

Long Lines

November 1, 2007

New Web Address!

Visit us on the web at
www.cvdrivingclub.com

CVDC Photo Album!

www.flickr.com/cvdc
Login: **ctvalleydrivingclub**
password: **driveon**

Want something in the
next Long Lines?

Please email Krista with
what you want advertised
or what news you have!

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Sandy Rabinowitz; Equine Artist and Author

Speaks on November 17th at 6:30 pm at
the East Haddam Grange

Sandy Rabinowitz, the author of *Driven Dressage with the Single Horse* and illustrator of numerous horse stories will be speaking at the November CVDC meeting. She will be presenting insightful topics from her book, which includes the basics of driven dressage. *Driven Dressage with the Single Horse* gives readers practical tips and advice for home and competition driving settings. She does this through the combination of text and illustrations.

Rabinowitz lives in Hamden, Connecticut working as an author and illustrator. She also creates personalized horse portraits, pet portraits, posters and greeting cards. These works are done in all different mediums, including watercolor, oil paint, pencil, and colored pencil. Her experiences and life with horses shows in her work through knowledge of the equine form, attitude, and characteristics.

To the right of this column are two examples of Sandy Rabinowitz's portraits. Her work can be viewed online at <http://www.sandyhorse.com>

Be sure not to miss this month's meeting in order to hear about her book, her artwork and her driving experience!

"Topspool" watercolor



Image courtesy of <http://www.sandyhorse.com>

"Cob" Pencil



Courtesy of <http://www.sandyhorse.com>

Calendar of Events

November 4- CVDC Drive at Hamonassette State Park. Questions? Call Randy 860-873-3894

November 8-11 The 10th annual Equine Affaire N.E. will be held in W. Springfield, Massachusetts

November 16- Litchfield Hills Driving Club meeting 7:30 PM at the Plymouth Congregational Church.

November 17-18- Granite State Carriage Association (of New Hampshire): Lisa Singer Clinic. The Carriage Barn, Newton, N.H. Contact: carriage-barn@comcast.net, phone 603-378-0140, or visit the website at www.carriage-barn.com.

November 17- CVDC Potluck Meeting, 6:30 PM at the Grange. Our speaker will be equine artist and author, Sandy Rabinowitz. Sandy wrote "Driven Dressage with the Single Horse". Don't miss her!

December 15 -- CVDC Holiday Party with Secret Santa. Hold the Date! Location TBA.

The 10th Annual Equine Affaire is Only a Few Weeks Away...



Photo courtesy of www.equineaffaire.com

One of the most exciting events for horse enthusiasts is right around the corner- the annual Equine Affaire! On Thursday November 8 the gates open at 9 am letting in hundreds of anxious visitors to the Eastern States Exposition in W. Springfield, MA. This year the trade show runs from November 8-11. There are numerous demonstrations, clinics, and clubs featured, along with shopping and the crowd favorite- Pfizer Fantasia! Something that may be of interest to everyone is the driving instructor Larry Poulin who will be doing seminars and clinics on Saturday and Sunday. He will be covering topics such as: what makes a good driving horse, outfitting a driving horse for competition, and driven dressage for singles and pairs. Don't miss the opportunity to learn something!

Notice: Want to help? Want a fun experience?! The American Driving Society will be setting up a booth at Equine Affair Nov. 8-11 and could really use our help manning the booth. It's a fun and easy task, all you need to have is a love of horses and carriage driving and have a few hours available. Most of the people who stop by the booth are looking for basic driving info such as trainers, clinics and clubs and since most of us are local club members, the talking is really quite easy. Contact Cat Luce if you would like to help by email: CatPrints2@aol.com

For a full list of presenters, schedule, and admission times visit the Equine Affaire's website at <http://www.equineaffaire.com>

Tails at the end of the Long Lines

Driving has been a bit slow for me this month because I have been caught up with school work, which is one of the unfortunate things about being in college. As midterms pass, I realize that class scheduling for next semester and the cramming of assignments stresses me to the max. Most of my time has been dedicated to course selection and creating art. What I find interesting is that most times my artwork seems to revolve around horses (hum... I wonder why?). So, while I am not spending as much time as I should riding and driving, I am spending time with my horse, through my art. It's because of this that I am excited to hear from our speaker for our November meeting. When I found out she writes about driving and illustrates horse stories and portraits- I thought, "wow, this sound's a lot like what I would like to be doing when I graduate." I can't wait to hear what she has to say. This gives me a chance to take a break from school and learn about something that still is unfamiliar to me. I will definitely drop the books and oil paints to listen to the knowledge that Sandy Rabinowitz has about driven dressage. And who knows? Maybe I can pick up a tip or two about making it as an equine writer/ artist in today's world. So, make sure you make it to this month's meeting for our guest speaker.

-Krista

Possible Larry Poulin Lesson...

Cheri Hicks, a combined driving trainer and instructor currently located at Thunder Ridge Farm in Litchfield CT is hoping to find a few drivers who may be interested in having a lesson with Larry Poulin. There is no date yet as she is hoping to find enough people to participate. If anyone is interested please contact Cheri at (203) 266-6246.

Reminder! Sunday November 4th- Hammonasset Drive

- Riders welcome
- Map provided
- Drive- off time is 10:00-10:30 am
- bring water, chairs and lunch
- please be courteous/ clean up manure
- no horses on the beach/ boardwalk

Directions: From Route 95, take exit 62. Follow the signs to Hammonasset State Park .In the park, turn right at the round-about and drive into the far west parking lots.

Questions? Call Randy Sabatino 860-873-3894 or 860-301-8662

CVDC Members Clean Wildlife Area

On Sunday October 21st, eight people from the Connecticut Horse Council's "Volunteer Horse Patrol" gathered to clean the trash and litter from Babcock Pond Wildlife Management Area in Colchester and East Haddam, CT. Babcock is 1524 acres of beautiful woods, streams and ponds, laced with trails off of Route 16. It is popular for fishing, hiking, cycling, trail riding, and unfortunately, dirt bikes, ATVs and late night partying.

CVDC members Anne Albee, Jack Connors, Olivia Duksa, Diane Ciano, Meg Sautter, Lauren Shevenski, Hilery Slattery and Mary Ann Smith spent 4 hours clearing aluminum siding, an old seat from a car, a broken picnic table, car speakers, a rug, a lawn chair, broken glass and 8-10 bags of trash and litter from the area. They also removed some broken branches and cleared trails.

"It's all about giving back to the areas where we love to spend time," states Albee. "I'm in here almost daily and can monitor the activity and condition of the area. I've witnessed the build-up of the litter and wanted to do something about it. We know the DEP doesn't have the staff or budget to do what we do on a daily basis."

For more information www.cthorsecouncil.org/trails.html

President's Letter... It's been a warm fall, the second warmest in recent memory. I'm not complaining -- it's been great for riding and driving -- but "it's a little odd leaf peeping in shorts" I heard someone at the hardware store comment . My mare is regularly sweating through her emerging winter coat. A recent TIME magazine/ABC News/Stanford University poll shows 85% of Americans think global warming is here and 88% say it threatens future generations. Here in Connecticut, many old timers feel spring is arriving a few weeks earlier and summer is leaving a few weeks later. Many are feeling a shared sense of responsibility to the future. Big companies to small campuses are greening, here at the Duggan household, we're doing our part. We've replaced all bulbs with compact fluorescents, we're eating locally produced food when possible to avoid what's being dubbed the "3,000 mile salad", and we're trying to conserve energy. So when I looked for a new car recently, it seemed natural to find something that fit a thrifty lifestyle. Something sustainable, something easy on the environment, something with good fuel economy that wouldn't contribute to global warming (as much). Then it occurred to me, I have something like that in my barn. It's called a horse!

Those of us who carriage drive do so because we enjoy it. I've yet to meet a driver who isn't in love with the idea of a slower time . Carriage driving brings us back to an era of dirt roads, picket fences, apple pies cooling in the window, and neighbors sitting on the front porch. The image of the horse drawn carriage instantly connects one to American history -- to the days just three generations ago when people actually lived sustainably. My grandparents plowed their fields with mules. They grew and canned most of the food their family of 12 needed for the hard Nebraska winters. Their trusty horse pulled the kids a mile to school every day or pulled them into town for supplies. They didn't have a car. Those of us who carriage drive are nothing less than the keepers of the flame between the sustainable past and the newly emerging sustainable future. The horse and carriage is a powerful and important American symbol of the original green driving machine and good 'old American hardiness. With oil at almost \$100/barrel, we are in a unique position to keep this form of "sustainable transportation" alive. Who knows, carriage driving may be needed again on a local basis, and we could be the ones who remember how to do it! Happy driving .

Andrée Duggan



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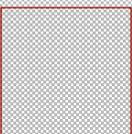
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2007 Lord Creek Winners



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