

# Delmarva Driving Lines

Newsletter of the Delmarva Driving  
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35913 Fall Harvest Dr.  
Laurel, DE 19956

July, 2003

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## Meeting Schedule

August 6 DDC Business meeting 7:00  
pm at the Redden Forest Carriage  
House

September 3 DDC Business  
meeting 7:00 pm at the Redden  
Forest Carriage House. **SPECIAL**  
topic - next year's events

October 1 DDC Business meeting  
7:00 pm at the Redden Forest Carriage  
House.

## Draft Horse Day June 29th

In spite of the heat, over 60 people attended Draft Horse Day at Wayne and Phyllis Conner's. There were more than 20 horses including American Cream cross, Belgians, Chincoteague Pony, Clydesdales, Fjord, Halfinger, Oldenberg, Percheron, Pinto, Quarter Horse, Spotted Draft and Suffolk Punch, plus lots of crosses. The Percherons won on numbers this year, closely followed by the Clydesdales.

We started with introductions and short talks on safety (Wayne Conner), draft horse shoeing and stocks demonstration (Clint Glenn), equine nutrition (George Parris) and a 'parade of breeds' announced by co-host Lois Evans.

Competitions included log skids, log slalom, and sled races. There was a demonstration of plowing with a team of Belgians put to a sulky plow, followed later in the day with harrowing by a team of Percherons.

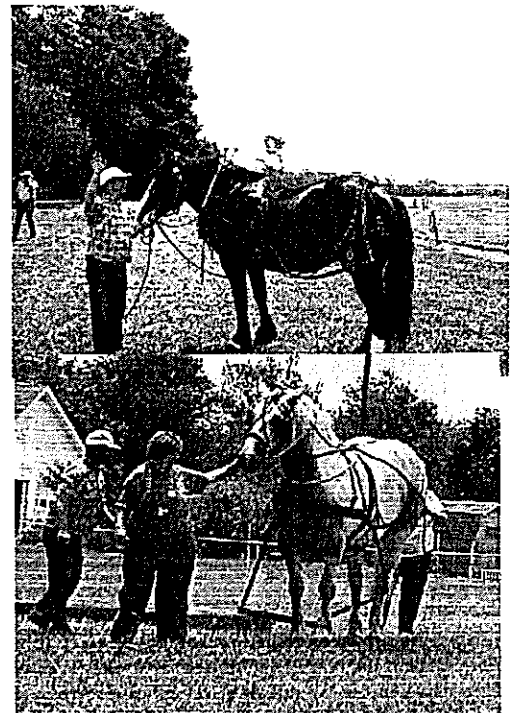
It was especially great to have the 'old timers' there to help us newbys with our horses. Everyone pitched in to help us learn more about draft work in general and getting our horse to understand what we were asking and us to understand how to ask for what we wanted to do. 'It ain't as easy as it looks, folks!' THANK YOU Wayne and Phyllis for having us and Lois and Ed Evans for helping put things together and keep things running smoothly.

The heat was the only downer and a couple people felt it to the point of having to take a break in the shade. In fact, it got so hot that several planned parts of the event were canceled, including the multiples hitches, docking competition and the pleasure drive in the orchard.

Home made ice cream and cakes finished the day. Wow, fun. Only thing could have made it better (besides cooler weather), was having even more of our friends from DDC in attendance!  
See you there NEXT year!

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# Delmarva Driving Lines

## Information Please!

Do you have any driving or horse related articles, stories, quotes, pictures, web pages of interest, jokes or other information, including notice of events, you'd like to share with the DDC members through the newsletter? If so, please send them to:

Martie Bolinski  
986 Irishtown Rd.  
North East, MD 21901  
bolinsj@dol.net

## Fair Hill Pleasure Drive Weekend - June 21-22

No rain was allowed to dampen our spirits on Saturday, even with the unsettled weather. We had a great group show up to ride and drive. I was lucky enough to ride with Frances Baker and Pat Roth behind Jam and Jelly on Saturday morning before the rain started. We did a couple hours of scenic drive before coming back to the barn. After this overview of the trails and terrain, I decided that my own pony, Kilar, was just not ready to safely lead an organized drive at Fair Hill, so it was everyone for themselves. Riding and driving was between the mists and downpours. Later in the day, Wayne Conner kindly took me for a spin in the forecart with his Suffolk, Joe. Boy, he steps out nicely! Of course, we never got Kilar hitched on Saturday because I was too chicken to go in the rain myself.

Sunday dawned sunny and cool. Perfect for a drive! It clouded over immediately as I started to harness but it was just a tiny, brief sprinkle. Then, as I started to bridle Kilar, it struck me! NO BIT! Sheesh. Can you imagine coming to a drive with no bit? What an idiot. And of course with his big mouth, nothing at hand to fit. So poor John had to chase home for the other bridle. Once we actually got harnessed, hitched and out, we had a great time tooling around the paved and graveled roads near the barns. We gave our new 'Old Mac' boots a good test drive and Kilar had fun too.

The cookout Saturday night, with over 30 guests, was a screaming success! Hot dogs, hamburgers, salads, chips, pretzels, cake and brownies - and all topped off with Pat Roth's special 'Barbecue Coffee' (if you don't know what that is, you missed a REAL treat!) and Shirley Mihm's cooler of 'Dilly Bars'. Yummmmm Scrumptious. Thank you to the Chefs de Camp, Pat Roth on the cheesburgers, John B on the 'Jimmy John's' hotdogs, Cyndi and Kay on beans and Avis Tucker with the cheesy potatoes. Great food, great friends, great fun.

## Scattered personal thoughts and critique of the weekend:

- The signout board, walky-talkies and cell phones were a great idea (Thank you Frances!)
- Maps (courtesy of Frances Baker) were a big help but are not foolproof; know the footing and terrain and plan accordingly. A topo map would have been better. Knowing how to use one, better still.
- Think about your horse's limitations and plan your ride/drives around them.
- You see more club members on a rainy drive than at a fair-weather monthly meeting. Maybe we should fake them out and hold the meetings at our pleasure drives?
- Phone ahead EARLY if you want a camping hookup with electric. The camping spots go FAST!
- When everyone chips in and helps, it really makes a difference.
- No matter how well you plan and how well you are organized, you can't force the weather to cooperate.
- If you forget your bridle bit, you are not going to drive!
- Plan to have fun and just "DO IT"



# Delmarva Driving Lines

Drive Smartly - Drive Safely    Sound Advice from the CCA

*Editor's Note:* The following concludes the series of articles presenting portions of the Carriage Association of America's excellent publication: "Drive Smartly - Drive Safely".

## **The Ten Most Common Causes of Accidents and Ways of Avoiding Them:**

1. Lack of ability on the part of the driver
2. Carelessness and overconfidence of the driver
3. The driver's lack of understanding of horses, or lack of horse sense
4. Inadequate or improper training of the horse or horses
5. The unsuitability as to size or temperament of the horses
6. Failure of equipment
7. Poor fitting of the harness
8. **Lack of skilled assistance**
9. **Disturbance of the horse (s) from outside causes**
10. **Failure of the driver to anticipate and plan for emergencies**

### **Lack of Skilled Assistance**

Only a very experienced horseman should attempt to hitch even one horse by himself, and even he will need experienced help when he is putting a pair or more of horses to. A novice driver should always have an experienced companion when he is driving, and even an experienced driver should, for safety's sake, have help with him when he is driving a young or strange horse. A driver with a pair should always be accompanied by an experienced groom or helper. With four horses, two helpers are necessary. These helpers should be knowledgeable and active so that they can respond at once should a dangerous situation arise.

### **Disturbance of the Horse(s) from Outside Causes**

Even when driving horses that have been trained not to be afraid of strange objects, one should keep a watchful eye on the road ahead for anything that could cause alarm. The horse's ears will probably give some forewarning that the horse has spotted something what to him may be a fearsome thing. Sending the horse into his bridle and distracting him with a touch of the whip, may prevent him from shying. If the driver thinks the horse may refuse to go by without shying, being forewarned should allow time for a helper to get to the horse's head.

In today's conditions, it is unwise to leave a horse standing harnesses to a vehicle without an attendant. A low-flying helicopter or the air-brakes of a tractor trailer might alarm the most phlegmatic of horses. Nor should a horse be left tied outside a horse van or trailer in strange and busy surroundings without there being some capable person close by.

### **Failure of the Driver to Anticipate and Plan for Emergencies**

Having read this series so far, you will now be aware of some of the causes of accidents and some idea of how to avoid them. Whenever you go out driving, you should take some spare equipment with you. Old horsemen used to say a knife, a piece of string or a quarter was the minimum. Today, most people with a single horse would have a spare trace and a halter rope as well.

*This was Carl Zimmerman's last in a series of safety articles. If you have other safety or informational articles to include in the newsletter, please send them in! We need your input. THANKS Carl for your contributions! Martie*

# Delmarva Driving Lines

## DDC SPONSORED CALENDAR OF EVENTS -

### Schedule of events for 2003

*We will have more information about the activities below in future issues. If you can volunteer for any of these events, or have other events to suggest, please contact Heidi Ferguson. Don't be bashful - we need your input and your support! There will be no activity unless it has a 'sponsor' If you can help out, let us know. If you plan to attend PLEASE contact the host at least 2 weeks before the event.*

July 20 DE State Fair, DDC booth in the Commodities Bldg. Fair is July 17-26

Aug 23 Pool Party at Heidi Ferguson's. Contact Heidi to RSVP. More info in July issue.

Sep 6 Fire Museum Trip, Lutherville, MD more information in July issue.

Sep 7 Commemorative Drive 5.5 mile from east of Fruitland, MD to Iron Furnace (now called Fumacettown). BYOP (bring your own picnic) more info to follow. - Ed or Lois Evans 302-875-4971.

Sep 27 Wye Island Drive - CANCELLED see below

Sep 27 20th Anniversary DDC celebration - Laurel Saddle Friends (NEW) - Sherry Harris, more info in July issue

Oct 5 Annual Redden Drive - Heidi Ferguson

Oct 25 Fall Harvest - Lois Evans

Nov 1 - Assateague Drive - Carl Zimmerman

Dec 12 DDC Christmas Party - C&R Center - Sherry Harris

### Other Equine Events (non DDC):

Jul 26, 27 Civil War Reenactments at Nutter Marvel. Contact Nutter Marvel Museum for information. Georgetown Historical Society 302-855-9660, www.marvelmuseum.org

August 1-3 Chick's Delmarva QH Classic - contact Wayne Diamond 302-856-7862

September 5-7 Laurels at Landhope CDE - more info to follow

Sep 6,7 Tuckahoe Outlaw Days

September 19-21 Gladstone Fall CAI-B CDE, Gladstone NJ. Prelim, advanced. Contact Sharon Gorry 908-832-9366. gladstoneeq@earthlink.net

### Other Equine Events, cont:

September 20 Cedarcrest Show, Georgetown. More info to follow

September 20-21 Piedmont Driving Club Show, Foxcroft School, Middleburg, VA. Contact Marcia West 434-971-8272 aimeejazz@aol.com.

October 17-18 Martin's Auction, Lebanon, PA contact Karen and Paul Martin, Jr. 717-354-6671

November 9,10 Dave Wilson's Drive and Auction.

*Send us information about events elsewhere!*

## News Flash - NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

### Changes to 20th Anniversary Celebration

**When:** September 27 and 28.

**What:** Drive (1:00 pm Saturday) and Dinner (4:00 pm Saturday) optional overnight, drive on Sunday and cleanup (2:00 pm Sunday)

**Where:** Laurel Saddle Friends, Portsville, DE

**How much:** DDC members, dinner is free; guests \$8 each.

Attending members receive a free commemorative mug.

**Additional mugs** can be purchased at \$5 each.

**More information:** Camping overnight is \$10 for non LSF members. Phone Sherri Harris 410-482-2402 for additional information and directions. RSVP before September 3rd to Sherri. See signup form below.

## Delmarva Driving Club 20th Anniversary Celebration Registration

Name of DDC Member(s): \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ No Cost

Number of non-member guests: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$8.00 per person = \_\_\_\_\_

Number of camping spaces: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10.00 each non LSF = \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed = \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to Sherri Harris

26776 Bee Tree Rd.  
Henderson, MD 21640

Forms must be received no later than 9/3/03

# Delmarva Driving Lines

## Kay and John Fund Auction at Dave Wilson's Auction House, Monday June 30th

Many friends gathered at the benefit auction to help with John Williams' mounting medical bills. Sponsored by the Delaware Equine Council and co-chaired by Brenda Lewis and Paula Barto, the Delaware Quarter Horse Society provided donations, First State Coon Hunters provided cooks, Laurel Saddle Friends provided baked goods and workers, Youth AHA, donations, 4H group, runners, Mustang/Burrow Association, workers and booth assistance, Delmarva Driving Club donations, rides, and workers, Fleetsales, door prizes and Ducks Unlimited items, Seaford Flowers provided centerpieces and door prizes, 'The Guide' provided advertising, Delaware Equine Council provided organizers, donations, workers, band, food drinks, setup, cleanup and more! Individuals from the above clubs and other friends of Kay and John provided additional support.

Three auctioneers, Dennis Daniels, Joe O'Neal and Dave Wilson assured that the bidding was lively and kept moving. Friends from all over provided donated all sorts of items and insured there was plenty of interesting 'stuff' to bid on. There were a lot of bargains to be had. A big, special THANK YOU to Dave Wilson for the use of his facilities and help!

The food was great even though the crab cake truck broke down on the way and didn't make it. The hotdogs and hamburgers were excellent, the desserts were scrumptious. All donated by friends. The bluegrass band was also great and kept the intermissions hopping. Dancing was sparse, but enthusiastic.

Many folks took turns trying to 'rope the steer' and win a prize, there were pony rides and carriage rides, all to help out with the benefit.

So far the proceeds tally to more than \$9,000 with not all yet counted in. THANK YOU TO EVERYONE for your support. John and Kay really appreciate everyone's special help and support in their time of need.

### SPECIAL NOTICE - COGGINS

If you are bringing a horse to a DDC event, please be sure you have your Coggins paperwork with you. If you are asked to produce and do not have it, you WILL be turned away from the event.



*Wee Willy Sez*



*Horse and Buggies*

### Delmarva Driving Club June/4th /2003 Meeting Minutes

President John Bolinski called June/4th /2003 meeting to order at 7:00PM at Redden Forest Carriage House. There were 21 members present, and 2 guests.

Secretary Report: May/7th /2003 minutes were approved as read.

Treasury Report: Previous balance as of May/7th /2003 in the amount of \$3,504.19

Income \$670.25

Expenses: \$1,686.96

Total checking account balance, as of June/7th/2003 is \$2,487.48; CD#1--\$3,658.15 CD#2--\$3,812.21 Treasurer's report approved as read.

Sunshine: Lois reported balance \$31.13

Old Business:

20th DDC Anniversary Sept/27th:

Sherry Harris gave an up-date, on the planning. Paula mentioned of have a committee to help Sherry, and that this issue be tabled until next meeting. A committee was chosen ; Paula Barto, Peggy Koster, Kay Mildon, Pam Savage

*continued on p 6*

# Delmarva Driving Lines

## Letters to the Editor

We invite all DDC members to write in to the newsletter to express their thoughts and views. We will print them all as space allows.

### Sunshine Report - Lois Evans

Cards were sent to the following people:

Paolin Hatch,  
Ann and George Couch, who both had surgeries,  
Frank Motter's wife who has been diagnosed with a serious illness,  
John Williams,  
Cosco Rischuittie, Eleanor's husband who was hospitalized,  
Joe and Marty Monaghan for the birth of their grandson, Patrick, Jr. and  
Gary Horseman who had surgery and rehab for shoulder reconstruction.

I am sure these folks would appreciate your personal cards or contacts.



## Keep Kool - Pool Party at Heidi Ferguson's

Heidi would like to host a social get-together on Saturday, August 23rd, 6:00-10:00pm at her place. Contact Heidi for details, rsvp and directions. phone 302-442-5126, email hunterhavenfarm@comcast.net

## New Web Address for Delmarva Driving Club

At the July DDC meeting, we voted to improve our webpage address to make it easier to remember and to type, so - make note that the new address will be:

<http://www.delmarvadivingclub.com>

## DDC Trip to Fire Museum of MD

Plan to join us for a bus trip to the Fire Museum on September 6th. Lois Evans is organizing. Bus hold 45; cost for the bus will be between \$13-20 per person depending on the number of folks who want to go. Admission to the museum is \$5 for adults. The museum houses a number of horse drawn fire vehicles and there will be special demonstrations on the 6th. 302-875-4971 for information and signup.

## Classified

Registered hackney mare, 12 yr, has some training, needs work, well mannered, loads. Will trade or sell. Call Mike 302-875-1457

*DDC June Meeting Minutes continued from p 5*

### Ann Council Clinic:

Heidi reported that Ann would not be available in Sept. Heidi also mentioned if these clinic's didn't hold their own, that the prices would have to be increased. Heidi also asked if there was any other place that would be better in this area to hold the clinics. After a discussion a motion was made by Paula Barto to have a clinic in the Fall, and that the DDC pay \$250.00 if necessary and seconded by Peggy Koster, and that motion was approved by members present.

**Benefit:** Paula reported that we still need items to auction. Gift Certificates, items from stores, they do not have to be horse related, and we do need help. The preview on June 30th/ at 5:00pm. Sale starts at 6:00pm Come eat, dance, rope a steer, ride the pony or wagon.

### Memberships:

No new members.

### New Business:

#### Up-date on Fair Hill Drive:

Everything was ready to go. The stalls have been reserved and at this time there were only 2 left.

Fees for overnight camping is \$10.00 plus \$10.00 for your stall.

**Draft Horse Day June/29th** Wayne gave up-date. Looks like a full day of fun and education. The cost of the port-a-potty would cost \$68.00

#### Cedar Crest driving show Sept/20th

Kay motioned for DDC to give \$100.00 to sponsor a class at this event. K. Clausen seconded that motion.

For Calendar of Events keep check with your monthly Newsletter.

50/50 was won by Joe Paul in the amount of \$10.00 and was donated back to the DDC treasury.

**Refreshments:** were served by Wayne Conner and enjoyed by all

Kay Mildon will serve refreshment for July meeting.

**Adjournment:** Hearing no further business Peggy Koster motioned to adjourn. Seconded by everyone

Respectfully, Submitted

Kay Mildon

Secretary

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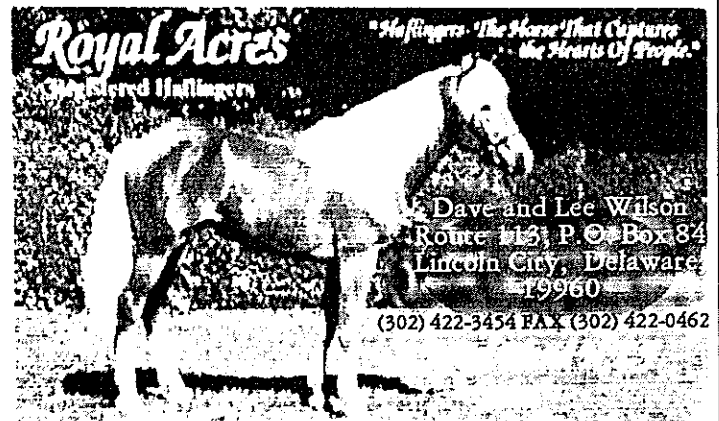
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