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President’s Message:

I can’t believe our summer and best driving season is half over! However, we do have three more club events planned for you and I hope they are highlighted on your calendar. Surely, we’ll have some nice, sunny weather on those days. We’re overdue.

I’m delighted that several of our members have purchased tickets for the World Equestrian Games through CAA. It promises to be a spectacular event. Tickets are going on sale to the general public on September 25 so you’re not too late to get in on the fun. Information is readily available on the Internet.

Your club is trying a different format for the Carriage Sporting Day to be held at

Mian Farm on August 29. It is an attempt to provide some variety and also to introduce drivers to competition in a very non-threatening way. You just compete against yourself or the clock (not your peers) and all scores are written on a “report card” that you carry from station to station. These can be shared with friends or not, as you wish. Their purpose is to reinforce things you are doing well and make suggestions on what you might practice to improve your driving skills. Most of all we just hope you enjoy your half day of driving!

Read the instructions in this newsletter carefully and follow the program. That way the day will run smoothly.

A survey will be taken following the event to determine if, in the future, you wish your club to repeat this format or return to a less structured “Fun Day” as we have had in the past.

If you are not planning to drive, you can still participate and help out your club. We are in need of 18 volunteers to run this event. Please consider coming out and lending a hand with either a full or half day of your time. We need everyone to pull together to make this event successful. Call me with your name at 613-692-3296.

Now for a tease – Look for a “new outing” to take place near Christmas in your next newsletter. Hint: It should be a “winner!”

– Mary Mulligan

Welcome New Members...

Cathy Hartley
Jane Watts
Kathy O'Kane
Susan Quade

Out & About With EOPDS Members:

➤ At the COPDA Show in Orangeville on June 14, club members **Barry and Sandy Beach** were responsible for organizing, running, and judging the cones section of that Show. It was held on the Orangeville Fairgrounds, a wonderful site for carriage driving. The show was well attended and is the third annual COPDA Pleasure Driving Show.

➤ **Barry and Sandy Beach** were also invited to the Ontario Morgan Horse Show in Newmarket on July 11. They were the course designers and were responsible for the cones section of the show. Barry reports that the weather was excellent and the show site on Davis Drive, just east of Newmarket, is an excellent site for a driving show.

➤ It's a hat trick for EOPDS junior driver **Shelby Heinbuch** so far this year. Shelby was Junior Champion at the Central Ontario Pleasure Driving Association Show in Orangeville in June, the Metamora Pleasure Driving Show in Michigan in July, and the East Aurora Carriage Show in New York in late July. Shelby was also Jeff Kohler's navigator at the OCDA one-day driving trial in July at Glencameron Farm.



Shelby Heinbuch on the cones course at the East Aurora Carriage Show in New York driving Jeff Kohler's pony from Relhok Farm

➤ **Kirsten Brunner** was Preliminary Single Horse Champion at the Metamora CDE in Michigan in June.

➤ At the Metamora Pleasure Driving Show in July, **Kirsten Brunner** won the Single Horse Championship and was overall Grand Champion.

➤ **Kirsten Brunner** and **Tina Sully** both competed in the Preliminary Single Horse Division at the Bromont International CDE in Quebec in June. **Kirsten** won the division and **Tina** came in ninth.

➤ In the carriage division at the Ottawa Valley Light Horse Show in July, **Lynda Rivington** brought home two thirds, a second and a first place ribbon.

➤ **Mary Mulligan** and **Lynda Rivington** competed in the training division at the Ontario Combined Driving Association one-day trial at Glencameron Farm in Limehouse on July 12. First-time navigators **Ian Mulligan** and **Maney McNeil** provided invaluable guidance. The day was a learning experience and eye opener for

all four club members into this aspect of driving.



Lynda Rivington and her Hackney pony tackle the cones course at the OCDA one-day driving trial at Glencameron Farm

➤ **Margaret Monnelly** was the TD and course designer at the COPDA show in Orangeville in June. As well, Margaret was the course designer at the East Aurora Carriage Show in New York in July. Margaret also attended a clinic in East Aurora given by Muffy Seaton.

➤ **Margaret Monnelly** has completed a lengthy indexing project for the American Driving Society. The Index to *The Whip* (2003 to 2007) has now been published and is available to ADS members on the website by looking under the Publications link. Margaret plans to continue indexing years 2008 and 2009 and intends to complete the work by January 2010.

A Carriage Sporting Day

By Mary Mulligan

This article is being offered to give you a clear idea of what the Carriage Sporting Day is about. The day is designed to offer you something a little different and an opportunity to learn a little more about the sport of Carriage Driving. We

hope you decide to join us and enjoy your day.

First, notice that there is an entry form for this event at the end of this newsletter. If you wish to participate you must fill it out and send it, along with the fee and the waiver to me (Mary Mulligan) as soon as possible. There are a limited number of drivers that can be accommodated, so don't procrastinate!

Upon receiving this form, I will send you a package of information you will need and you will be assigned either a morning or afternoon spot as well as specific times you will need to follow. This way everyone will rotate through 4 stations smoothly and be ensured of a 25-minute session with Jeff Kohler.

This is how the day should unfold: One should arrive in time to have a warm up. How long is up to you. Helmets are compulsory so be sure to bring yours.

If you are slated to drive in the morning, the **four stations** open at 9:00. They are **Dressage, Cones, Safety and Cross-Country**. You should visit each station once during the morning, in any order, whenever there is an opening. The exception is Station #1 which is the Dressage area. You must arrange your morning so that you are there at your appointed time!!! This one is carved in stone. Work your other stations around the dressage time.

At **Station #1** which is **Dressage**, you will enter at A and drive the pattern that you have memorized. The simple pattern will be in your package. You will be judged by Jeff Kohler and will be given a score. Now you will have a one on one time with Jeff for 15-20 minutes.

He will critique your drive and you will find this very positive, informative and helpful. He may also ask you to repeat certain parts of the pattern again to reinforce his point. It will be like a mini clinic. You will get written comments later to take home and refer to as you practise. Then you move on to the next available station.

Station #2 is- The **Safety Check**. Here, your horse, harness and vehicle will be inspected by a knowledgeable person. This is not a “beauty contest”. Only safety and suitability issues will be addressed. Hint: Cleanliness might give you an edge! Make sure your report card is marked before you move on.

Station # 3. This is the **Cones Course**. Here you will drive a shortened, timed cones course, TWICE. This course will also be in your package so you can see it ahead of time. Your vehicle wheel measurement will have been taken and the cones adjusted to suit your vehicle. You should attempt to beat your first time with fewer knock downs in order to get a good score. Exciting!

Station #4 is the **Cross-Country Course**. Here you will go through a hazard and drive a trail down the lane and through a woods. (Remember your fly spray). You will attempt to come home as close as possible to an optimum time. (Bring a stopwatch!) FYI - a horse, for today’s purposes, should travel at a speed of 10 km/hr, a pony at 8 km/hr and a VSE at 6 km/hr. You can trot or walk but you MUST trot the last 500 meters which will be marked. The half way point will also be marked. You know your horse, so if he is unfit don’t over tax him - this is only a game. Minutes over or under the optimum time

will cost you points. After this mark is entered you should average your 4 scores and arrive at a percentage mark for the day which will reflect your 4 stations. There will not be any ribbons awarded, but perhaps there will be a memento to remind you of your day.

If you were an AM person, you then unhitch and proceed to the lunch area. We are asking that each hitch bring a picnic lunch packed in an old fashioned basket. Be as creative or boring as you wish! Please bring a lawn chair. During our lunch Jeff will talk to us about the proper turn out for competitions as well as answer any driving related questions you might have.

The PM people will start with their lunch and then at 1:30 proceed to their stations. Remember to be on time for your Dressage Test!

This “Carriage Driving Day” may have a new name but we still insist that it be a “Fun Day”! Come on out and give it a try.



June Pelot had great fun practising her driving with another type of horse at the East Aurora carriage show. This EOPDS member is determined to drive one way or another!

Sunset Clinic

By **Barry Beach**

On May 16 and 17, the EOPDS had their Spring Clinic at Sunset Farms near Stittsville. The club was fortunate enough to be able to have Francois Bergeron, a very well-known pleasure driving competitor, judge, clinician and equine educator, conduct the two-day clinic.

He was able to present a beginners session on Saturday, and over the next two days he conducted lessons for 20 participants. He was presented with a variety of driver expertise from beginner to experienced, from Miniature Horse to draft horse, from single to pair. The clinic was enjoyed by everyone.

Everyone from driver to auditor left knowing more about driving than when they arrived. The club appreciates the use of Sunset Farms and much appreciates the efforts of all volunteers. Thanks go especially to **Rob and Jennifer Rennie** for the wonderful lunches and to **Barry Beach and Wayne Byrne** for organizing the clinic. Two of our members who are part of the junior driver program, **Morgan Tape and Jordan Alma**, were also able to participate both as auditors, and in lessons.

Francois did an excellent job and has a unique ability to help each participant improve their driving skills.



Sally Jorgensen's Rocky Mountain pair, Yoko and Mac, look keen to get started on the Ferguson Forestry social drive.

Ferguson Forestry Station Social Drive

By **Sally Jorgensen**

May 20 dawned overcast and drizzly – groan – not a cancellation like last year. Then I looked out and saw my horse having a splendid roll in the manure pile and I knew for sure the drive would take place. Much scrubbing and hosing and polishing later (a pox on pigeons who live above my carriage!) we were ready to go. By noon the clouds had parted and warmth and sunshine prevailed. So did the mosquitoes, but even paradise is not perfect.



New member Cathy Hartley from Alberta and her mom, Audrey Stratford, starting out on the Ferguson Forestry drive with 22-year-old Thoroughbred, Clancy, a former event horse

Six hitches showed up for the drive – two minis, three single horses and a pair. You have to love those minis – two minis, two carts and all of the necessary paraphernalia in one medium-sized trailer. A special welcome to new member **Cathy Hartley** and her mother, **Audrey Stratford**, who drove 2 ½ hours to attend the drive – and with a full-sized horse too!

By 5:30 we were hitched and on our way. We drove a little over five miles, meandering along the main trails in the station – some gravel, some dirt and some grass. Enough hazards to make life interesting – the occasional rut in the trail, the odd dog, one car and one tractor, but as far as I could see the horses took it all in without a fuss.



Maney McNeil and her Hackney pony mare, Brigitte, pause for a moment on the Ferguson Forestry social drive

6:45 we were back to the main lot for pizza, soft drinks, and a good chat under the trees. The society holds a periodic draw for \$25 to cover gas expenses and this time **Maney McNeil** was the lucky winner.

By 7:30 people were loading up. A final check by the poop patrol and we were on our way home. A good start to the social drive season.

Sally Jorgensen Offers Up An Insect Repellant Recipe

The following recipe is courtesy of *Harrowsmith Magazine* a year or so ago. While it may not be quite as effective as DEET, it is a reasonable substitute for people who are sensitive to chemicals. Smells nice too. I use it on myself and my horses. The essential oils are expensive to get at first, but you use only a little of each, so you may want to share some batches with a friend. I found it excellent against black flies, reasonable against mosquitos, but it does not deter deer flies from feasting on my ponies.

1 cup witch hazel
 1 Tablespoon apple cider vinegar
 1 Tablespoon citronella essential oil
 ½ teaspoon lavender essential oil
 ¼ teaspoon eucalyptus essential oil
 ¼ teaspoon peppermint oil
 ¼ teaspoon lemongrass essential oil
 ¾ teaspoon primrose oil OR olive oil

Mix all the ingredients together and put it into a spray bottle. Shake before using as the oil will separate after standing for a while.

Kirsten Brunner Clinic

Club member and clinician **Kirsten Brunner** returned for her annual clinic at Mian Farm in Manotick on June 3 and 4. Hosted by **Ian and Mary Mulligan** who were very pleased with the response by members and non-members, 14 individuals turned out for a total of 23 lessons over the two days.

Kirsten was more than happy with the progress made. After several return visits, she is now more than familiar with EOPDS members and their horses and ponies. As well, clients went home happy with the instruction they received -- each person was treated as an individual and their needs met.

To top things off – the weather was nice, the grounds were in fine shape and the lessons went like clockwork.

Hawkridge Farms Social Drive By Cathy Hartley

On June 8, I had the pleasure of participating in the social drive at Hawkridge Farms. As a newcomer to the Eastern Ontario Pleasure Driving Club, it has been a welcoming method to get myself into social circles where I can meet folks with similar interests and see different places around Eastern Ontario.



Louise Fish at the start of the Hawkridge Farms social drive with prelim-level CDE horse Tattoo

We are in the process of moving from Alberta after living there for 33 years; we are now retiring back to Ontario where we were born and raised. The horses started arriving three years ago, one by one, to my sister's farm at Madoc.

This spring my equine partner for the last 16 years made the ride by a livestock trucking unit. "Chip" [18-year-old Thoroughbred] and I thoroughly enjoyed the trails at Hawkridge Farms. I rode him on this day as my cart was being used by another new member, **Kathy O'Kane**, who also has just arrived from Alberta and has moved into Seeley's Bay. Kathy was driving Clancy her older 22-year-old grey Thoroughbred gelding that she has also retired to my sister's farm at Madoc.



Tina Sully introduced Tattoo's son to his first EOPDS club outing at Hawkridge Farms.

Kathy and I both enjoyed the woodland trails and also had a really good look at the cross-country jumps that were up and about the farm. I wasn't the only one eyeing the jumps as my horse, Chip, who I have evented for the past 10 years in Alberta was darn sure that, that's what we were here for and was just too excited to have a turn in the cart on that day. We all had a turn at the water obstacle, safely playing and no one taking an unexpected dip. I do drive Chip and hopefully by the next pleasure drive he will be more settled into the local scene. The black flies were a new experience for him and just when I was thinking that I should be doing some conditioning work, I realized that the black flies had been chasing him around

the pasture for days and he was already as conditioned as he need be.

I would like to thank the members of the club for making me feel at home, offering to help load and unload the cart off the truck, sharing delicious lunches, a social hour and also making my mother feel welcome when she has come along for the drives. That is one of the beauties of driving your horse, you can take along a friend or family member to enjoy the sights and sounds of a pleasure drive in the country. I would also like to thank **Elaine and Michael Davies**, the owners of the farm, for sharing such a beautiful location. And I definitely can't wait to come back again.

A special thank you goes to **Louise Fish** and **Tina Sully** for both providing and donating the lunch at the Hawkridge Farms social drive.

COPDA Pleasure Driving Show By Margaret Monnelly

The Central Ontario Pleasure Driving Association held their Annual Pleasure Driving Show at Orangeville Fairgrounds on June 14, 2009. Originally scheduled at Halton Place Equestrian Centre, the event was moved shortly before show date due to unforeseen circumstances.

The Fairgrounds proved to be very suitable for this show as there was ample space for three rings and lots of good safe parking. The organizers worked diligently to ensure a seamless transition to a new facility.

Barry and Sandra Beach made up the Cones Steward team. They arrived a day

ahead of the show to ensure that everything was in place for the event, including arrangements for wheel measurements. They also performed the judging and scoring for the Progressive and Fault & Out competitions. Barry and Sandra are very highly valued COPDA volunteers.



Junior Champion Shelby Heinbuch displaying her winning ribbons at the COPDA show with Jeff Kohler's Welsh pony

In addition, EOPDS junior driver **Shelby Heinbuch** was Junior Champion at the show under the Relhok Farm umbrella.

Social Drive at Fiddler's Green By Diana Trafford

Ten hitches turned out to enjoy an invitation from **Joe and Pam Nuth** to drive on their wonderful footing at Fiddler's Green on July 12.

The Nuths had mowed paths to lead us around their marathon obstacles, and Margaret Monnelly set up a cones course to work through at our leisure. The weather was sunny, rare for this summer, and the hospitality excellent from welcoming coffee to yummy sandwiches after the drive. We all took away special moments to treasure.



Margaret Monnelly and Joey survey their cones course at the Fiddlers Green social drive

I know that Joe absolutely made my day by supervising Abbi and me through the rather technical first obstacle until we could negotiate it respectably. Three cheers to our hosts, Joe and Pam, and to everyone in the club who made this a day full of fun and friendship.



Pat Monnelly and Judy Senior enjoy refreshments and fellowship after the Fiddlers Green social drive. Host Joe Nuth can be seen in the background checking on participants

Pleasure Driving at Dwyer Hill Club Shows **By Barry Beach**

As some club members are aware, there are new opportunities for showing your driving horse here in the Ottawa area.

The Dwyer Hill Riding Club asked club members **Wayne Byrne and Barry Beach** to organize a driving division for their annual shows. The show dates were June 7, July 5, July 19 and the final show will be August 16.

All four shows are held at the Richmond Fairgrounds and represent a wonderful opportunity for a beginner driver, or beginner horse, or beginner show person, or for anyone who just wants to have an enjoyable Sunday with their driving horse.

These are entry level shows which stress fun, safety, and exposure to pleasure driving. It is inexpensive, local (you do not have to drive to the Toronto area), and has 10 classes including single, tandem, pairs, and cones classes. Outside of local fairs, it represents one of the few (perhaps the only) local driving shows. Attendance has been good and hopefully this show will become an annual opportunity for all driving members to participate in.

Phantom Farm Social Drive Reminder

Members are reminded of the social drive at Phantom Farm on Friday, August 21st at 1.00 p.m. Cones Course in the Polo Field. Refreshments from Waterford Tea Room, Almonte, served on the front lawn. Directions available on request from Margaret Monnelly: monnelly@magma.ca Kindly notify Margaret of your intention to attend by Wednesday, August 19th, so that catering arrangements can be finalized. Please bring chairs and, of course, your horses and ponies.

Calendar of Events

(EOPDS dates and times subject to change)

August 12-16: Walnut Hill Carriage Driving Competition, Pittsford, N.Y., www.walnuthillfarm.com

August 16: Dwyer Hill Riding Club show, Richmond; Barry Beach 613-839-2127, beach@magma.ca, or Wayne Byrne 613-838-9699.

August 21: EOPDS Social Drive, 1 p.m., Phantom Farm, Almonte, food and drinks supplied for those who respond by the day before; Margaret Monnelly 613-825-3853.

August 22: OCDA Marathon Day & Clinic, MacGillivray's Glencameron Farm, Limehouse; 519-856-4605; marion.hawley@sympatico.ca .

August 29: EOPDS 'A Carriage Sporting Day' with Jeff Kohler, Mian Farm, Manotick; Mary Mulligan 613-692-3296.

Sept. 11-13: Laurels at Landhope CDE, West Grove, Pa.; 610-486-6484.

Sept. 19: St. Lazare Carriage Driving Club Pleasure Driving Show, St. Lazare, P.Q.; Carol Ann Mills 613-874-1421.

Sept. 19: Richmond Fair, Richmond; 613-838-3933.

Sept. 26: Carp Fair, Carp; 613-839-2172.

Sept. 27: COPDA Fall Pleasure Show (TBA), Mary Gregoris 905-939-6288.

Oct. 7: EOPDS Social Drive, 1 p.m., Upper Canada Village, Morrisburg, food

and beverages supplied for those who respond by the day before; Maney McNeil 613-347-2541 or Sally Jorgensen 613-258-5462.

Oct. 16-17: Martin's Fall Carriage Auction, New Holland, Pa.; 717-354-6671, www.martinsauctioneers.com

The OEF gratefully acknowledges the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion, through the Ontario Equestrian Federation, for its financial contribution to the EOPDS.

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, 7 Crantham Crescent, Stittsville, Ontario K2S 1R2; phone 613-831-2154. Fees: Individual \$25, Family \$35.

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): 613-831-2154

Directors

Margaret Monnelly: 613-825-3853
Barry Beach 613-839-2127
Sally Jorgensen 613-258-5462
Wayne Byrne 613-838-9699
Ian Mulligan 613-692-3296

Send items for the fall newsletter by October 31 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.