

# Long Lines

June 1, 2008

**Reminder: CVDC's  
June meeting will be  
held on June 14<sup>th</sup>  
NOT June 21<sup>st</sup>**

Visit us on the web at  
[www.cvdDrivingclub.com](http://www.cvdDrivingclub.com)  
\*NEW\* Newsletter Archive

**CVDC Photo Album!**  
[www.flickr.com/cvdc](http://www.flickr.com/cvdc)  
Login: **ctvalleydrivingclub**  
password: **driveon**

**CVDC is looking for new  
places to Drive!**

The Drive Committee needs your suggestions!  
Requirements: enough parking for all size trailers, trails should be wide enough for pair carriages, and drives should last at least 45 min. Contact Randy Sabatino at (860) 873-3894 or [cowhill@hughes.net](mailto:cowhill@hughes.net)

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## JUNE 14<sup>th</sup> Bliven to Speak to Club

### Carriage Driver and Trainer Cynthia Bliven: A Short Autobiography

I think I was imprinted shortly after birth. My first toy was a stuffed horse, which I still have— minus the tail.

My initial driving experience was with a pinto pony, Peanuts, on my grandfather's farm. The pony was hooked to a governess cart. I then moved on to another pony, Charlie Brown, who belonged to some boys in town. We took the pony to the fair grounds and raced him around the barrels as fast as we could go. I think that is now called combined driving, but at the time, we just called it fun.

Growing up, I spent most of my waking hours at McCulloch Farm, where I developed my love for Morgan horses. Morgan horses and driving have always gone together. At 14, I decided that I wanted to train horses for a living and to make driving horses my specialty. I still love the way a horse looks in harness, the feel of the reins and they rhythm of the trot. That has not changed over all the years.

When I attended Green Mountain College in Vermont I brought along my horse, Babe's Woodlin, stabling him at a Standardbred barn next to the school. Every morning before class, I would go to the barn and jog horses. At school, there was an Independent Study class. I convinced my advisor to allow me to write a paper on driving a pair. I returned to McCulloch Farm and, with the help of Rudy Herbst (CVDC's first president), put a pair together.



Andree Duggan driving Katie with Anne Albee at the Wimler's Drive in May

I then worked for Donald Homes and Bill Beckley, who showed American Saddlebreds and a few Morgans. This was my introduction to the Saddlebred.

Next, I trained horses for Clarence Russell and his family, who bred Morgans under the Teckla prefix. His daughter rode saddle seat, his son rode western and both he and his wife drove. It was at this time that I saw an advertisement in the Horsemen's Yankee Pedlar looking for people to try a new sport called combined driving. It consisted of cross country and cones only, no dressage. I started conditioning the horses, driving them to the state forest and back. That's right – to the forest and back, not in it. I thought a couple of miles was a lot. I had no idea what I was getting into. The event took place in Millbrook, New York. We drove through fields, on dirt roads and through several hazards. As I drove my horse back to the barn, I met a four-in-hand, the first I had ever seen. As I passed by, they sounded their horn. I was enthralled. This is where I met Charles Kellogg. He was very encouraging and this made a big difference. We should all support our new drivers.

Continued on page 4

## Calendar of Events

**June 14: CVDC Potluck meeting- at Dan and Joan Abbate's High Point Farm, 364 Marlborough Rd., Glastonbury, CT. CVDC Member and Driving Instructor Cynthia Bliven will be giving a demonstration of her choice at that meeting. Do not miss this meeting! We will NOT be meeting at the Grange on Sat. 21st. Our meeting date has been changed to Saturday June 14th because we did not want to conflict with the Orleton Farm driving show, which will be held on Saturday June 21st.**

June 14 ~ 10 a.m. RIDC Clinic Foster (RI). Harness fitting, ground driving, general questions. [www.ridridingclub.org](http://www.ridridingclub.org) / 12:00 Noon. RIDC General Meeting & Cookout Lunch, Foster (RI). [www.ridridingclub.org](http://www.ridridingclub.org)

June 21-22 ~ Orleton Farm, Eden Hill 10th Annual Pleasure Driving Show, Stockbridge (MA) Contact: Laurence Williamson 603-835-2662 or [www.colonialcarriage.org](http://www.colonialcarriage.org)

June 27-29 Bromont International Driving CAI-A CDE, Bromont , Quebec , Canada

July 12 LHDC Fun Day in Terryville , Ct. Contact Nancy Mangino 203-272-5257

July 12 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Carriage Auction, Lobster Bake and Concert at Skyline Farm Carriage Museum, North Yarmouth, Me. Contact Pamela Ames 207-829-5708

July 4-6 ~ Vermont Heritage Days Show, Tunbridge (VT). [www.vtmorganheritagedays.org/classlist.html](http://www.vtmorganheritagedays.org/classlist.html)

July 10 – NWCDHA Tail Gate Tag Sale & Pot Luck Supper

July 11 -12 ~ ADS Board Meeting at Endicott College, Beverly (MA). Clambake July 11. All welcome. RSVP to ADS 608-237-7382

July 12 ~ Waldingfield Driving Trial, Ipswich (MA). Contact: Holly Pulsifer 978-356-3655

July 14-18 ~ Kids Driving Clinic at the Carriage Barn, Newton (NH). Other weeks include July 21-25 Contact: 603-378-0140 or [carriage-barn@comcast.net](mailto:carriage-barn@comcast.net).

July 18-20 ~ Fri-Sun – GSCA Look to the Mountain Drive/Ride, Chocorua (NH). Camping and swimming available Contact: Sonja & Bob Cahill 978-851-5124

**July 19~ CVDC meeting at the Grange 6:30-We will compare some of the newer harnesses made by different companies. These will be brought in by some of our members. Bring a potluck.**

July 20~ SPHO, Me. Pleasure Driving Show, Hollis Equestrian Park, Hollis, Me. Contact Ansley 207-688-4419

**July 20~ CVDC Drive Tentative Lebanon Green, not set up yet- To be announced**

July 27~ LHDC Drive at Murdock Farm Contact Richard Mangino 203-272-5257

July 27 ~ Summer Arena Trial, Newton (NH). Contact: The Carriage Barn 603-378-0140 or [carriagebarn@comcast.net](mailto:carriagebarn@comcast.net)

July 27 ~ Fun Day at Orleton Farm, Stockbridge (MA). [www.colonialcarriage.org](http://www.colonialcarriage.org)

July 28-30 ~ Adult Driving Camp, the Carriage Barn, Newton (NH), Contact: 603-378-0140

**Calendar of Events****continued...**

August 2-3 ~ Saratoga Carriage Classic, Richmond (MA) Pleasure Driving Show, Obstacles, Dressage, Concours d' Elegance. Contact: Gina Handy, 518-583-4316 or [gina.handy@saratogadriving.com](mailto:gina.handy@saratogadriving.com)

July 12-16 ~ Massachusetts Morgan Show Carriage Division. Big E Fairgrounds, W. Springfield (MA). Contact: Laurence & Gail Williamson 603-835-2662

July 22-24 ~ Green Mountain Horse Assoc. (VT) Combined Driving Event. [www.gmhainc.org](http://www.gmhainc.org)

July 30-31 ~ Rhode Island Carriage Days Pleasure Driving Show. Celtic Cross Farm, Dudley (MA).  
Contact: Andy Marcoux 508-782-1720

**August 10~ CVDC Gardiners Nursery Drive details TBA**

August 13-17~ Walnut Hill Carriage Driving Competition, Pittsford , NY . Bill Remley 585-385-2555

**August 16~ CVDC Meeting at the Grange. 6:30pm. Bring something horsey that you would like to donate to the CVDC. (driving book, bit, halter, art, gloves, hat, apron, etc) We will hold a fun auction, or raffle. Don't forget your potluck!**

August 17~ LHDC Drive at Monica Ray's Farm- Contact Richard Mangino 203-272-5257

September 3-7 Wed-Sun ~ Newbury Pleasure & Draft Drive/Ride, Play & Feast GSCA 30th Anniversary Celebration Weekend, S. Newbury (NH). Driving games, and pleasure drives all days. Chicken BBQ Saturday. Camping available. Contacts: Linda Woodbury & Marty Newell 603-938-5935.

September 5-7 The Laurels at Landhope CDE, Mary O'Rourke 610-486-6484

September 6-7 ~ GMHA Fall Driving Classic, So. Woodstock (VT). [www.gmhainc.org](http://www.gmhainc.org)

September 13 ~ Tub Parade in Lenox (MA) Contact: Bob Coakley 413-637-3278 or [www.colonialcarriage.org](http://www.colonialcarriage.org)

September 14 LHDC Dirty Harness Drive at 12:30 at Lotta Rock Farm, Deb Leavy 860- 485-0363

**September 20 CVDC meeting at the Grange 6:30pm**

**September 21 CVDC Cone's Drive/ Picnic, Contact Anne Albee 860-365-0295**

**October 5 ~ Connecticut Valley Driving Club Ride / Drive Pace. Lord Creek Estate, Lyme (CT). Contact: Kathie Gregory 860-228-3801**

**Oct 25 CVDC Meeting at Cowhill 6:30pm Program TBA, potluck please! Contact; Randy Sabatino 860-873-3894**

September 26 ~ Halloween Carriage Classic at the Carriage Barn, Newton (NH). Contact: The Carriage Barn 603-378-0140 or [carriage-barn@comcast.net](mailto:carriage-barn@comcast.net)

**November ( ? ) CVDC Halloween Drive TBA Anne Albee and Olivia Duksa**

**November 15 CVDC meeting at the Grange Program: DR. Frank Palka will discuss Equine Cushing's Syndrome, Insulin Resistance and Nutrition**

**December 20 Annual Holiday Party location TBA Hold the date!**

## Directions to High Point Farm for CVDC's June Meeting

Dan and Joan Abbate / 364 Marlborough Rd, Glastonbury, Ct. 06033 / 860-633-3013

- From Hebron Center (Rt 66 crosses Rt 85), go North on Rt 85. Go until Rt 85 connects to Rt 94. At that intersection, take Rt 94 towards Glastonbury. (Actually this keeps you going STRAIGHT.) Very soon after getting on Rt 94, maybe 1/2 mile, take a Left onto Bailey Road. Bailey road is short, at the stop sign go LEFT onto Marlborough Rd. 364 Marlborough Rd. will be on your LEFT across from Imperial Lane.
- From Glastonbury take Rt 94 out of Glastonbury towards Hebron. Go up a long hill. Take Marlborough Rd on your RIGHT. If you miss that, take Bailey St. on your Right. Once on Bailey St, go to the Stop sign and take a LEFT onto Marlborough Rd. 364 Marlborough Rd. will be on your left.

### Imprinted at Birth

Continued from Front Page

The person who influenced my driving the most was Ed Hadley. I worked for him training Morgans for the show ring. Ed was noted for his harness horses. He paid attention to the details. The harness had to be perfectly adjusted and the horses had to move straight down the long side of the ring and bend correctly in the corners.

While I was working for Ed, we attended a Morgan show in Maine. I showed my own horse in the new carriage division, which is where I met Larry Poulin. Larry came over to admire my carriage and I wanted to see the Morgan stallion he was driving, Kennebec Count. I later spent time working with Larry and Count. That meeting took place twenty-eight years ago.

That is how I got my start in carriage driving. I have trained many horses and driven many miles since. I even take my vacations with my horses. At this time, my husband Fred and I own two American Saddlebreds and, of course, a Morgan.

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Cynthia and Fred Bliven own and operate Woodland Farm in Lyme, CT where they board horses and give carriage driving lessons. To contact Cynthia, please call (860) 434-3213. Cynthia will be giving a demonstration at the June CVDC Meeting at the Abbate's Farm in Glastonbury.

Written by Cynthia Bliven

### Synopsys of CVDC's May Meeting

15 people were in attendance. We held our normal business meeting. Kathie Gregory gave a treasurer's report. We discussed CVDC drives coming up at Gardiner's Nursery. Our June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting will be at Dan and Joan Abbate's High Point Farm with Cynthia Bliven giving us a demonstration. This August, Cynthia will do a clinic for the CVDC at her farm in Lyme. One slot is already filled.

We then discussed progress done on the upcoming CVDC Driving Trial. Anne Albee and Pat Gilbert told us that they have obtained many ads and sponsorships for the Trial. They have also made up beautiful gift basket awards for the Trial. We are looking for golf carts to borrow for the Trial. Our competitor list is full! And our members will be stabling about 15 competitor horses.

We realized that our elections will happen in June. Marguerite Hayber volunteered to work on nominations for Pres, V. Pres., Secretary and Treasurer. Remember! The election will happen at the June meeting!

Charlotte Gelston told us that the East Haddam Grange is in use every week night, so our CVDC meetings will have to remain on Saturday nights. We discussed moving our CVDC meetings to the FIRST Saturday of each month. Our drives would then happen on the SECOND Saturday or SECOND Sunday of each month, depending on hunting season or other circumstances. This would help lessen date conflicts within the New England driving community.

Submitted by Randv Sabatino

### Important Reminder!

Membership dues... are due! \$25/year, which includes a monthly newsletter, e-mail alerts, first notice of club events and competitions, and participation in member drives, activities, and programs. To join/renew your membership to the Connecticut Valley Driving Club, please fill out/cut out the application (on last page of newsletter) and mail it to Kathie Gregory with your dues. If you have any questions, please contact: Kathie (860) 228-3801.

### CVDC Elections

Elections will take place during our June Meeting for new officers (president, vice president, treasurer and secretary). If anyone wishes to nominate a candidate, please contact Marguerite Hayber on the Nominating Committee by email [rjdean1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rjdean1@sbcglobal.net)

## Summer Reading Material!

(Ansley Newton, CD-L)

Acadia National Park in Bar Harbor Maine has 57 miles of carriage roads built by John D Rockefeller with no motorized vehicles allowed. Wildwood Stables has great stall accommodations and camp sites available across from the barns. This truly is some of the best carriage driving in the US.

Now, there is a wonderful book called the Equestrian Guide to Acadia written by Robyn Cuffey, author of the 2003 book entitled The Essential Guide to Carriage Driving. The chapters include: Short History of the Carriage Roads, When are the Stables Available?, Specific Directions in how to get there, Where to find the best accommodations and food on the island, How to get your horse fit for the Acadia Roads (even includes a specific fitness schedule), A detailed list of equipment and supplies, Day trips without overnights and more!

Best of all at the back of the book are a pack of small laminated cards that fit right in your pocket. These show you six different carriage rides from about 3 miles to 15 miles total with varying difficulty to choose from. No stopping and staring at maps, they tell you each signpost and turn along the way. Trust me, after going to Acadia for the last 15 years, these are a must have!!

I do not receive any money from the sale of the books, but I have seen this 38 page book and think it is a must have for all folks going to Acadia National Park this summer.

You can email Robyn Cuffey for prices and shipping costs.  
robn@sacoriver.net



### Vermont Morgan Horse Association Clinic

Andy Marcoux will present a carriage driving clinic on Sunday, June 8 in Tunbridge, Vermont. For further information, contact: Jacky Marston; JBode@aol.com; 802 747 3488/ 468 5031 or vtmorganhorse.com

### Driving Show at Hollis Equestrian Park

Located in Hollis, Maine on July 20<sup>th</sup> (southern Maine). Great for beginners! Please email for further information: anewton@maine.rr.co

### Dear Draft Teams Everywhere...

CCE Equine is in search of draft teams to volunteer to give wagon rides at *Sundae on the Farm 2008*. The event will be held on Sunday, June 22nd from 12-4 pm at Kings Ransom Farm in the Town of Northumberland. Please contact me, Jennifer Conte, at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Saratoga County if you are willing and to help out. 518.885.8995 ext 234 or [jl264@cornell.edu](mailto:jl264@cornell.edu). Volunteer teams get free lunch, a free hat, and a \$50- stipend to use for gas, hay or whatever you need. Thank you!

### Sprucing Up Your Cart By John Moran

Unless you like chemicals there is no reason to "Strip" a cart. You 1st have to try and determine what was used in the 1st place to finish the vehicle.

If it was varnish/urethane you are in good shape. Just sand out the rough spots, prime/paint/topcoat...

If it was Lacquer (chipping where wood and metal come in contact, general chipping on the wood), I would suggest taking it all apart and sand all the paint off. Then prime/ paint/topcoat...

If I wanted to do a 1st class restoration of a cart. I would disassemble the cart to the major components. Sand everything until it is smooth, prime with a good oil based primer (3 coats), paint with a good oil based paint (ACE hardware Rust Stop/Rustoleum (3 coats) and top coat (3 coats) with Minwax Helsman Spar Urethane. Sand the final primer and after the 1st and 2nd coat of urethane. Use 120 grit paper for preparing the wood and 220 grit paper between coats. I am sure Lowes and Home Depot and you local hardware store has the paint, just ask for something like what I suggested.

John Moran owns Moran Farms Buggy Shop in Porter, Oklahoma. These suggestions were excerpted from an email he sent to Andree Duggan upon inquiring about refinishing a cart. His website is: [www.moranfarms.com](http://www.moranfarms.com)

## Love of the Horse: Big, small, love 'em all!

Written by Thelma Nelson

For as long as I can remember I always loved horses. When we lived in Malden, Massachusetts it was the horse that delivered our many needs. Fruit, milk and ice were brought to our home via the horse and wagon. Such faithful animals, stopping, waiting and going again when her/his master was finished with her/his delivery. They were faithful animals. As a child I thought them all beautiful.

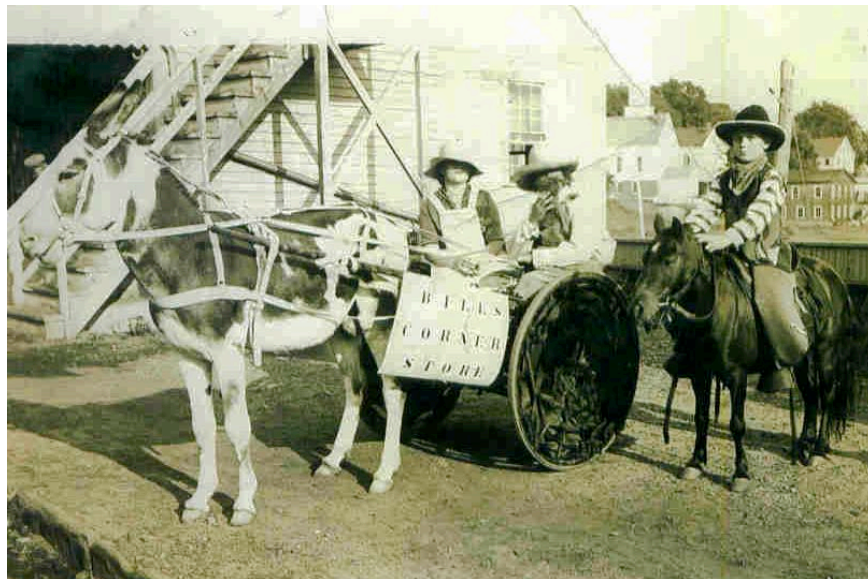
My Dad told me that when we moved to a farm he would get me a pony. He always kept his word. It was 1928. We moved from Malden to a 250 acre farm, called Shepard Hill in the town of Plainfield, Connecticut. We wanted a farm to start a dairy.

Each afternoon when my brother Conrad and I came home from school (we walked) I checked to see if there were pony hoof prints in the driveway. One day, my Dad delivered a 300 pound black Shetland pony. I was ecstatic! He had been put to a full size concord buddy with adjusted shafts. My uncle Carl made a cart to fit him. I always had a friend or two visiting and enjoying my pony.

My friend Regis and I went to deliver eggs for my egg route in the village of Waurean. Sammy jumped a puddle upsetting the cart, eggs, Regis and myself. Somehow I held on to the reins. We went around to some friends and borrowed eggs to finish my route. Regis's brother was the editor of the Hartford Courant and wrote a blurb about the two kids and their egg route.



1936, Sammy with Conrad at his head, friends in cart anxious for a drive



1936, Representing Bill's Corner Store in a parade in Central Village

When I outgrew Sammy, I sold him to my brother for \$40 and bought a black and white donkey, named Jack. We had lots of fun with him. Everyone enjoyed riding and going in the cart. We played games with Jack, including one game where three of us would ride Jack down route 12. Each person took a turn waving at cars as they drove by. When someone waved back, we got a point.

At one point, we also were asked to participate in a parade. We represented "Bill's Corner Store" and my friend and I dressed up like an old couple. I don't remember the kid who dressed up like an old man, but my brother rode Sammy dressed as a cowboy. Well, Jack stopped at the

railroad tracks and wouldn't cross. Conrad and Sammy lead the way and Jack followed. I remember everyone watching clapped.

Jack proved to be a very useful animal for my Dad. Jack helped to string barb wire, because he could bend and go under tree branches and low hanging vines. This was an area that wasn't used much, but we had to keep the cows from getting out. My Dad felt Jack was invaluable. On Sundays the breast collar was put on him and it was a challenge to see how many men he could pull. We had several helpers on the farm and they loved trying to hold Jack at a standstill. Such was the fun on the farm.

## Young Driver Opportunities!

### Opportunities in the Northeast!

At the Carriage Barn Equestrian Center in Newton NH the following two opportunities are available for young drivers:

- **July 14th – 18th – Kids Driving Clinic Week #1** – For Young Beginner students (ages 10 and under) who need to know “everything” there is to know about ponies, horses, and carts. Students will be introduced to harnessing, the history of carriages, and receive driving instruction each day.
- **July 21st – 25th – Kids Driving Clinic Week #2** – For Advanced students ages 10 and up that are ready for competition level. Dana Bright will instruct this week’s clinic.

### Opportunities beyond the Northeast!

1) Young drivers have an opportunity to work with top U.S. competitive drivers at the **Young Driver's Training Camp at Southern Pines NC**, July 18, 19, and 20. Selection of participants will be through your ADS Regional Director. Interested youth need to send a resume to the regional director and this will serve as an application. My email is [catprints2@aol.com](mailto:catprints2@aol.com), 508-384-5190.

2) **ADS Annual Youth Championship**: This is a great opportunity to compete on paper with other youth around the country. Here is the link to the ADS web page with all the championship information:

[http://www.americandrivingsociety.org/YD\\_championships.asp](http://www.americandrivingsociety.org/YD_championships.asp)

## LHDC Goes to College

by Dick Mangino

### Dick Mangino gives a class at Post University on putting on carriage driving events

As some of you may remember from the notice in past newsletters (LHDC newsletters), Professor Jami Wallace from Post University was looking for someone from our club (LHDC) to speak to her class on putting on carriage driving events. The class she was teaching this semester was on putting on riding events but neither she nor her students knew anything about driving or driving events. After a great deal of discussion about my limited knowledge of different events she asked me to speak to the group.

There were eleven students with only two who had ever seen or had interaction with driving. The other telling fact was that only one of the students was male. That goes along with our experience at Tufts University, where the veterinary classes have a noticeable female majority, and very few of them have any interest in a large animal practice.

We talked about events ranging from CDE's and pleasure shows to playdays and picnic drives, all having different purposes and goals. Different vehicles were discussed, from formal to informal and wood to metal. Harnesses followed the same variations. Catalogs from Smucker's and Driving Essentials helped them visualize the differences. The students had many questions and showed a healthy interest.

We spoke with Jami Wallace afterward of the level of interest in youth for driving, and she thought they might like to take part in some driving events. However, many of her students live out-of-state and the semesters end before any of the driving activities start. We left newsletters and business cards from LHDC, as well as literature from ADS and CAA, so hopefully Professor Wallace will keep in touch with us and the other organizations and take advantage of any available events that come up.

I must say it was a fun experience and went very well. All the notes I had been putting together all winter helped a great deal. The class made me feel very welcome and glad we did it. Who knows, maybe we encouraged some new members.



Above: Dick Mangino driving Sugar and Spice with passenger Nancy Altrui at the Wimler's CVDC Club Drive 2008



## Scott Monroe Clinic

July 26 at Akers Acres, Valatie, NY

The Saratoga Driving Association will be hosting Scott Monroe on July 26 for a cones and hazards clinic. The cost will be \$60. To signup contact Carol Frank [cfrank@saratogadriving.com](mailto:cfrank@saratogadriving.com)

Scott Monroe is an arborist and former Marine who has a passion for competitive carriage driving. From his humble backyard barn in Sharon, Connecticut he has managed to become the National Combined Driving Singles Champion (2005 & 2006) and member of the USEF World Singles Driving Team (2004 & 2006) with his Morgans Shadow and Teton. His Morgan Shadow has been Horse of the Year two years in a row (2005 & 2006) for our discipline. When he has time, he also is a clinician.

## President's Letter...

Greetings and a Steamy Welcome to Summer,

One of the senior members of our driving club, John Miller, has been working with me to equip my driving mare to help with small chores around the farm, like hauling brush, small logs and leaves. He lent me an old Singletree, brought back a pair of extra long heavy duty soft ropes to use as reins from one of his trips to PA, and explained to me how to fashion my existing driving harness so the traces go down through loops in the breeching's tie back straps and connect with 4' lengths of chain that connect to the Single tree. He knew my mare had performed log pulling in her former life, so it gave both of us confidence that this would be a positive experience.

Finally yesterday, we did it. Katie took to the set-up with ease. I just used a heavy-duty piece of rope off the back of the single tree for tying small logs and brush bundles with a safety release knot. I finally understood why you need really long reins, as you have to walk behind whatever you're hauling, and it rolls and bobs around. I believe each rope rein is sixteen feet long with a brass clip on the end for attaching to the bit. The material is very soft. I'm not sure where he got them, but if anyone is interested I can ask him.

This was a different experience than driving. I felt more like we were a cooperative team. My pony draft-cross mare was tuned in to my voice commands and carefully listened for "step up", "whoa", "stand", "walk on". She also gingerly managed her back feet when turning so as to not step over the trace, which would have been very easy to do. On our way back to the barn, she took the high road before our right hand turn, even though I thought the low road would work. She was gently trying to tell me the single tree needed a lot more turning radius. So I think it's safe to say she taught me the job.

I can see how you need an extremely obedient and willing horse or pony to do this type of work. It also made me realize why equines trained to do farm work make excellent driving horses. They know and respect their voice commands. There are times that you have to lay the long reins out on the ground in order to gather and tie up the next load. She just stood there quietly, and didn't even try to graze. I could tell someone had done a good job training her. It was a lot of fun and a new way for us to build teamwork. Plus, one less reason to start the gas guzzling tractor. Oh yeah, one more thing. She didn't break a sweat, but I did! It was harder than I thought it was going to be (for me).

The point in telling this story is to express appreciation for the extensive knowledge of one of our senior club members. For John, this sort of thing is second nature. And he was more than happy to pass along the knowledge, even if it meant he had to sit in a small chair in my center aisle to do so. Thank you John, you're the best!

- Andree

### CVDC Driving Trial Sponsorship Update!

Anne Albee has done a wonderful job attracting Sponsors for the show. To date, Anne has 4 Obstacle Sponsors, 1 Cones Sponsor, 1 Dressage Sponsor, many business card sponsors for the program, plus she has collected oodles of goodies for Competitor Gift Baskets. The extra money will ensure the show generates revenue for the Club, versus costing the Club money, a change from last year. Total cash and in-kind contributions from Ad Sales are expected to exceed \$2000. Thank you Anne!

### Tired of Finding Baby Bunnies On Your Doorstep?

Once a barn cat works her way through the winter rodent population, she turns her eyes to more adorable targets, like spring baby bunnies, chipmunks and baby birds. There's a new product out of Australia, where domestic cats have pushed many small creatures to the brink of extinction. It's a cat bib that's worn on a breakaway safety collar. You can add a bell for greater effect. In studies, the bib cuts down on 4 out of 5 kills!



Barn cats are great, but they are natural born killers. Us cat owners need to do our part to curb the kill rate, as so much of what they kill is an absolute waste. Even just placing the bib on the cat seasonally can help greatly. If you're interested in learning more, here is a Reuters news video story on the Cat Bib.

<http://www.reuters.com/news/video?videoid=54729>

<http://www.reuters.com/news/video?videoid=54729>

You can go to this site to buy one go here: <http://www.catgoods.com>



## Connecticut Valley Driving Club, Inc. Membership Application



New Member                       Renewal                       Address Change  
(The membership year is from June 1 through May 31 of the next year)

\_\_\_\_\_

First Name                                      Middle Initial                                      Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Address (Farm Name, Street, PO Box)

\_\_\_\_\_

City    State    Zip

( )    ( )    \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone                                      Work Phone                                      e-mail

If you are interested in serving on a committee, please check appropriate box(es):

Drives     Events     Hospitality     Programs

Please indicate your driving interest, check appropriate box(es):

Pleasure     Carriage or Open Showing     Breed Showing     Combined Driving     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Send your completed application and current dues \$25.00 (Seniors 65 and over \$20.00) to:

C.V.D.C., c/o Kathie A. Gregory, Treasurer, 36 Hoadly Rd., Amston CT, 06231



# Long Lines

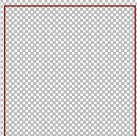
June 2008

[www.cvdrivingclub.com](http://www.cvdrivingclub.com)

**CVDC Photo Album!**

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