

Long Lines



March 2010

Visit us on the web at:
www.cvdrivingclub.com

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

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CVDC Meeting March 6, 2010 6:00 pm - Iron Horse Farm Clipping Demonstration

Our March 6 CVDC meeting will take place at Iron Horse Farm, 29 Starr Road, Colchester. This is the home of Robert and Olivia Duksa. Olivia Duksa and Cynthia Bliven will start the evening at 6PM SHARP with a horse clipping demonstration in the indoor arena. Our potluck supper will follow the demonstration inside where it is warm.

Please note-
this meeting
will start _
hour earlier
than usual
and it will
not be at the
East
Haddam
Grange.

Contact
Olivia 860-
365-0253 or
Cynthia 860-
434-5789



CVDC member Dan Abbate and his Standardbred mare, Double Bill, took second place in the Currier & Ives class at the Wilbraham Sleigh Rally on Feb 6, 2010.

CVDC First Drive of the Season

Our first drive of the 2010 season will be at Machimoodus State Pack in East Haddam, Ct. It will be on Saturday April 24th with drive out at 11AM. The rain date is on the next day, Sunday April 25. The footing should be good and the drive is relatively short. Ride or drive your horse but please make sure your equine is canine friendly as this is a popular dog walking venue. Do not park in the Machimoodus Parking lot. Instead drive into the wide driveway just past the main entrance- it used to belong to Sunrise Resort. Bring your lunch and water for your horse. Richard Mangino 203-272-5257 and Kathie Gregory 860-228-3801 can answer any questions.

Attention CVDC members!

*Please don't forget to send in your stories, photos, events!
I especially would love some member photos of their horses, driving events, club events, or anything you think the membership would like to see! I am running low on pictures of you and your horses! Show them off! -Krista*

JEFF MORSE
CVDC Spring Tune-Up Clinic
COME WATCH & JOIN THE FUN!

Sun., March 21, 2010

8:00am – 5:30pm

High Hopes, Lyme, CT



Photo: Denlore Photo

SBS Risky Business ~ 2006 New England Morgan Horse Show ~ Jeff Morse, whip

Jeff Morse is a nationally known competitor, trainer, clinician, author and Morgan Horse breeder, with over 30 years of experience. He specializes in training horses and their people for carriage driving. Jeff works with all levels of drivers to make driving a safe and enjoyable experience. The American Morgan Horse Association named Jeff 'Man of the Year' in 2004.

At the clinic Jeff will teach on an individual basis, one horse at a time for 45 minutes in the indoor arena. You can watch from the large, heated observation area all day long, or just drop by for awhile.

Come Watch & Listen:

- CVDC members \$5/day or a potluck lunch contribution, non-members \$10/day

Bring cash contribution or check made out to CVDC, or bring a nice potluck lunch contribution to enjoy with other club members and friends around 11:30 or noon.

This is an educational opportunity sponsored by the Connecticut Valley Driving Club.
Directions to High Hopes at 36 Town Woods Road, Old Lyme can be found on their website www.highhopestr.org

DRIVING CALENDAR 2010

Mar 6 - NOTE EARLIER TIME! CVDC: Clipping and blanketing demo/discussion, Olivia Duksa's barn, Colchester. 6 PM. www.cvdrivingclub.com for directions and details.

Mar 13-14 - The Driving Forum, Nashua, NH (near Boston). www.driving-forum.com

Mar 19 - LHDC: Dick Lahey, speaker. Plymouth Congregational, North St & Rt 6, Plymouth, CT. 7:30 pm.

Mar 19 - Post University - Equine Dentistry. Waterbury campus. Call 203-596-4631 or -4645 or email cbaker@post.edu or abloxsom@post.edu.

Mar 21 - CVDC: Jeff Morse Clinic, High Hopes, Old Lyme. www.cvdrivingclub.com

Mar 26-28 - Jeff Morse clinic, Pony Farm, Temple, NH. Call 603-321-5255 for more info.

Mar 27-28 - UCONN Horse Symposium, Storrs, CT. <http://www.canr.uconn.edu/ansci/equine/horsesymp.htm>

Mar 29 - Post University - "Classical vs Classique" movie night with Maureen Pach. Waterbury campus. Call 203-596-4631 or -4645 or email cbaker@post.edu or abloxsom@post.edu.

Mar TBD - RIDC: ADS - Come Drive With US! www.ridridingclub.org

Mar TBD - RIDC: Manure Management, Sleepy Hollow Farm, No. Dartmouth, MA. www.ridridingclub.org

Apr 10 - Cynthia Bliven longlining demonstration, Woodland Farm, Lyme, CT. Call 860-434-3213 for info.

Apr 11 - Mary Gray Driving Center Spring Fling I ADT Series. Danville, NH. Call 603-974-2357 or email mgdrivingcenter@comcast.net

Apr 16 - LHDC: Potluck supper & teacup auction. Plymouth Congregational, Plymouth, CT. 7:30 pm.

Apr 17 - NOTE CHANGE IN DATE. CVDC: John Allegra, antique carriages and restorations, Allegra Farm, 69 Town St, East Haddam, CT. www.cvdrivingclub.com

Apr 17 - ECDHA: Draft Horse Plow Match. 9:30 am., UCONN, Storrs, CT. www.easternctdrafthorse.com

Apr 17 - Post University - Barefoot Hoof Trimming. Waterbury campus. Call 203-596-4631 or -4645 or email cbaker@post.edu or abloxsom@post.edu.

Apr 23-24 - Martin's Annual Spring Carriage & Antique Auction, Lebanon, PA. www.martinauctioneers.com/auctions.htm

Apr 24 - CVDC: First 2010 Pleasure Drive! Machimoodus State Park, East Haddam, CT, 11 am. Rain date Apr 25. Canine-friendly horses please. Bring lunch and water for your horse. www.cvdrivingclub.com

Apr 24 - UCONN Spring Auction: Horses, Tack, Storrs, CT. <http://www.canr.uconn.edu/ansci/horsesale.htm>

Apr 24-25 - Carriage Barn ADT (24th) and clinic with Shelly Temple (25th). Newton, NH. www.carriage-barn.com

Apr 24-25 - GMHA 15 Mile "Mud Ride/Drive." www.gmhainc.org

Apr 24-25 - Muffy Seaton clinic, Seacoast Farm, Wales, ME. www.seacoastfarm.com

Apr 24-25 - Clay Maier Long reining Clinic, Charming Creek Farm, Robesonia, PA. www.charmingcreekfarm.com

Apr 25 - Mary Gray Driving Center Spring Fling II ADT Series. Danville, NH. Call 603-974-2357 or email mgdrivingcenter@comcast.net

Apr TBD - RIDC: Grease those wheels and check those nuts! www.ridridingclub.org

May 1 - CVDC: Dr. Steve Beckett, equine acupuncture, 6:30 pm, potluck., East Haddam Grange. www.cvdrivingclub.com

May 2 - Mary Gray Driving Center Spring Fling III ADT Series. Danville, NH. Call 603-974-2357 or email mgdrivingcenter@comcast.net

May 7-9 - Saratoga: Tracey Morgan clinic, Fort Plain, NY. Membership required. www.saratogadriving.com

May 8 - ECDHA: Plowing the Community Garden. 10 am., Wilbraham, MA. www.easternctdrafthorse.com

May 12 - LHDC weekday drive at Rockefeller Preserve in NY

May 14-16 - GMHA Driving Weekend: Lisa Singer clinic, Two Phase & ADT, So Woodstock, VT. www.gmhainc.org

May 16 - LHDC: Picnic drive at White Memorial, 11 am.

May 21 - LHDC: Ken Wheeling discusses coaches. Plymouth Congregational, Plymouth, CT. 7:30 pm.

May 22-23 - CVDC May Drive. We are invited to join the Rhode Island Driving Club for their annual Camping Weekend in Escoheag, RI. Come one day or camp for both, LeGrand Reynolds Horsemen's Campground area.

May 22-23 - Clay Maier long reining clinic, Seacoast Farm, Wales, ME. www.seacoastfarm.com

June 3-6 - Garden State CDE, Allentown, NJ. www.horseparkofnewjersey.com

Jun 5 - CVDC: Finalize Driving Trial details and CVDC election of officers. 6:30 pm, potluck., East Haddam Grange. www.cvdrivingclub.com

Jun 5 & 6 - Saratoga: Jeff Morse Driving Clinic, NY. www.saratogadriving.com

Jun 11-13 - Larry Poulin clinic, Rough Terrain Farm, Randolph Ctr, VT. Lessons in driven or ridden dressage. Stabling available. www.roughterrainfarm.com. Call Leslie Haynes at 802-279-5945.

Jun 12 - CVDC Driving Trial, Haddam Meadows. www.cvdrivingclub.com

2010 Calendar of Events Continued

Jun 13 - CVDC Fun Day, Haddam Meadows. www.cvdrivingclub.com

Jun 13 - GMHA 25-mile Ride & Drive, So. Woodstock, VT. www.gmhainc.org
June 19-20 - Orleton Farm / Eden Hill Pleasure Show, Stockbridge, MA. www.colonialcarriage.org
Jun 19-20 - Lisa Singer clinic, Seacoast Farm, Wales, ME. www.seacoastfarm.com
Jun 27 - LHDC: Picnic drive at Platts Hill State Park, Winchester, CT. 11 am.
Jun TBD - RIDC: Cones demystified, Celtic Cross Farm, Dudley, MA. www.ridridingclub.org

Jul 11 - ECDHA: Draft Horse Show, No Stonington Fairgrounds, CT. More info: Gary Kincaid 860-535-1416.
www.easternctdrafthorse.com

Jul TBD - CVDC: Geoff Goodson, roundpen demo, Cow Hill Farm, Daniels Rd. www.cvdrivingclub.com

Jul 17-18 - Shelly Temple clinic, Carriage Barn, Newton, NH. www.carriage-barn.com
July 17-18 - Lorenzo Driving Competition, Cazenovia, NY. www.lorenzodriving.com
Jul 25 - ECDHA: 4-H Draft Horse Show, No Stonington Fairgrounds, CT. More info: Henry Tarryk 860-642-6589.
www.easternctdrafthorse.com
Jul 25 - LHDC: Annual picnic & drive, Spindle Brook Farm, Litchfield. 11 am. Bring a side dish.
July TBD - RIDC Fun Day, Goddard Park, Warwick, RI. www.ridridingclub.org

Aug 7 - CVDC: Fran Hornick, Awl for the Horse (leatherwork). 6:30 pm, potluck., East Haddam Grange. www.cvdrivingclub.com

Aug 14 - ECDHA: Working Draft Horse Show, classes incl Men's/Women's Cart, Hitches & Obstacle, Washington County Fair, RI. www.washingtoncountyfair-ri.com
Aug 14 - LHDC: Scott Monroe Clinic, Lotta-Rock Farm, Harwinton, CT. (Raindate: Aug 15)
Aug 21 - LHDC: Shepard Meadows Benefit Pleasure Driving Show, Bristol. CT. (Raindate: Aug 22)
Aug 27-29 - GMHA CDE, So Woodstock, VT. www.gmhainc.org
Aug 28-29 - Rhode Island Carriage Days, Celtic Cross Farm, Dudley, MA. www.ridridingclub.org
Aug 28-29 - Shelly Temple clinic, Carriage Barn, Newton, NH. www.carriage-barn.com
Aug 29 - ECDHA: Draft Horse Show, Brooklyn Fairgrounds, CT. more info: Henry Tarryk - 860-642-6589.
www.easternctdrafthorse.com
Aug 29 - LHDC: Picnic drive at John & Monica Ray's Farm, Litchfield. 11 am. Bring a side dish.
Aug TBD - RIDC: What in the world is a picnic drive . www.ridridingclub.org
Aug TBD - CVDC Drive at Gardner's. Details to come.

Sep 6 - GMHA Fall Driving Classic, So Woodstock, VT. www.gmhainc.org

Sep 11 - CVDC: High Hopes Therapeutic Program. 6:30 pm, potluck, East Haddam Grange. www.cvdrivingclub.com

Sep 11-12 - John Greenall clinic, Seacoast Farm, Wales, ME. www.seacoastfarm.com
Sep 12 - ECDHA: Hebron Fair Draft Demo, <http://www.hebronharvestfair.org/>. www.easternctdrafthorse.com
Sep 13-19 - The National Drive Week, Indianapolis, IN. www.nationaldrive.net
Sep 17 - LHDC: Fran Hornick on harness cleaning. Plymouth Congregational, Plymouth, CT. 7:30 pm.
Sep 18 - LHDC: Playday at Terry-Allen Farm, Terryville, CT. (Raindate: Sep 19)
Sep TBD - RIDC: Picnic Drive and Meeting, . www.ridridingclub.org
Sep TBD - Lisa Singer clinic, Carriage Barn, Newton, NH. www.carriage-barn.com
Sep TBD - CVDC Drive at Cones. Details to come.

Oct 1-3 - Berkshire Coaching Weekend, Stockbridge, MA. www.colonialcarriage.org

Oct 2 - CVDC potluck dinner meeting (program TBD). 6:30 pm, East Haddam Grange. www.cvdrivingclub.com

Oct 2-3 - Blue Slope Fall Festival, Blue Slope Country Museum, Franklin CT. More info: Sandy 860-642-7084.
www.easternctdrafthorse.com

Oct 3 - Saratoga Driving Trial, Valatie, NY. www.saratogadriving.com

Oct 7-10 - World Equestrian Games, Lexington, KY, driving competitions

Oct 10 - CVDC: Lord Creek Drive/Ride Pace, Lord Creek, Lyme CT. www.cvdrivingclub.com

Oct 15-16 - Martin's Annual Fall Carriage & Antique Auction, Lebanon, PA. www.martinauctioneers.com/auctions.htm
Oct 15 - LHDC: club meeting. Plymouth Congregational, Plymouth, CT. 7:30 pm.
Oct 17 - LHDC: Picnic drive at Wethersfield Farm, Amenia, NY. 11 am. Bring lunch, helmets, chair.
Oct 31 - RIDC: Halloween Fun Drive. 10 am., Celtic Cross Farm, Dudley, MA. www.ridridingclub.org
Oct 31 - Carriage Barn's Halloween Carriage Classic open fun show, Newton, NH. www.carriage-barn.com

2010 Calendar Continued....

Nov 5 - LHDC: Potluck supper & annual meeting. Plymouth Congregational, Plymouth, CT. 7:30 pm.

Nov 6 - CVDC: Safety Panel. 6:30 pm, potluck., East Haddam Grange. www.cvdriivingclub.com

Nov 11-14 - Equine Affaire, W Springfield, MA. www.equineaffaire.com

Dec 4 - CVDC Holiday Party, TBD.

Dec 10 - LHDC Holiday Party.

President's Letter

I suspect that some of us are really hoping for an early Spring, but know that there are those among us enjoying the snow and sleighing. Whether you are itching to be hitching and driving down the road, or happy for this somewhat slower time of year to mush along in the snow, I do hope that you'll take the time to participate in several great upcoming driving activities.

First off, I do hope that CVDC members come out for the next meeting on March 6th to learn some handy tips on clipping your horse. Program starts at 6:00pm.

The Driving Forum will be in Nashua, New Hampshire, the weekend of March 13th and 14th. We are fortunate to have such an opportunity within a reasonable distance from most of us. I'd really like to encourage everyone who's able to take advantage and support the Driving Forum. If it makes it any easier, then maybe we can set up some carpools. We can discuss this at our March 6th meeting.

Another great opportunity is the Jeff Morse Clinic at High Hopes in Old Lyme, CT on March 21st. There's a wonderful indoor, heated lounge where you can watch the clinics and listen to what Jeff has to say. For me, I learned so much at last year's Clinic just watching Jeff and the drivers, and hearing him coach everyone. Besides the learning opportunity, we also spend some fun time socializing over a potluck lunch. Please let Marguerite Haber know if you plan to audit the Clinic.

Walk on and Drive Safely,
Jan Frick
CVDC President

Calendar Notes FYI

April 17 (changed from April 10)-This CVDC meeting will be at Allegra Farm, 69 Town Street, East Haddam. The potluck will start at 6:30PM John will discuss the construction of, and restoration of antique carriages and sleighs. Please bring your questions. Contact John or Laurie Allegra at 860-5378861

May 1 CVDC Program - Dr. Chip Becket on 'Acupuncture for horses' - location TBA

May 22-23- Our membership has been invited by Cat Luce to join the Rhode Island Driving Club's ride/drive/camping weekend on May 22 and 23 at Escoheag ,RI. This will be our official May drive. Members can come either day and ride or drive, or they can camp overnight.



image from: <http://www.americandrivingsociety.org>

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New Driving Locations: We Need Your Feedback

Dick Mangino

At our recent program committee meeting, I proposed two locations for picnic drives for next year. These are two extraordinary places to drive; places you have to try at least once. They are farther than most members may be used to traveling and the committee was not sure of the club's response. So, I would like to describe both locations and then ask for your feedback, either positive or negative, including any questions you may have. Feel free to call me (203-272-5257) if, like me, the phone works better for you. For the techies, my email is richardmangino@att.net .

Wethersfield Farm, 214 Pugsley Hill Rd., Amenia, NY.

This is a working farm that has been left in trust by its previous owner. ADS used to hold CDE's here, and some hazards are still standing. There are open hay fields and trails in the woods, with no paved roads or traffic. Members who have driven there include Randy Sabatino, Herb DiMeola and the Lawsons, so you could ask them about their experience . There are gorgeous views everywhere and the only noise is your own. The special treat lies in the clearings along the wooded trails. The owner must have been an art lover because the clearings are decorated with small and large stone statues and columns. They are always a pleasant surprise to the drivers and sometimes are just a "surprise" to the more attentive horses. The Litchfield club has driven at Wethersfield for many years and because of the large amount of land, drives could easily last an hour or two. If we go there as a group on an official club drive under club insurance, there is no cost. Individuals can ride or drive there for \$5 per day, after making arrangements with the farm manager and signing a yearly waiver.

Rockefeller State Park Preserve, Sleepy Hollow, NY

The Rockefeller Preserve was once owned by the Rockefeller family and was given to the State of New York. Details can be found on www.friendsrock.org . There are 1100 acres of woods and fields and over 20 miles of roads. And these are not just dirt roads, but are carriage roads constructed by David Rockefeller to drive his four-in-hand coaches. This is the same David Rockefeller that built the well-known Acadia driving area. People who have been to both locals describe them as very similar. The preserve has those beautiful stone bridges that make it so much more than just a road through the woods. There is great scenery everywhere, with some high spots overlooking the Hudson River. The preserve is truly for horse people while allowing hikers and bikers and dogs on leashes, but they always make the horse people feel special. There are maps available, with the trails along the way marked with their names. The map shows all the Rockefeller land, but private landowners have made some of their roads available too. So, the good news is, there are even more miles to drive. The bad news is, the extra miles are not on the map, so pay attention. CVDC members who have visited here are Randy Sabatino, the Lawsons and, most recently, Kathie Gregory. There is water available and staff is always helpful. Unlike Wethersfield Farm, the Rockefeller Preserve has some expense. There is a daily turnout fee of \$15, plus a new parking fee of \$6 per trailer. There is no consideration for clubs and/or large groups. For frequent visitors, there is a \$60 season pass.

So, in closing, these are two places that all of us should visit at least once. And I think if you go once you will want to go again. The Litchfield club has driven both many times and it's always a thrill. The bottom line is, if members want to go to either of these locals, we can consider them for next year. If they aren't interested, well, we will know that too. So, please look this over, check your MapQuest and speak to the members who have been there. Please **communicate** back to me, whether you are **interested or not**. I will be looking forward to hearing from you. Thanks.

January Meeting Update

Marguerite Hayber

In January, we were extremely fortunate to have Ann Guptill, a top-level Dressage rider and instructor and owner of nearby Foxledge Farm, come to discuss Musical Freestyle. Ann is the chairman of the US Dressage Federation's Musical Freestyle Committee and also works with her husband, Ed Iarusso, to develop and produce freestyle routines and music for clients. Ann gave an informative overview of the key components which lead to winning freestyle routines, starting with learning about footfalls and beats per minute at each gait and progressing to how to choose the right music and modify it to enhance your horse's performance. She also talked about the differences between ridden and driven dressage tests, using those as a starting point for developing routines.

Musical freestyle is an interesting possibility for the driving world. The ADS rules allow for musical freestyle classes at Pleasure Driving shows but not CDE's. One possibility is to have freestyle programs or demonstrations rather than judged classes, maybe as a way to whet people's appetite. This could expand to include pas de deux or drill teams and quadrilles. There are some challenges, such as choosing music to match the differing footfalls of a pair or learning a routine in a given size arena which might not match the performance space. Practicing any of these forms of "musical driving" would be bound to increase your horse's flexibility and responsiveness and your own ability to judge space and timing. Maybe some of us will give driven musical freestyle a whirl in the future! (Watch for a future article on this topic in The Whip.)

Here is a cute video on YouTube of a mini doing musical freestyle. One of the things Ann said was to choose music along a "theme," such as "beach songs" or "America". This video makes use of easily recognizable TV show songs from the Jetsons, the Odd Couple, the Lone Ranger, and Porky Pig's "That's All Folks," each timed to show off a different gait in the routine.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MDKMrjgW8Dw> – or search KentonandChoklit

February Meeting Update

Marguerite Hayber

The CVDC members who attended our Feb 6 meeting had the pleasure of hearing from three different speakers. The first was Jeanna Pellino, the Program Director for High Hopes Therapeutic Riding Facility in Old Lyme, who spoke briefly about the Driving Program at High Hopes (and brought great scalloped potatoes!). They are looking for more volunteers in this rapidly growing program. Along with driving sessions with folks with varied disabilities, High Hopes has a special program for veterans which is proving to be very popular. If you are interested in volunteering (lots of sessions available), call Jeanna at 860-434-3723.

The regular program that night was a visit from the CT Horse Council, personified by Diane Ciano and Meg Sautter. These ladies talked with us about the many programs and benefits offered by the Council. The Council works on behalf of Connecticut horse-owners by monitoring legislation and zoning regulations; educating the public; maintaining trails; and promoting safety on the road, in the barn and through emergency & disaster preparedness. Meg explained the Volunteer Horse Patrol program, of which our own club members, Bunny Joseph and Anne Albee, are members. The VHP acts as eyes and ears in the State Parks and Forests, promoting responsible use and assisting the public as needed. This is mostly accomplished on horseback but could be done in a carriage. Members of VHP also help to keep Connecticut's network of trails open by keeping them in use and holding "work parties" when needed. One of the Council's projects is the clean-up and maintenance of the Lost Silvermine Horse Camp which we may want to scout out in the future for a driving venue.

Of special note: there are two public Round Tables being held by the CT Forest Land Council on their CT Forest Plan. This must be done every 5 years. The conversation may lead to changes in forest policy which could lead to more restrictive use for horses or for better use for horses. This is our opportunity to let the State officials know how many of us there are and what we would like to see in our state forests. These are taking place at the CT Forest & Park Assoc. building, 16 Meriden Road, Rockfall on 2/27 and at Middlesex Community College, 100 Training Hill Road, Middletown on 3/16. Each session runs from 9:30 to 3:30 and has a cost of \$25. If you are interested in going or want to know more about them, go to the website of CT Forest & Park Association (ctwoodlands.org) to register.



Santa bear riding a mini driving horse through the snow! Spring isn't here quite yet!

Image from:
http://farm3.static.flickr.com/2776/4191918074_9930ce9368_o.jpg

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**Good luck
Competitors!**

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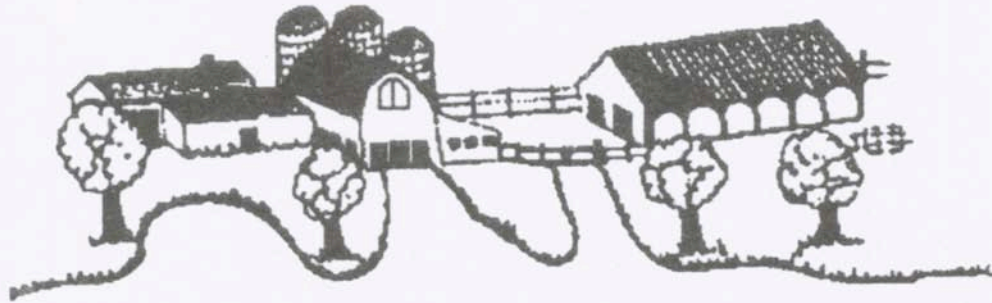
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~Andy M. Marcoux
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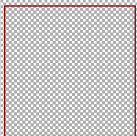
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