alma** was VSE champion at the August COPDA show, placing first in turnout, reinsmanship and working, and fourth in timed obstacles.
- For a report on EOPDS competitors, volunteers & spectators at Walnut Hill in August, see article page 3.
- At the Laurels at Landhope CDE in Pennsylvania in September, **Jeff Kohler** won the preliminary single pony division, **Kirsten Brunner** came second in intermediate single pony, while **Tina Sully** placed fifth in preliminary single horse.
- Several members showed at the Dwyer Hill Riding Club shows and at Richmond and Carp fairs. See article on page 5 for results of these competitions.
- **Mary and Ian Mulligan** and **Maney McNeil** took part in the annual

Dunvegan "Fall Festival" drive in September.

- **Mary and Ian Mulligan, Wendy Huckabone and Margaret Monnelly** joined the CAA's trip to the October World Equestrian Games. **Jane Watts, Nadja Davidson** and **Jeff Kohler** all volunteered at WEG. See articles pages 9 and 10.

Welcome New Member:

Isabelle Paquette, Metcalfe

Congratulations Wayne Byrne!

EOPDS director Wayne Byrne received a 'People Make A Difference Award' at the Ontario Equestrian Federation annual meeting in October in Mississauga.

Some of Wayne's many horse-related activities include: an active EOPDS executive member for five years; a driving competitor of Quarter Horses for several years, including at the World Quarter Horse Show in Oklahoma; more recently a driving competitor with Miniature Horses; co-organizer of the annual Sunset driving clinic; volunteer on several fair boards and at many fairs and shows, including whipper-in at Walnut Hill for four years; a tutor of new drivers; as well as breaking and training horses and ponies for clients.

Wayne is a great ambassador for the driving world. Congratulations, Wayne, on this well-deserved award!



Wayne Byrne receiving his award from OEF President Gary Yaghdjian. Photo: Gwen Byrne

Show Reports

Walnut Hill 2010

By Lynda Rivington

Champions

It was five years in the making but club president **Mary Mulligan** achieved a long-time goal when she 'drove' away with two championships at the Walnut Hill Carriage Driving Competition in August in Pittsford, New York. Granted, Vigilmar's Irish Thorn, a Morgan owned by Mary and husband **Ian Mulligan** had won two championships of his own in 2008 but this time, with Mary as whip, the wins were even more meaningful. Mary ended up with both the Ladies Wicker Phaeton Park Formal Championship and the Park Ladies Wicker Phaeton Championship.



Mary Mulligan, whip; Ian Mulligan, passenger; Maney McNeil, footman with the Morgan, Vigilmar's Irish Thorn. Photo: Leo Zalewski

Veteran competitors and club members **Jeff Kohler** and **Kirsten Brunner** also brought home well-earned championships. Jeff ended up with three championships – Best Gentleman's Turnout, Large Single Pony and overall Gentleman Champion. Kirsten brought home two championships – Single Horse Runabout and a tie for Reserve Large Single Pony.

EOPDS Representation

Other EOPDS competitors included **Diana Trafford, Shelby Heinbuch, Jordan Alma, Kilby Brunner-De Forest** and **Lynda Rivington**. **Maney McNeil's** contribution at the

show was insurmountable, doing double duty all week long as a volunteer groom as well as riding as footman on Mary's wicker phaeton in every class.



Jeff Kohler and Section C Welsh stallion Synod Lord Percival. Photo: Tony Donofrio



Lynda Rivington and the Hackney pony, Kilreen's John Henry. Photo: Tony Donofrio

Wayne and Gwen Byrne, and Barry and Sandy Beach were kept busy all week in their now 'permanent' volunteer jobs as paddock marshalls, show office officials and judges' scribes. The Byrnes wore two hats as grandson Jordan Alma was competing so they also spent the week travelling back and forth to the stabling area.

Spotted spectating were **Eric and Dianne Moore, June Pelot, Tara Heinbuch, Margaret Monnelly, Janet Noyes-Brown, Barbara Broughton, Wendy Huckabone, Jennifer Sigouin, Bill Gardner and Francine Portenier, Randy and Terry Olmstead, and Laurie and Tim Stoddard.**



Wendy Huckabone (left) & Jennifer Sigouin. Photo: Maney McNeil



Dianne & Eric Moore. Photo: Maney McNeil

Individual Results

In the wicker phaeton division, Mary Mulligan won the picnic class, came second in park performance and third in turnout. In the single horse put to a vehicle other than a meadowbrook, road cart or runabout, she was second in both reinsmanship and progressive obstacle.



Ian and Mary Mulligan with their winning Victorian-era picnic entry. Photo: Barbara Broughton

Jeff Kohler cleaned up in the large pony division, winning turnout, reinsmanship, progressive obstacle and cross-country. He also came first in the Presentation Drive for single pony put to a four-wheeled vehicle, was third in small pony turnout, and picked up third and fifth respectively for reinsmanship and fault and out in the pair ponies division. Jeff also earned the high point Welsh award.

In the runabout division, Kirsten Brunner was first in reinsmanship and fault and out obstacle, and second in pleasure turnout and cross-country obstacle; she also won the runabout class in the Presentation Drive. In the large pony division, Kirsten was second in cross-country, third in progressive obstacle and fourth in turnout.

Lynda Rivington brought home a fifth in small pony reinsmanship, while Diana Trafford picked up a sixth for fastest cross-country obstacle time in single horse meadowbrook or road cart division.



Diana Trafford (left) & June Pelot with the Standardbred JD's Abigail. Photo: Maney McNeil

EOPDS Junior Drivers

In the junior division, Kilby Brunner-De Forest came third in reinsmanship and fourth in turnout, while Jordan Alma picked up a fourth in reinsmanship and a sixth in timed obstacle. Jordan also competed in the Miniature Horse division, placing second in fault and out and fifth in cross country. Our third junior driver, Shelby Heinbuch, competing with June Pelot's

Welsh pony, brought home fifths in small pony progressive obstacle and cross-country.



Junior driver Jordan Alma & Magic, Wayne & Gwen Byrne's mini. Photo: Gwen Byrne



Junior driver Kilby Brunner-De Forest & mom Kirsten Brunner with their Welsh pony Beaverwood's Puffyn. Photo: Maney McNeil



Junior driver Shelby Heinbuch with June Pelot's Welsh pony, Snow Kissed Misty Dawn. Photo: Maney McNeil

EOPDS was well represented at Walnut Hill with competitors, volunteers and spectators all being part of a show that transported them back in time to a glorious era of carriage driving.

Local Show Wrap-Up By Barry Beach

Dwyer Hill Shows

The Dwyer Hill Riding Club ran four shows this summer which included a pleasure driving division made up of 10 classes open to horses, ponies and Miniatures. The first show in June was cancelled due to rain and was held the following week. The two shows in July ran well and, again, the one show in August, because of rain, had to be moved to the following week.

Several members of EOPDS showed at some or all of the four shows. They included **Karen Lamb, Mickie Moir, Wayne Byrne, Jordan Alma, Sandra Beach, Bill Gardner and Phyllis Begg. Sue Quade** volunteered at the shows and helped ensure that they ran well. All of the above enjoyed success and look forward to next year's series of shows.

The driving division of DHRC represents the only avenue for showing your pleasure driving horse in Eastern Ontario, other than fall fairs and the Ottawa Valley Light Horse Show. EOPDS members are encouraged to consider joining us in the 2011 shows at the Richmond fairgrounds.

Richmond Fair

Mary Mulligan had a good showing in the carriage division at the Richmond Fair with **Maney McNeil** riding as footman on her vehicle. Several EOPDS members enjoyed a great Miniature Horse show. They included **Mickie Moir, Wayne Byrne, Jordan Alma, Sandra Beach, Barry Beach and Phyllis Begg. Karen Lamb** is the co-ordinator of the Richmond Fair Miniature Horse show and deserves a great deal of thanks for providing drivers with an opportunity to show their Miniatures.

Carp Fair

One week later, at Carp Fair, several EOPDS members enjoyed what is considered the "Best Little Fair in Canada". Again, **Mary Mulligan** did an excellent job showing her Morgan, Thorn, in the pleasure driving division; **Maney McNeil** rode as footman on Mary's phaeton. In the Miniature Horse show, several club members participated. They included **Karen Lamb**, **Mickie Moir** (who placed first in the ladies cart class in a field of 17 entries), **Wayne Byrne** (who placed first in the tandem class), **Jordan Alma**, **Sandra Beach**, **Mary Hume**, **Walter Hambleton** and **Susan Quade** (the ringmaster in the saddle- harness/Miniature Horse ring).

Carp Fair was very honoured to have Morris Kerr as our judge in the Saddle/Harness Ring. The Miniature Horse show at Carp was well attended this year. In the cart classes (men's, ladies, junior, senior) entries numbered in the high teens. In the pairs class, there were 10 entries and 22 entries in the cones class. The Miniature Horse show at Carp has grown to be the largest Miniature Horse show in Eastern Ontario, and possibly Ontario (in the driving divisions).

As a show volunteer with DHRC and Carp Fair, I would like to thank everyone for their participation at these shows and encourage others to consider showing their horses next year at all of these three events.

Social Drives

Fiddler's Green Social Drive **By Mary Mulligan**

Sunday, August 1st dawned bright and sunny – a perfect driving day! Nine hitches and a total of 22 people packed up and headed out to Fiddler's Green for our fourth social drive of the season. We were all welcomed warmly by our hosts, **Pam and Joe Nuth**, who had some morning coffee and goodies for us as we arrived. Their property looked spectacular, all clipped and mowed to perfection.



Host Joe Nuth greets Barry & Sandy Beach and their Miniature pair. Photo: Maney McNeil

Everyone 'put to' and was ready to drive by 11:15. And drive we did! We went through romantic woods, along a scenic pond, and followed well-marked trails which brought us by numerous challenging obstacles. Fiddler's Green is one of the only places in the area where we can practise navigating real obstacles so that is a treat. We all enjoyed driving at will and ended up back at the starting point around 1 p.m. The brave souls then tried their hand at a well-planned cones course.

This was followed by a tasty lunch and social time. We thank the Nuths and **Sally Jorgensen** for organizing a most successful day.

The following are some candid shots taken by Maney McNeil of participants at the Fiddler's Green social drive:



Hector Vaillancourt with his Standardbred. Photo: Maney McNeil



Sally Jorgensen (left) & Phyllis Begg with Sally's Rocky Mountain pair, Mac & Yoko. Photo: Maney McNeil



Bill Gardner & Francine Portenier with their Canadian. Photo: Maney McNeil



John & Val Wilkinson with their Suffolk Punch. Photo: Maney McNeil



Margaret Monnelly (left) & Gwen Salisbury with Margaret's Welsh pony, Joey. Photo: Maney McNeil

Phantom Farm Social Drive By Mary Mulligan

Congratulations to the 24 dedicated members who came out to the Phantom Farm Drive on Wednesday, September 8, despite the questionable weather forecast. A total of 13 hitches enjoyed the lovely property of David and Caroline Reese-Potter as well as John Kennedy Road, which is quiet and a perfect place to let your horse stretch out a bit. **Margaret Monnelly's** cones course was a great place to practise your driving accuracy. Unfortunately, the rain did interrupt our afternoon's drive but not until most people were ready to unhitch anyway. A few brave souls even drove on for a while in the rain.

Afterwards, we all congregated in the driving shed for refreshments provided primarily by **Margaret and Pat Monnelly**. A few other members added to the treats. Although it was a tight squeeze, everyone seemed to enjoy the coziness and the fact that it was dry and had a good time chatting, eating and drinking. Thanks to David, Margaret, **Sally Jorgensen** and **Nadja Davidson** for all their efforts.

This was a great event to mark the last social drive of the 2010 season. Keep driving on your own and we'll see you all in 2011!

Minis at The Horse Exhibit By Mary Hume

Early last spring we had a call from Nathalie Reneault at the Museum of Civilization. Her position at the museum is Senior Program Planner, Interpretation and Planning, and her current project was the upcoming horse-related presentation planned for the summer. She had contacted the Miniature Horse Club of Ontario and, as we are one of the few members east of Kingston, she had been referred to us.

We arranged to meet with her to discuss a possible Miniature Horse display and, having ironed out the insurance and containment aspects, we were invited to present our horses for two days in June and another two in July.



One of the Miniatures Mary Hume & Walter Hambleton took to The Horse Exhibit at the Museum of Civilization for a popular hands-on exhibit

Travelling to the Museum

Thank goodness Walter has had lots of experience driving tractor trailers as we had to be at the museum in time to have everything set up for 12 noon. This meant that we had to come across the bridge from Ottawa, through the construction and heavy traffic and find our way to the parking lot. Unfortunately, there was a bit of a mix-up regarding where we were to park but eventually we arrived, four minis in tow, at the correct location and found a very small fenced area waiting for us.

The museum staff could not have more friendly and obliging. Water was provided for people and

horses and volunteers were on hand to translate any questions from French-speaking visitors. I had prepared a short pamphlet giving some history and facts about these unique little horses and Nathalie had translated it into French so we had a bilingual handout which proved quite popular.

Miniature Horse Popularity

I had no idea that we would have so many people stop by. There were schools visiting the museum, tour buses and bikers coming off the bike path, as well as other visitors. I'm not sure if the Miniatures were more popular with the children or with the many elderly people, some in wheelchairs, who stopped and wanted to pet the horses.

We gave the horses a break by taking two at a time up to the fence to be patted and sometimes kissed by their admirers. We had to turn down requests to feed, ride and get into the little paddock but everyone seemed to really enjoy their contact with the little guys.

Because the museum needs to keep track of how many people visit the exhibits, the volunteers were doing a head count. At the end of the first two days, there had been 1,000 people stop by. On the second visit a month later, we had a head count of 700 and those two days rain threatened most of the time. We had people make return visits and bring friends and family and quite often we were asked if we would be back later in the year.

A Worthwhile Venture

Neither horses nor people had any trouble sleeping after the days we spent in the open air meeting and greeting and answering questions, but it was fun and really gratifying to see the interest that was shown.

I never did get to see The Horse Exhibit presentation put on inside the museum, but I heard lots of positive comments and often thought how special it is to have such a world-class museum close to us.



Celine Hutchison's Newfoundland pony, Mr. Maple, with Lisa Morgan-Lavigne at The Horse Exhibit, Museum of Civilization, being admired by a group of school children. Parliament Hill in background.

WEG Reports

World Equestrian Games

By Margaret Monnelly

Since June 2009, **Mary and Ian Mulligan, Pat and Margaret Monnelly and Wendy Huckabone** have been planning their trips to the World Equestrian Games in Lexington, Kentucky. From the moment we arrived in Lexington, one could tell that the whole city was caught up in the excitement of this event. In the evenings, we came upon street festivities which were all part of the WEG atmosphere. We were grateful to be part of the CAA group, as all arrangements regarding hotels, transportation to and from the games as well as our valued tickets were taken care of. We were invited to two receptions and a formal dinner at the Campbell House Hotel in Lexington, where we met carriage drivers from all over North America.

Kentucky Horse Park is a massive 1,200 acres in size. So we sometimes had long walks to and

from the arena. Eventually, we were able to figure out ways to find a golf cart ride wherever we wished to go.

Dressage

During our first two days at WEG, we watched world-class drivers compete in the dressage phase of the competition. Using pre-programmed receivers with headsets, we listened to a running commentary given by a German international judge as we observed each driver's performance. Education at its best and always engaging our attention, it was easy to identify leading turnouts by the visual impression of their horses' matching performances, referred to by the commentator as "working in a block". By the end of Day Two, Boyd Exell, Australia, put in a record dressage test score of 30.08, going on to the next two days' competition in the overnight lead.

Marathon & Cones

Saturday was marathon day. We had maps of the cross-country obstacles which were constructed within walking distance of each other, albeit by climbing some steep terrain. The performances were outstanding as the obstacles were very challenging. Sunday being the final day, the cones course took place in a fully booked-up arena. As always in combined driving competitions, the cones course changed the placings quite significantly, although Boyd Exell held on to his top placing to win a gold medal for his country. The Netherlands team placed first, U.S.A. placed second and Germany was in third place. Team Canada, with two team members only, placed sixth.

Volunteers

Perhaps one of the most noteworthy features of the event was the huge number of volunteers, about 1,200 to 1,700 per day. They were outstanding in their support of the event. They had been instructed in the tasks to which they had been assigned and were easily identifiable by the blue ARIAT uniforms which they wore. The *Lexington Herald-Leader* gave daily front page coverage to the games. On October 9, the volunteer contingent was highlighted as the unsung heroes of the WEG. We talked to many of them at lunch, at the bus shuttle stops and on

the golf carts. They were always happy, helpful and smiling and said they would be willing to repeat the whole experience. Among the volunteers were EOPDS members **Nadja Davidson, Jane Watts and Jeffrey Kohler**, who was an observer at obstacle 5 in the marathon competition.

Two Ladies at WEG, Oct. 2-10, 2010 **By Jane Watts**

Thanks to the EOPDS newsletter, **Nadja Davidson and Jane Watts** paired to experience the World Equestrian Games as volunteers. Our accommodations in a two bedroom bungalow in Georgetown instead of a mere motel room were ideal for location, convenience and comfort. We enjoyed a two-day drive down and a one-day return to Ontario.

Food, "chores" and experiences were shared. Georgetown was most welcoming with its own Festival of the Horse and friendly people.

Volunteering

The challenge was to keep warm in several layers especially for our 6:15a.m. shifts as bus greeters/counters. I had two shifts with the media buses which were very easy. Nadja had several shifts, giving a break to staff at the hotel end of the bus shuttles. Eventually, warmth returned so we could wear the shirt, jacket uniform plus ball cap in baby blue. I experienced friendly southern hospitality and enthusiasm from volunteers and the Game Day paid staff.

Side Trips

The WEG event was huge and every day a lot to see and do kept me trying to see as much as possible. Nadja saw horse racing as well: *Secretariat*, the movie, in Lexington, Thoroughbred and Arabian racing at Keeneland, and two breeding farms on the Sunday. Although Nadja didn't have the winning ticket for an Arabian gelding, we both visited the new Al Marah Arabian Horse Galleries at the International Museum of the Horse. I have a copy of the catalogue for the special exhibit of "A Gift from the Desert" if anyone is interested.

Driving Competitions

We worked on the driving dressage days. Nadja saw some of the last drives, and I at least arrived in time to see the presentations for the top ten. Saturday was the marathon so we were up early but this time to take seats at the largest water obstacle (#2). Nadja left early for Keeneland to see the first-ever Arabian race at that track.

Once I understood the pattern of drivers, I set off to see as many of the other obstacles before I heard that William Long was at the first obstacle. That meant that I had to rush back to the water obstacle bleachers so I could film his performance, as recommended by **Tina Sully**. I was so excited to be there and witness such super abilities, especially evident when a driver got into a jam and had to pause, and renegotiate their four horses. (One is enough for me under close supervision.)

Sunday I missed the cones as I was playing catch-up to see the special exhibits and the long distances between venues cost me that treat. But we did sit in on the last of the closing ceremony together. The trip was an adventure of a lifetime and worth the effort and expense.

RCMP Stables Tour **By Lynda Rivington**

EOPDS took Sergeant Major Bill Stewart up on the Riding Master's offer at the AGM for a club tour of the RCMP stables. On September 27, about 50 people turned out for a most informative 2½-hour tour.



Sgt. Major Bill Stewart and part of the EOPDS tour group. Photo: Wayne Byrne

Overview

Following a brief get-together in Bill's office where we got a short history of when the Force came to Ottawa and to their current location at the end of St. Laurent Boulevard; their relocation to Lansdowne Park during war years; and the history of and renovations over time to the stables, adjoining buildings and riding arena – we proceeded on to an extensive tour of the stables.



Sgt. Major Bill Stewart introduces Kzar, one of the RCMP postillion leaders. Photo: Wayne Byrne

Horses

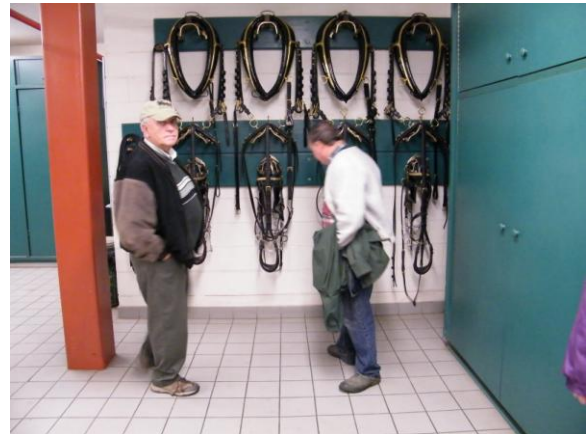
The Musical Ride horses had just returned home so we had a full complement of 96 horses grouped into three categories to view – the Musical Ride horses, young horses in training, and the stalwart school horses on whom the new recruits train. The breeding stock – stallions, broodmares, foals, yearlings and two-year-olds – all reside at the RCMP farm at Pakenham just west of Ottawa.



Some of the RCMP school horses used to train the new recruits. Photo: Wayne Byrne

The youngsters arrive from the breeding farm as three-year-olds to begin their training and to be assessed as future Ride prospects. For various reasons, including wrong colour, size or temperament, some are weeded out during this period and do not make the Ride. These horses are usually offered for sale to the public at the biannual RCMP Foundation auction.

We learned about the RCMP stabling, feeding programs, touring schedules which include both domestic and international travel, how the horses are transported, and potential Ride member recruitment. It is generally a three-year process before either a new horse or a new rider qualifies for the Musical Ride. Many of the new recruits have never ridden before arriving in Ottawa; some have never even seen a horse so it is a real learning curve.



Eric Moore & Bill Gardner check out some of the RCMP harness. Photo: Dianne Moore

Given the number of horses on the premises, the farriers' quarters, needless to say, are fairly extensive, and also serve as a veterinary room if more than routine work on a horse is required.

Visitors' Centre

In the Visitors' Centre – in addition to the fabulous photos on every wall of different Ride tours and mounted escorts for dignitaries – we were treated to the history of the landau, which was being readied that week for the investiture of the new Governor General, David Johnston, plus a detailed discussion of the harness, including a demonstration of how a postillion

rider would handle both his own horse's reins plus the rein from the off horse.



RCMP landau on display in the Visitor's Centre.
Photo: Dianne Moore



Exhibit of postillion harness and horses put to the landau in the Visitor's Centre. Photo: Dianne Moore

All in all, a wonderful evening full of information and detail we might not have gleaned otherwise. Sgt. Major Stewart has a special way of recalling history, explaining the RCMP's programs and protocols, throwing in anecdotes, and patiently answering questions that kept everyone's interest peaked throughout.

Get Working On Your Bucket List By Mary Mulligan

On September 20, I checked another item off my 'bucket list' and I'd like to share it with you.

My mother, who is now 98 years of age, and her five sisters were born on a farm in Baltics

Corners, which is near Maxville. After my grandfather's death, the farm remained in the family when one of the sisters, my aunt Neilena and her husband, took it over. My family and I visited often and I have many fond memories of sleigh rides, fun helping with the chores and huge meals around a large kitchen table.

Although my grandfather died before I was born, I grew up hearing many stories of his fine horsemanship and love of horses and, because of my involvement with horses, I've always felt a special connection to him. I often thought I'd like to retrace his steps and go up and down that same lane with my horse and buggy two generations later.

So, when we were in the area that weekend in September at the Dunvegan Fall Festival, Ian said, "We'll never have a better opportunity." So we hitched up Thorn and then pushed the replay button! It was quite a thrill and I actually found it quite emotional to recapture this bit of history. I think my grandfather would have been proud. The new owners made us very welcome and I enjoyed introducing Ian to the farm.

My mother was too frail to make the trip, but showing her the pictures the next day and watching her excitement as she recounted some of her memories was certainly an added bonus.

The moral of this story is: "Get working on your 'bucket list' and you'll be well rewarded."

Junior Drivers

Walnut Hill: A Junior Perspective By Jordan Alma

The EOPDS brought **Jeffrey Kohler** to our area to do a clinic in May 2010. He stayed with my grandparents, **Gwen and Wayne Byrne**, while he was here and many of our conversations lead to Walnut Hill. My grandparents had volunteered there for the past four years and this year I was going to go as a spectator.

On Sunday, Jeff asked me if I would like to groom for him at Walnut Hill and, of course, I

Classifieds

For Sale: Single pony batmobile marathon carriage, fits 12.2-14.1hh, excellent condition, \$4,600.

Skey, 13.1 gray gelding, 8 years old, lovely driving pony also well broke to ride \$5,500.
Beaverwoods Rosebud, 2009 section C Welsh filly, Chestnut with blond mane and tail, started lunging shown on the line, will mature 13.1hh, lovely mover \$5,500.

See photos at www.beaverwoodfarm.on.ca or call for more information 519-833-7169

Winter Sleighing?

Interested in spur-of-the-moment social sleighing drives over the winter? EOPDS proposes to establish a network of contacts for these informal outings. If interested, let Sally Jorgensen know: 613-258-5462, email sjorgensen@netpublishing.ca

Christmas Gift Ideas

Mary Mulligan is taking orders for **EOPDS shirts, jackets and caps** – a great idea for that driving enthusiast on your Christmas list! **Shirts \$33; Jackets \$42; Caps \$20.** Call Mary for colours and sizes if you wish to order: 613-692-3296, email mianfarm@xplornet.com

Raffle Tickets

At the AGM, many members picked up some raffle tickets to sell for our fundraiser. The draw for the portrait by photographer Bob Bellfoyl will take place at the Christmas party on December 3. **A reminder to return your unsold raffle tickets, stubs and money to Mary Mulligan, Box 955, 6120 Rideau Valley Drive, Manotick, Ontario K4M 1A8; phone 613-692-3296 – ASAP.**

Drive Ontario offers free advertising to all who are members of Drive Ontario, which includes all EOPDS members. If you have an ad to post contact: DriveOntarioClassifieds@xplornet.ca
You can view the ads at www.driveontario.ca

EOPDS Needs You!

EOPDS will need three new directors at the AGM in the spring.

As well, EOPDS anticipates openings for a new secretary, treasurer and newsletter editor in 2011.

EOPDS is also looking for someone to help out with the club website.

Can you help? Interested in finding out more information? Call Mary Mulligan at 613-692-3296, email mianfarm@xplornet.com

EOPDS gratefully acknowledges the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion, through the Ontario Equestrian Federation, for its financial contribution of \$1,258.

Membership Notice: Participants in club events must have a current membership. Send proof of insurance with the renewal form (available at www.eopds.ca) to: Jennifer Rennie, EOPDS Treasurer, 120 Craig's Shore, R.R. 2, Carleton Place, Ont. K7C 4L2; phone 613-253-5504. Fees: Individual \$30, Family \$40.

Contact the EOPDS:

Mary Mulligan, President
Box 955, 6120 Rideau Valley Drive, Manotick, Ontario K4M 1A8; 613-692-3296

Lynda Rivington (VP):	613-567-7347
Maney McNeil (Sec):	613-347-2541
Jennifer Rennie (Treas):	613-253-5504

Directors

Margaret Monnelly:	613-825-3853
Barry Beach	613-839-2127
Sally Jorgensen	613-258-5462
Wayne Byrne	613-838-9699
Phyllis Begg	613-489-3768

Send items for the winter newsletter by January 30 to Lynda Rivington, 9 Belgrave Road, Ottawa, Ontario K1S 0L9; phone 613-567-7347 or email rivington@rogers.com Classifieds are free for club members.