

Long Lines



April 2011

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

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Marguerite Hayber
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NOTE NEW DATE & PROGRAM!

CVDC Meeting ~ Saturday, April 9 An Evening With Larry Poulin

Larry Poulin will join us the evening before his all-day clinic for an information-packed discussion and presentation. Larry will review and critique videos of himself with his horses from the early days compared to video from one of his last championship drives. Also on tap: training and developing your horse and yourself; how combining ridden and driven dressage can make for greater success; and how a correct way of going can improve all styles of driving, from dressage to marathon, competition to recreation.



Potluck starts at 6:30, discussion to follow, including plenty of time for Q&A.

THEN, turn the conversation into action by coming to High Hopes the following day, Sunday, April 10, to observe Larry's clinic sessions. This is a great facility for auditors - excellent viewing lounge, sound system, comfortable seating. A total of ten 45-minute sessions are scheduled, starting at 8 am. We will have a lunch break between 11:30 and 12:15. Please bring your own lunch as we are not having the usual midday potluck (there is good food at Coffee's Country Market just up the road). Auditor fee: \$10.

Learn from the best. Come for an hour or stay all day.



REMINDER: NOW IS THE TIME TO:
CLEAN YOUR HARNESS ~ CLIP YOUR HORSE ~
SCHEDULE VACCINATIONS ~ TIGHTEN THE BOLTS ON
YOUR CART OR CARRIAGE ~ SAFETY CHECK YOUR
HORSE TRAILER.

Presidents Letter

Spring is finally here and the shift to daylight savings has been a welcome change around the barn. I look forward each Spring to brushing the winter coat out of my mare, as it really helps tone up the arms, if you know what I mean. Speaking of toning and getting into shape, our Spring clinic at High Hopes on April 10th is fully subscribed, but you can still come and watch / listen to the sessions from the comfortable lounge. Do hope to see many of you there. We're not holding the luncheon buffet as in the past, but you can still bring a lunch or snack.

As I mentioned last month, we are forming a nominating committee for Officer elections. Randy Sabatino is leading this effort, so please contact her if you are interested in running for an office or would like to assist her with putting together a slate of candidates. Both the President and Vice President offices will need to be filled. Erica Robb has agreed to continue as Treasurer, and Marguertie Hayber has agreed to continue as Secretary. Although not an officer of the club, we are still looking for someone interested in planning and coordinating Programs for our meetings.

Our June HDT is right around the corner, and we really, really need everyone to pitch in with getting sponsors. If you are uncomfortable with asking for monetary contributions, consider just asking if a merchant would be willing to donate a product. We need plenty of horse-related and non-horse items for the prizes. Be sure to let Anne Albee know. Also, if you can help volunteer with setting up for the event and/or the day of the event, then please contact Erica Robb.

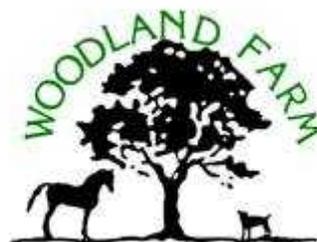
Lastly, I wanted to mention about a great article in the Glastonbury Life magazine about Dan and Joan Abbate. The front cover shows Dan out sleighing and the story talked about his lifelong love and interaction with horses. Our club was noted in the article, too. Way to go Dan with promoting driving out in mainstream media.

Walk on, be safe, and enjoy the drive,
Jan Frick
CVDC President

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Spring Fever!

As spring begins to pop up all over, the grass greens, the buds plump, and the daffodils sprout, and the preparations for the “show” are in full swing. The “show” as we all know is the Connecticut Valley Horse Driving Trial, this year on June 11th with the clinic and Fun Day on June 12th. By the time this is in print, that’s only a little over two months away! Gulp!

Dedicated committee members are hard at work. Erica Robb is organizing volunteers and we are always amazed at the number and talents of our dedicated volunteers. She would love to hear from you about a job you would like to do for the show. Marguerite Hayber is ready to accept entries which officially open April 1st. She also is signing up participants for the clinics with individual lessons the next day. Anne Albee is busy organizing sponsors and welcomes your assistance with talking to businesses and farms in your local area. Call Anne and she will fill you in on the details. Bill and I are planning the course and obstacles, along with all the little details that need attention. If you are interested in sponsoring an obstacle and have ideas on designs, or if you have any questions, thoughts or ideas on the general course, please give us a call - 860-349-8745 (home), 860-490-4667 (cell) or email wwlawson@sbcglobal.net. Other committee members are making plans for a great show. Ann and Ed Sullivan are working on Dressage, Kathie Rindge is developing the cones course, and many more are “doing their thing”. If you too would like to be involved, please give us a call.

And remember that all volunteers can take a lesson in the clinic for a reduced price and/or come and use the course for free on Sunday, June 12th. Volunteers, don’t wait until the opening date to sign up for the clinic. Call Marguerite now for your preferred time. Non-volunteers will pay the clinic fee or a nominal fee for use of the course. We will leave the course up as long as we possibly can and take it down little by little, but we do have to be out of the park by Sunday evening.

And most importantly, our judge Francois Bergeron and TD Marcie Quist are terrific people to take a lesson from. Neither has ever been to this area for clinics or lessons, so it is a great opportunity to gain some fresh ideas. We will have profiles on both within a few days - watch the website for more information.

Enjoy Spring and as the new ADS motto says, “Come Drive With Us”

Nancy Lawson



*Nancy Franklin, one of our many dedicated volunteers
(photo courtesy of Anne Albee)*

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Don't you just love the people who make our event possible? Volunteers start early, and stay late. They hammer, nail, push, pull, lift and carry. They time and score, set up and tear down.

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Support the team! Sponsor your own volunteer!

We accept PayPal at www.cvdrivingclub.com or contact Anne Albee at 860-365-0295 (home), 860-416-3392 (cell) or storytella@comcast.net (email). All amounts welcome!



April 1st Opening Date for Horse Driving Trial and Fun Day

Driving Trial - Saturday, June 11, 2011
Haddam Meadows State Park

The Connecticut Valley Horse Driving Trial is suitable for beginners (training and preliminary levels). Classes include: Singles & Pairs; VSE, Pony, Horse.

Club members: If you would like to participate in this event get your entries in early, as spots fill quickly! Entries open April 1st. For more information and the entry forms go to www.cvdrivingclub.com!

Fun Day - Sunday, June 12, 2011

This is your chance to play! The combined driving course will be in place including: Dressage Ring, Cones and Marathon Course with Hazards. Just come and play, or sign up for a session with one of our clinicians, Francois Bergeron or Marcie Quist.

We are now accepting entries for clinic sessions from club members. After April 1, sessions will be open to non-members. Remember, volunteers get a nice discount! To sign up for a session, contact Marguerite Hayber at secretary@cvdrivingclub.com or 860-267-6552.

Clinic Fee: \$50 volunteer rate, \$85 non-volunteer rate.

Just Come and Play Fee: \$10 (no clinic, full access but yield to lesson horses), volunteers free.

Forms for the show and fun day will be posted on the website

Francois Bergeron is an American Driving Society "R" rated Combined Driving judge, an experienced driver and well-liked driving instructor and trainer. He hails from Canada and has extensive competitive experience in both pleasure driving and CDE's. He is particularly known for his skills with multiples of varying configurations, including tandems.

Marcie Quist started her driving career as a youth at a NYC pony barn, driving the city streets. Today, she has her own barn near Southern Pines, competes at Advanced level combined driving events, is an American Driving Society licensed judge and Technical Delegate, and chairs the ADS Combined Driving Committee. She also pens insightful articles for Driving Digest and other magazines.

DRIVING CALENDAR 2011 (always verify information before leaving home!)

Mar 26-27 - UCONN Spring Clinics. Trailer Driving, Natural Horsemanship & Dressage. Takes the place of their usual Horse Symposium. See <http://animalscience.uconn.edu/horseSymp/horseSymp.php>

Mar 27 - Mary Gray Driving: Fireside Clinic - Presentation Critique and Flea Market, Danville NH. www.wayfarerfarm.net.

Mar/Apr/May - Sundays - The Carriage Barn: Intro to Driving Lessons. www.carriage-barn.com

Apr 9 - NEW DATE & PROGRAM! An Evening with Larry Poulin. Conversation & Q&A. East Haddam Grange, potluck at 6:30, discussion to follow.

Apr 10 - CVDC: Spring Clinic with Larry Poulin at High Hopes, Old Lyme, CT. Clinic is full, auditors welcome at \$10 for the day.

Apr 10 - Mary Gray Driving: Spring Fling ADT Series, Danville NH. www.wayfarerfarm.net

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 24 - Mary Gray Driving: Spring Fling ADT Series, Danville NH. www.wayfarerfarm.net

Apr 29-30 - Martin's Spring Auction, Lebanon, PA. www.martinsauctioneers.com/auctions.htm

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

May 7-8 - Lisa Singer Clinic, Wales, ME. www.seacoastfarm.com

May 8 - Mary Gray Driving: Spring Fling ADT Series, Danville NH. www.wayfarerfarm.net

May 14-15 - GMHA Two-Phase and ADT, So. Woodstock, VT. www.gmhainc.org

May 20 - LHDC: field trip to see Dick Lahey's carriage collection.

May 22 - LHDC: White Memorial Drive, 11 am. www.litchfieldhillsdrivingclub.com

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

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



Congratulations to CVDC friend and colleague,
Cat Luce, of Wrentham, MA!
She won the February photo contest at Equinesite.com
with this snowy photo of her Haflinger mare,
CountYourManyBlessings HS (Cory).

**SO, WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO?
SEND YOUR NEWS & PHOTOS TO
EDITOR@CVDRIVINGCLUB.COM**

Our condolences go to Terry & Elaine Joseph, of Cedar Knoll Farm, on the loss of Duke, half of the famous Duke & Diesel team, and to the Marshalls on the loss of two stillborn Gypsy Vanner foals.

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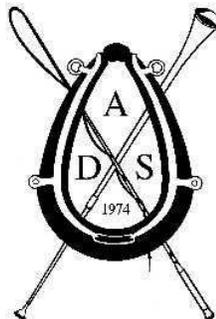
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