Long Lines

Connecticut Valley Driving Club

January 2010

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DUE DATE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE NEXT LONG LINES: January 15th.

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Marguerite Hayber
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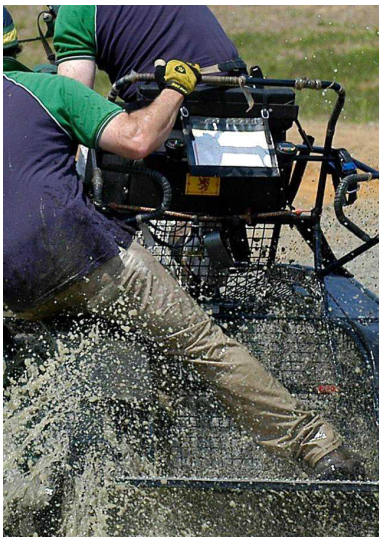
CVDC Meeting ~ Jan 8th ~ 6:30 pm

Navigating 101 With Marc Johnson

Pat McNamee's Crow's Nest Farm
29 Wickham Rd, East Haddam, CT



COME READY TO LEARN!

This month's program will cover all the things a good navigator needs to know for successfully participating in a Combined Driving Event. Topics covered will include; calculating and keeping accurate time, proper position on the carriage, helpful hints to improve driver navigator communication and the rules you need to know! This seminar is a must for those new to navigating and for those that need a little brush up on essential skills. After this session, you will be ready to serve as navigator at our event and at other events around the region.

Marc is a professional driving trainer, instructor and the ADS Northeast Regional Director. Marc has captained the backstep at many single, pair and four-in-hand championships with drivers such as Deirdre Pirie, Sterling Graburn and Alan Aulson.

HAPPY NEW YEAR CVDC MEMBERS!

Did you forget to shop for someone?
CVDC memberships make a wonderful gift!

Even
after Christmas!

Presidents Letter

Well, the new year is here, and I hope that 2010 was good to everyone. Now onto 2011!

If the weather in December is any indication about the upcoming few months, then it bodes well for some good sleighing throughout New England. If you are a cold weather enthusiast, then be sure to take in some of the sleigh rallies [see the Driving Calendar on page 4]. Or, if you like to stay indoors, then check out some of the indoor arena trials. I've heard they're exciting and lots of fun. I hope to see my first one this year. So as you can tell, there is a lot going on with carriage driving, even in the midst of winter.

Even as we start this new year, it's not too early to be thinking about our June HDT. We need of lots of support for fund-raising. I'd like to suggest that whenever you visit one of your favorite feed stores or local merchants, please take a moment to inquire if they would be willing to make a donation to sponsor our event. Even a small amount, like $25 dollars, would go a long way. Just think of it. If we were to get 100 donations, that's $2,500!! So please help out however you're able.

Also, we are seeking some ideas for additional programs later this year. What about a field trip to Vermont to see John Greenall's carriage house? Sound interesting??? Great, then let us know. If you have any ideas for a program or speaker, please send an email to me at President@cvdrivingclub.com.

Hope everyone is looking forward to a great time in 2011, and I wish you all a very Happy New Year!!
Put the muffs on, get the hot chocolate ready, sleigh safe, and enjoy!!
Jan Frick

2010 CVDC Holiday Party (photos courtesy of Sylvia Crosby)
Special thanks to Marguerite and Bob for hosting the party ~
It was great to see all those who attended!

Join our friends at ECDHA

January 18th, 7:00 PM at Blue Slope Farm, Franklin, CT

Trooper Ben Dodge will discuss rules of the road for trailers and the current State of Connecticut laws.

Guests are welcome.
Directions can be found at www.easternctdrafthorse.com.

CVDC Members: Out and About

Elaine Joseph is now writing a monthly column for **Horsemen's Yankee Pedlar** called "Driving Heads Up." It's like a gossip column highlighting driving news (Draft horse, light horse, pony, mini - doesn't matter)! The Pedlar is a also great way to open up the world of driving to "regular" horse audiences in the area. If you have show results, tips and ideas, driving news, etc., you can email Elaine at cedarknollfarm@gmail.com or drop her a note at 57 Kimball Rd, Lisbon, CT 06351.

CVDC member **Kaitlin Shaugnessy** has been driving the huge horse-drawn trolley at **Mystic Seaport** for many years, with horses and carriages from **Allegra Farm**. The December holiday season is especially busy for Kaitlin and the Allegras, with lots of people taking the Lantern Light Tours. What a great way to get into the spirit of the season! If you haven't seen Kaitlin up on the box (waaaay up, over 6 feet above the ground!), it's worth a trip. Tours continue through the end of December.

"Dr. Kaitlin" is also available to come to your barn for **chiropractic adjustments** for your horse, your dog, and yes, even you! She is certified for both human and animal chiro. It's never too late to give a **gift certificate**! Contact her at 860-304-2262 or kaitlin.shaughnessy@gmail.com.

ADS Rulebooks are available in smaller (6x9) spiral-bound version for the 2011 year. This is a great size to keep in the glove box (in the car, silly, not the carriage). Pre-order (click here) before Jan 14 to be sure to get your copy as quantities will be limited. $22 when pre-ordered, $25 if you procrastinate. (No email? No problem. Call ADS at 608-237-7382.)

Have news to share?
Let Rita (our intrepid editor) know
at 860-204-9314
or email editor@cvdrivingclub.com.

DRIVING CALENDAR 2011

(always verify information before leaving home!)

as of Dec 23, 2010

Jan 8 – CVDC: Navigating 101 with Marc Johnson. Pat McNamee's Crow's Nest Farm, 29 Wickham Rd. East Haddam, CT. 6:30 pm, potluck. Directions at www.cvdrivingclub.com or call Pat at 860-003873-9227.
Jan 8 - GMHA: Sleighing Combined Test. So Woodstock, VT. www.gmhainc.org
Jan 9 (no snow: Jan 16) - Colonial Carriage: Sleigh Rally, Stockbridge, MA. www.colonialcarriage.org
Jan 15 - GMHA: Sleighing Combined Test/Sleigh Rally. So Woodstock, VT. www.gmhainc.org
Jan 16 - NESJA: SkiJoring Clinic. Myhre Equine Clinic, Rochester, NH. www.nesja.com
Jan 18 - How Safe is Your Horse Feed? Middletown Vo-Ag, e-mail Megan Nesci at nescim@mps1.org.
Jan 21 - LHDC: Moses & Daniel Smucker of Smucker's Harness, Plymouth, CT. www.litchfieldhillsdrivingclub.com
Jan 22 (no snow: Feb 12) - Sleigh Rally, Blue Star Equiculture, Palmer, MA. www.equiculture.org/sleigh-rally.aspx
Jan 25 - Equine Liability & Insurance, Middletown Vo-Ag, e-mail Megan Nesci at nescim@mps1.org.
Jan 29-30 - NE SkiJoring Assn. at New London Winter Carnival. New London, NH. www.nesja.com
Jan - Sundays - The Carriage Barn: Sleighing Lessons, Merrimack, MA. Call 603-378-0140 to check conditions.

Feb 5 – CVDC: Movie Night! WEG videos with Maureen Pach, Location: TBD. 6:30 pm, potluck.
Feb 5 - Sleigh Rally at Old Sturbridge Village. MGraves@wilbraham-ma.gov or 413-596-2800, ext 119.
Feb 9 - Saratoga Driving Society Mid-Winter Driving Conference, Latham, NY. www.saratogadriving.com
Feb 12-13 - NE SkiJoring Assn. at Newport Winter Carnival. Newport, NH. www.nesja.com
Feb - Sundays - The Carriage Barn: Sleighing Lessons, Merrimack, MA. Call 603-378-0140 to check conditions.

Mar 5 - CVDC: Pleasure Shows from the Judge's Perspective, East Haddam Grange. 6:30 pm, potluck.
Mar 18 - LHDC: Dick Lahey. Plymouth, CT. www.litchfieldhillsdrivingclub.com
Mar TBD - CVDC Spring Driving Clinic - details to be announced soon!
Mar/Apr/May - Sundays - The Carriage Barn: Intro to Driving Lessons, Merrimack, MA. www.carriage-barn.com

Apr 2 - CVDC: Driving Multiples, Peter Von Halem's farm. 6:30 pm, potluck.
Apr 15 - LHDC: Potluck & teacup auction, Plymouth, CT. www.litchfieldhillsdrivingclub.com
Apr 16 - Colonial Carriage: Driving Clinic, Stockbridge, MA. www.colonialcarriage.org
Apr 23 - GMHA: 15-Mile Mud Ride & Drive, www.gmhainc.org
Apr 29-30 - Martin's Spring Auction, Lebanon, PA. www.martinsauctioneers.com/auctions.htm

For a complete regional calendar of events for the rest of the year, please go to www.cvdrivingclub.com.

Here are club events currently scheduled - our club drives and field trip schedule will be posted when available!

May 7 - CVDC: Combined Driving Explained - Tips & Thoughts, East Haddam Grange. 6:30 pm, potluck

Jun 4 - CVDC Annual Meeting and Election of Officers, East Haddam Grange. 6:30 pm, potluck.
Jun 11 & 12 - CVDC Horse Driving Trial & Fun Day at Haddam Neck

Jul 9 - CVDC meeting, East Haddam Grange. 6:30 pm, potluck. Program TBD.

Aug 6 - CVDC meeting, East Haddam Grange. 6:30 pm, potluck. Program TBD.

Sep 10 - CVDC: Bits & Bitting with Dale Mylar, East Haddam Grange. 6:30 pm, potluck.

Oct 1 - CVDC meeting, East Haddam Grange. 6:30 pm, potluck. Program TBD.

Nov 5 - CVDC: Holly Pulsifer, speaker. East Haddam Grange. 6:30 pm, potluck.

Dec 3 - CVDC Holiday Party, location TBD

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