



Long Lines

Reminder : CVDC Lord Creek Ride/Drive Pace

The popular Lord Creek Farm Ride/Drive pace is on for this year! Hold the date- Sunday October 5! Volunteers are welcome. Come and watch and cheer on your friends.

Visit our website for more info.

Visit us on the web at
www.cvdrivingclub.com

CVDC Photo Album!
www.flickr.com/cvdc

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October 1, 2008

Reiki Demonstration at CVDC October Meeting

Date: Please note, this CVDC Meeting will take place on **October 25th**

Location: Nancy Franklin's Marvel Farm in Salem, CT.

Liz Squire will give a Reiki demonstration. Equine Reiki is a practice which helps in healing emotional, mental, and spiritual wounds through energy. It is also known to decrease physical pain.

Reiki is used for relaxing horses as well as improving their balance and movement. And not only can this practice be used on horses, it is also used on riders in order to create a more balanced relationship between horse and rider.

Liz Squire is a certified Reiki Practitioner. She practices on humans, equines and other animals.



Dick and Nancy Mangino driving their Morgan at the Cone's Drive.

For more information and a professional demonstration be sure to attend the October meeting! Please bring a potluck and chair. The meeting will start promptly at 6:30.
Mapquest address: 420 East Haddam Rd., Salem, Ct.

CVDC September Meeting Features Rita's Minis!



In case you missed the September meeting, Rita Bellinger brought two of her delightful minis into the Grange for us to meet. We sat and ate our supper with the minis looking on so patiently. Next we practiced finding mini pulses and respiration using a stethoscope and pressure points. The minis were very accommodating and unbelievably charming.

Continued on page 5.

Calendar of Events

October 5 ~ Connecticut Valley Driving Club Ride / Drive Pace. Lord Creek Estate, Lyme (CT).

October 5 ~ Sunday LHDC Drive at Wethersfield Farm in Amenia, NY. 11 a.m. Contact Mark Borkoski 860-585-9018.

October 11,12,13, 2008 (Columbus Day weekend) THE BERKSHIRE COACHING WEEKEND! Fabulous fun. Visit <http://berkshirecoachingweekend.com> for all the details and schedule for viewing. Autumn colors, exquisitely appointed 4-in-Hand Coaches and the Berkshire mountains! Come, carpool, bring your camera, your finest hat and enjoy an elegant step back in time. Questions? 860-873-3894, call Randy about CVDC members who are going.

October 17~ LHDC meeting 7:30 p.m. at the Plymouth Congregational Church, corner of North Street and Route 6, Plymouth, CT. Hostesses: Marcia Stemm and Nancy Mitchell

October 19 ~ GSCA Ellet Seavey Drive/Ride, Auburn (NH). Contact: Linda & Eric Wilking 603-772-4423

October 25 ~ CVDC Meeting at Nancy Franklin's Marvel Farm, 420 East Haddam Rd., Salem, Ct. Nancy's # is 860-859-2583 Please bring a chair and your pot luck. Liz Squire will give us a Reiki demonstration. Please be prompt - meeting will start at 6:30PM. Should be fun!

October 26 ~ Halloween Carriage Classic at The Carriage Barn, Newton (NH). Contact: The Carriage Barn 603-378-

November 15 ~ CVDC 6:30 pm PotLuck Meeting at the Grange in East Haddam. Program: Dr. Frank Palka will discuss Equine Cushings Syndrome, Insulin Resistance and Nutrition/ Directions on our website.

November 13-16 ~ 11th annual Equine Affaire in New England will be held in W. Springfield, Massachusetts

November 21~ LHDC Annual Meeting & Potluck Supper 7:00 p.m. at the Plymouth Congregational Church, corner of North Street and Route 6, Plymouth, CT. Hostesses: Caroline Borkoski and Jan Rogers

December 12~ LHDC Holiday Party 7:00 p.m. at the Plymouth Congregational Church, corner of North Street and Route 6, Plymouth, CT. Host and Hostess: Dave Breakell and Rosemary Werner.

December 20 ~ CVDC Annual Holiday Party will be at Cynthia and Fred Bliven's Woodland Farm, 194 Beaver Brook Rd., Lyme , Ct. 860-434-3213. Hold the Date!

Did you know?

Horsepower, which is still the standard measure of the power of modern engines, is not the equivalent of the might of one horse? One unit of horsepower is the power to lift 75 Kilograms (165 lbs) one meter 39.6 inches in one second. Even a tiny miniature horse the size of a large dog could do that with ease. An average size horse can produce 10-13 horsepower. SOURCE: *Horses Through Time*. Ed. Sandra L. Olsen. Carnegie Museum of Natural History. Submitted by Anne Albee

Hi everyone,

A friend of mine is looking for a pony (preferably) for her 5 yr old son. The horse must be bombproof enough for a little one and will be used for trail riding with the rest of the family. They have 24/7 turnout from stalls. It's a very nice family in the Brooklyn, CT area and can provide references upon request. If anyone hears of any, please let me know. Thanks, Rita Bellinger - email: rita66_2000@yahoo.com

Contact Debbie
(Hackneypinto@aol.com) for the following:

2 carts for sale / Hackney pony gelding for lease- drives and shows.

New Website!

Debbie Boutwell has made a new website for her farm and therapeutic program: Hackney's Hope Farm. Visit it at www.hackneypofarm.com

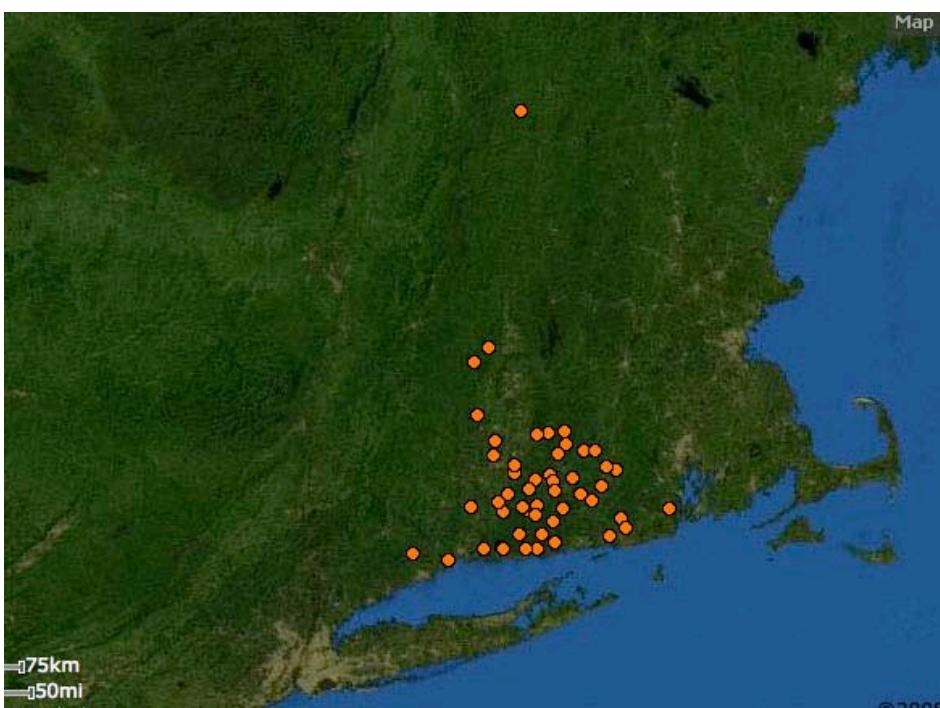
Want to post something in the next Long Lines? Email Krista (deftonesfreak@sbcglobal.net) with your story, photos, advertisements, or news to see it in the next newsletter!

Dear Members...

As president I hear from you about your wants and needs. Many members feel disappointment that they can't participate more -- time is short for so many of us these days. The club demographics are changing, becoming more spread out. To help you visualize how spread out, I've put together some maps.

When you study the distribution of where members live compared to where our drives and events take place, you really see a direct relationship. A core cluster close the action are understandably more active than those who have to drive an hour or more. Given rising gas prices and tough economic times, this trend only promises to become more pronounced.

With exceptions, the most active members live within about 20 miles of East Haddam. It makes me sad for all the rest. It's not how big drives are, or how many show up for meetings that counts, it's the people you get to know and the sense of community that makes members loyal to the club.



Above: Member locations are spread throughout New England

So here's my proposal for you to consider and respond to via an online survey I've set up. **We can explore this idea together at upcoming meetings.** If we decide to adopt the plan, or some iteration of the plan, we can also vote to change the by-laws. The by-laws are meant to serve the membership. I would expect the details of this plan to morph with member input, but here's a start:

1. Split CVDC into chapters, such as:
CVDC NE (Storrs)
CVDC SE (Norwich/Groton)
CVDC South Central (East Haddam)

We have to figure this out.

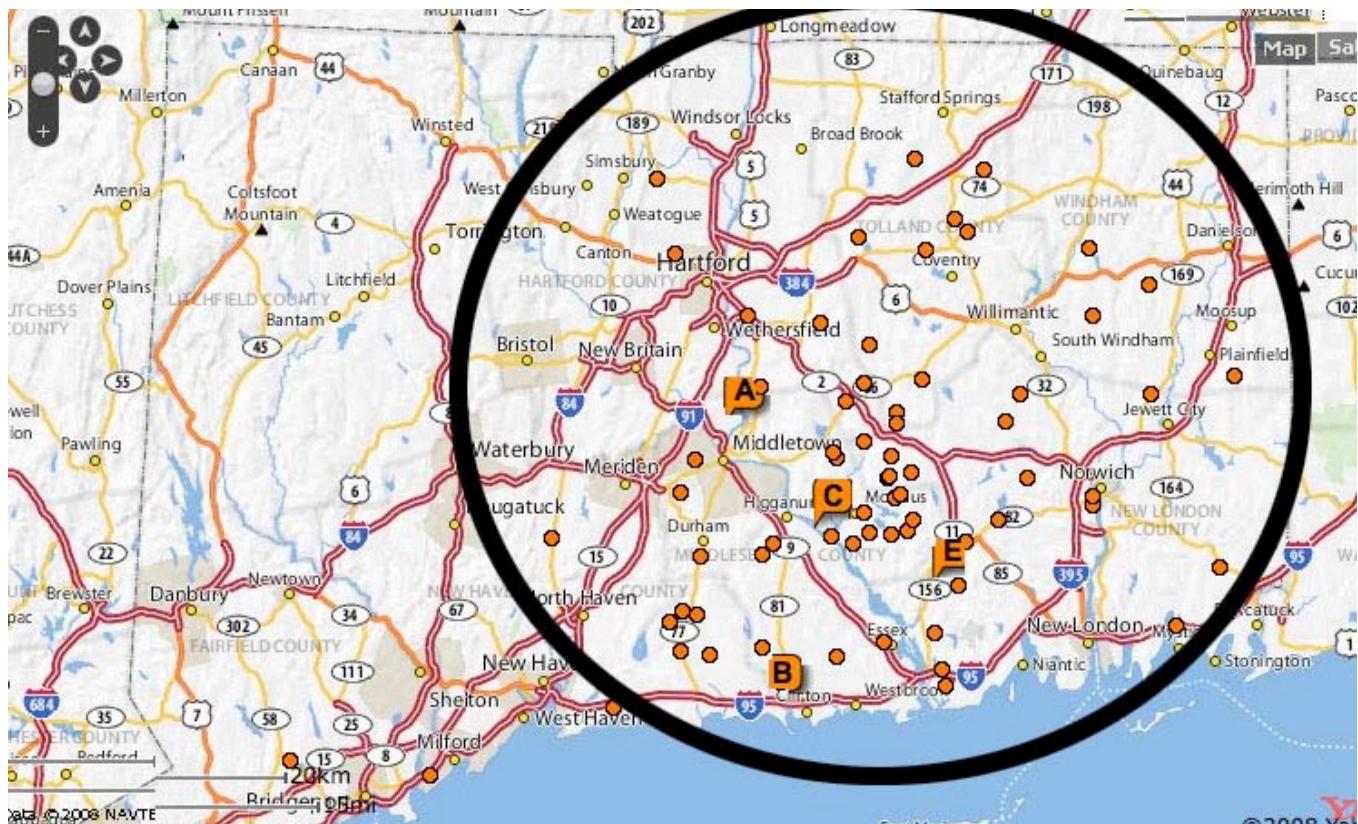
2. In addition to chapter meetings, hold a few club-wide meetings at members' barns with special programs to attract more members. In the last year, the meetings hosted by Robin Malkasian, John Allegra, Dan Abbate, etc., have attracted the largest and most enthusiastic response from members.
3. The club would still have one newsletter and website, holiday party, annual drive mid-way, several shared big events (Drive/Ride Pace, spring Driving Trial). Each chapter would be responsible for planning their own meeting details, programs, and regional drives -- of course open to ALL members. Chapters would coordinate these activities to avoid conflicts.
4. CVDC would have Chapter Leaders who would communicate before and after meetings with the CVDC president to ensure coordination. Each chapter would have their own Committees for drives, programs and so forth as mentioned.

Take the Survey to Help the Club Decide!!

www.cvdrivingclub.com

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President's Letter (Continued from Page 3)



Above: Core of CT memberships (dots) and club activities (letters)

On this page and the previous page are the maps. One shows the core of our CT membership (dots), and current location of activities (A - E with D deleted because it was right in East Haddam over a cluster of members). There is also a map of New England without borders and you can see our members extend in MA, RI, and VT beyond CT.

The **anonymous** survey can be found on our website. I'm especially hoping to hear from those who are now too far away for regular meetings and drives, so we can rate people's level of enthusiasm. <http://www.cvdrivingclub.com>.

In the end, I think this move would create a more vibrant and active club open to more people. That would translate into more interest, new members, greater club loyalty, and more activities overall. I'm sure there will be many opinions. This will be a membership decision. We'll likely discuss this during several upcoming meetings.

Thanks much and warm wishes,

Andree Duggan, president, CVDC

September Meeting... Continued from front page

Afterwards, Nancy Mangino handed out a short quiz she had made. The driving oriented questions were not hard, and the test was fun. I think some of us actually learned from it. (Keep an eye out for this in an upcoming newsletter!)

Next came a short business meeting. There were 12 members present. Minutes were read from our last meeting. The amounts in the savings and checking accounts were stated. We were told that in 2009 we are planning new dates for our monthly meetings and drives. The meetings will be held the 1st Saturday of each month instead of the 3rd Saturday. The drives will be held on the 2nd Saturday (or 2nd Sunday) of the month instead of the 3rd Sunday. The reasoning behind this change is so that our dates don't conflict with the dates of the Litchfield Hills Driving Club as well as other driving dates throughout the year. We discussed the continuing search for a new venue for the Connecticut Driving Trial. A possible venue would be the Elks on Woodland St. in East Glastonbury or the Haddam Neck fairgrounds. I have my eye on East Haddam's Echo Park, for the future. If anyone has an idea for a good place to hold this wonderful driving trial, please let someone know.

Lynn Warren told us about "Coaching in the Berkshires". It will take place on Columbus Day weekend (Oct 11, 12, 13). We discussed whether we might want to meet up there as a group and Dick Mangino suggested a good place to view the coaches. For information on the Coaching Days, go to colonialcarriage.org

Submitted by Randy Sabatino



Photos by Randy Sabatino

SNIPPETS FROM CD-L

Date: Thu, 18 Sep 2008 10:23:10 EDT
 From: Marcia Yeager <Crazyshetland@AOL.COM>
 Subject: Re: starting young horses

I have to voice that IMHO too many people tend to do as Nancy said "I have a particular horror of using anything that might bump horse". In their early pre-cart training this is when you do want things to bump and dangle around your horse! Over the years I have been in vehicles and had traces break, shafts break, singletrees snap, and even hold down straps come undone. The evidence of good solid training for the unexpected is that I am still here today! Your horse must be trained to expect the unexpected and then respond to you and you alone.

I was once in a breed show harness (i.e. no breeching and only tie down straps) the tie down straps went allowing the shafts to fly up into the air and the cart to come in from behind the horse and hit him about hock high. With each step and whoa as I slowed the cart it would come in and "bump" him but other than tucking his legs under more he continued to reduce speed until I was at a standstill with the cart resting against his back legs. He had been trained to accept just about anything.

...What is CD-L?

CD-L is an automated Internet mailing list. It is an open forum for the discussion of all topics relating to the sport of carriage driving. Our membership is worldwide, and currently has over 1900 members. The nations represented are Australia, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Japan, The Netherlands, New Zealand, South Africa, and the United States of America. There is absolutely no fee charged for subscribing to CD-L, and all you need to participate is an email account. I liken CD-L to a cross between a daily newspaper and a group of pen-pals.

If you would like to subscribe to CD-L, send email to: LISTSERV@LISTSERV.DARTMOUTH.EDU -In the body of the message type: SUB CD-L followed by your name (your real name, not your email address). Type nothing else in the message. EXAMPLE: If John Q. Smith were to subscribe to CD-L, the command he would issue would read: SUB CD-L John Q. Smith. You will receive a confirmation message that you must read and reply to in order to activate your subscription.

Cone Drive '08 by Anne Albee

Sunday was a spectacular day for our annual Sherwood Cone Memorial Drive! I had already baked my peach "driving" pie and the lasagna was in the oven. I had packed the trailer and truck AND car. And friend Fran Hornick graciously and generously drove from Bridgeport to lend a hand, Barn Boy's right hand being temporarily out of commission.

We arrived at the farm about 8:45 a.m. so we could set up, unloaded Britty and let her munch hay and get used to the sound of gunfire next door. She really didn't seem to mind it much after the first couple of rounds.

Fran and I set up a small cones course, should anyone wish to have fun and a little practice. Krista came sans horse. Unfortunately, he had a loose shoe and had to stay home. Very soon, trailers started to arrive, bearing horses, carts and goodies for the picnic.

We tried hard to stay close to our drive off time of 10 a.m. Off we went at a walk, 6 drivers, 1 rider, and 7 passengers. The route is 5 miles and my mare can walk at 5 miles an hour, so I was trying to keep it leisurely. Otherwise, we'd be back for lunch in a half-hour! We did allow a nice long trot up Beebe hill. I'm not a fan of trotting on pavement for a long time, even though we're prepared with borium.

Krista took over camera duty for me, which was a great help. I still haven't figured out how to take pictures while handling the reins, but I'm working on it.

After arriving back at the field, we took a few turns around the cones course, knocking tennis balls off left and right. Thankfully, Dave Gilbert acted as TB replacer for wife Pat and I. I don't think we crushed any cones.

With horses settled, we headed across the street to enjoy our lunch. To call this a picnic is rather an understatement. We had potato and macaroni salads, casseroles, beans, sausage, lasagna (2!), Nancy M.'s famous salad, desserts galore, chips, pickles, coffee and much more. I went home stuffed, but it didn't stop me from taking Nancy's salad with me to enjoy for a few more days.

Our CT Valley Driving Club sign was flanked by seasonal mums and pumpkins, which made it all the more festive.

To all who missed this drive through scenic local dirt roads and historic farms, we wish you were there and hope you make it next year.

Anne Albee and her Morgan Britty



Robin and her Fjord



Pat Gilbert and Freddie.



Randy Sabatino driving her pair with Marguerite, Krista, and John





Long Lines

Left. Group photo!

October 2008

www.cvdrivingclub.com

CVDC Photo Album!

www.flickr.com/cvdc

