



Let's Drive !



April, 2018

Delmarva Driving Club, Inc

Bits and Pieces — Club Information

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A DDC Board Meeting was held on April 5, 2018 and the following was discussed: the minutes and treasury report from the February Board Meeting were approved as submitted.

Currently three people are registered for the April 21st Dressage 101 Clinic at Anna Klumpp's Cair Parabelle Farm. Start times will depend on registration and Anna will get details out soon.

George Parris gave an update on the May 12th Show. The deadline for advertising and sponsorship is April 14th.

Jane Bailey was charged with putting together a proposed budget and has sent out a draft. She is still waiting for some key input and will hopefully have a report for the June meeting.

An inventory was completed of the Club trailer.

A location for this year's Christmas Party was discussed and the Ruthsburg Community Center was suggested for the December 1st event. Kim Baklarz will make contact to see if the building is available.

It was recommended that

the club maintain a book of all important information concerning banking, insurance, passwords, website information, etc. and that this information will be kept in the President's possession. Jane Bailey will take the lead on this project.

As per the By-Laws a Club Roster will be sent to all members.

George Parris reported on several upcoming drives and events and additional information regarding these events can be found in the Upcoming Events section.

Parade Organizers for Return Day are looking for participants for this years event to be held on November 8th.

Attention!!

* DDC Board Meeting on Thursday, June 7, 2018 at 7 p.m. The meeting is open to the Membership—members may speak on a subject, but they may not vote. To participate call: 1-877-216-1555 and enter 290535#

Upcoming Pleasure Driving Show on May 12th

Mark Saturday, May 12th on your calendar and be sure to come to our Annual Pleasure Show. Whether you are a participant, volunteer, or a spectator, this is a great show to tune up your horse or learn about pleasure showing in a relaxed setting. Please be sure to send your entry in now to take advantage of the Early Bird Registration

Fee—classes are \$10. You can request a Prize List from Linda Thomas (glassmanlpt@aol.com) and you can send your entry to Kim Baklarz 100 Laurens Way Queen Anne, MD 21657. If you're not showing an equine, we still need volunteers to help make the show run smoothly. Some of the jobs available are:

- Gate Keepers
- Timers
- Ring Crew Helpers
- Assistants to the Show
- Secretary
- Cross Country Obstacle Observer(s)
- Ribbon Runner(s)
- Silent Auction Assistant(s)
- And Food Service Volunteer(s) (taking food orders and distributing food)

Upcoming Pleasure Show (cont.)

None of these jobs require specialized skills, but the benefits are fantastic: you get to watch a Driving Show and learn if it's something you'd like to do in the future, you'll meet other like-minded equestrians, and probably make some new friends.) If you can help, please contact George Parris 302-846-2189 or Kim Baklarz - 410-490-6548 and they will find a great job for you!

Other ways to help are by advertising in the Show Program or Sponsoring a Driving Class or two. Be sure to contact Linda Thomas before April 14th.

This years show has thirty-four (34) classes with five Divisions:

Novice, VSE (or Mini), Single Pony, Single Horse and Multiples. There are ring classes featuring turnout, reinsmanship and working pleasure as well as a cones course and a cross country course. A costume class will stimulate your imagination and the carriage dog class will make you go smile!

The Show is located at the Caroline County 4-H Grounds in Denton, MD and will begin promptly at 9 a.m. There is plenty of parking for both competitors and spectators. Limited stabling for \$25 per stall is also available (but you must provide your own bedding). There are also camping sites (for \$35) as well. This year the Judge is Jessica Axelsson.

Hope to see you there!!!



Sherry Harris at last year's Show

Sunshine Report

Darlene Logan reported the following Sunshine sent:

Chris Bailey is recovering well after recent surgery.

Frances Baker had a 'hiccup' in her recovery from hip replacement surgery, but is now back on the road to full recovery. Hope to see her back driving soon!

Kim Baklarz is the proud owner of a new trailer and is the leasee of a Fjord.

Congratulations to Bill Venditta and Harry and Anne Hassan on the new equine family members that joined their barns.

A sympathy card was sent to Bonnie Forgacs who recently lost her mother (she was over a hundred years old).

Call Darlene at 410-200-0960 or email her at maneship@yahoo.com to have Sunshine sent!



Tournament of Roses Parade as seen through Michele Novack's Eyes

This past holiday season, I checked off a box on my bucket list. I spent 3 days in beautiful Pasadena California for the annual Rose Parade and related events. I went with my aunt who lives near Palm Springs and has been tending to her own bucket list. I must disclose that I am normally a homebody for New Years and can only recall going out for New Years Eve once (during college?), however I almost always watch the parade on TV. Since I seem to be driving my horse in parades more and more, why not see the “big one” in person?

My aunt and I first kicked the idea around almost 2 years ago. I mention that because she made all of our hotel reservations and ticket orders in early January of 2017! Hotel space is at a premium due to demand by all of the fabulous marching bands and people there for the football game.

The Tournament of Roses (TOR) is a series of civic events in that area of California and features the parade and the college football bowl game. There were 3 days of activities for us: (1) see the floats being decorated, (2) get up at 4am to go see the parade in person, and (3) go see the floats up close after the parade. The equestrian units are stabled at the LA Equestrian Center in nearby Burbank where they put on a special exhibition show two days before the parade. We had decided not to attend that or the Battle of the Bands show at Pasadena City College. All of these activities require purchase of an admission ticket. While our parade grandstand seats cost \$100, prices for the other events were only \$15 each and everything was well attended. Security was pretty good and TOR ambassadors were everywhere to help visitors. There was a lot of walking and some standing in line, so we did test the limits of our bad knees!

I like knowing what goes on behind the scenes. Seeing the last hours of float decorating was pretty cool. Floats are decorated in stages: least perishable to most perishable. We saw racks and racks of roses, each held in its own water vial, waiting to be glued into place. It smelled so wonderful!

The parade is spectacular. Think of it more as a live internationally televised event that is also a parade. Many TV networks and cable channels are there. The logistics are impressive. It takes weeks to set up the stands and broadcast equipment. Bright lights, cameras, electrical cabling, production trailers, security perimeter, etc all within an affluent residential area. Parade participants are up most of the night. All floats, marching bands, and equestrian units are moved into a series of prestaging positions in the wee hours of the night. And local roads start to be shut down along the parade route. We had a reserved parking space in a school garage just three blocks from our seats near the start area. We arrived at 5:15 am and walked thru the pre-dawn chill to the security checkpoint and then up Colorado Boulevard to find our seats across from the iconic Norton Simon Museum. It was very ethereal and everyone was quite excited. The parade starts on time with the stealthy USAF B-2 bomber flyover and then a wide formation of motorcycle police roll forward to clear the parade route of stragglers not yet in their seats. There were 43 floats, 23 big marching bands, 20 equestrian units, and 5 motor vehicles. And all of that marched by within the 2 hour broadcast. Only one float broke down and had to be towed. Oh, did I mention the parade route is 5 miles long? Fortunately, once they make the big turn onto Colorado Blvd near the start, it is all downhill to the end.

Most of the equestrian units are from Southern California and are regular parade participants. They know what is expected of them and all were beautifully turned out. Color and glitz work very well. The Scripps Miramar Ranch Saddlebreds strutted along with all of their classic silver laden tack and it was stunning. The Wells Fargo stagecoaches with their bright paint colors, elaborate floral decor, and shining six-ups of large chestnut Quarter horses with chrome were magnificent. Anywhere else it would have been way too much, but here it fit right in. The Valley Hunt Club's dark Park drag and team of Friesians were brightened up by large floral garlands and clusters, although the formality looked a little out of place. A surprise came with the University of Oklahoma marching band which was escorted by their Sooner Schooner—a 3/4 scale Conestoga wagon pulled by a pair of blonde mules, a bit modest but decorated to balance with the force of the band behind them. It was hard to capture good pictures from the stands but I did manage to get a few shots of décor that I thought was worth noting. Once the parade was over at 10am, we made our way back to our hotel to catch up on sleep and then watched a full rebroadcast on the HD flat panel. It was fun to see it all over again from different perspectives.

The day after the parade, we went to see the floats on display around a high school campus at the end of the parade route. I was very surprised at how heavily attended it was. There were many side exhibits by sponsors as well as family friendly attractions and food vendors which gave it more of a street fair feel. I really liked being able to see the floats up close, but the crowds and strong sunshine wore me out.

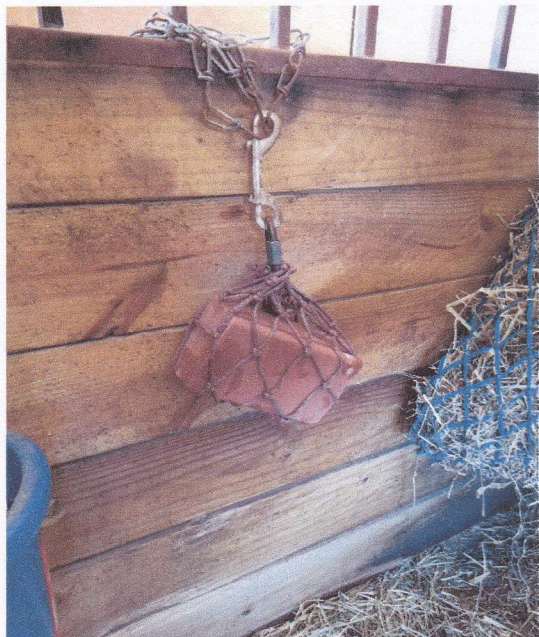
Bottom line: all three days were so worth going to see in person, but only need to do once. I will enjoy watching future TOR parades with so much more insight. And I might even have an idea or two for decorating my carriages in future parade outings.

Michele's View of the Tournament of Roses Parade



DIY Corner—Projects for Your Barn Using Recycled Materials

Don't throw away old hay bags, cut them down for your stall salt block holders



Repurpose a wooden pallet—this one is used in a wash stall



Members Corner!

DDC Member and past president Pao Lin Hatch was seen at the Aiken (South Carolina) Standardbred Races where they featured a carriage parade of minis and a mini carriage race. Pao Lin was driving past member Martha MacDonald's mini- Mickey. She had so much fun!!!!



Bill Venditta enjoying his new pair Bandit and Bullet



Don Stewart, Jr. enjoying a 4-in-hand event in SC

Upcoming Events!

- 4/21/2018 Dressage 101—An all day clinic held by Anna Klumpp at her farm in Still Pond, MD
- 4/27 & 4/28 Martin's Spring Auction in Lebanon, PA For more information: www.martinauctioneers.com
- 4/29/18 Desensitizing the Driving Horse Fun Day in Gettysburg, PA. Hosted by Grey Horse Stable LLC—Pam Kister 717-779-4542
- 5/12/2018 The Annual DDC Pleasure Driving Show will be held at Caroline County 4-H Park (see the article). Volunteers are always needed!! Contact George Parris at 302-846-2189 for additional information.
- 5/19/18 **NEW** Pleasure Drive at Carol Seiler's House—Drive off is at 11:00 am. Bring a covered dish to share with BBQ. Her address is 14471 Spruce St. Goldsboro, MD. Call her at 443-466-5043 with any questions.
- 5/20/18 BVDC Continuous Drive Canvasback Farm Port Deposit, MD - contact Zana White—215-990-9059; zew8@aol.com
- 5/26/18 Chestertown Tea Party Parade in Chestertown, MD
- 5/24 to 6/3/18 Devon Horse Show in Devon, PA (Driving and Coaching classes)
- 6/2/18 Elk Creek Combined Driving Event at Fair Hill, MD
- 6/3/18 Come join DDC members for a leisurely drive through the beautiful trails at Furnace Town Living Heritage Museum. This venue is located just out side of Snow Hill, Maryland. The event will feature a drive from 11 am to 1 pm followed by dinner (Pig Roast). Each DDC Whip (driver) and groom will receive a free dinner voucher. Additional meal tickets can be purchased at a cost of \$35.00. Traditional driving dress is recommended (but not required). For more information, contact Diane Savage (410-641-1837 or savagpearl@aol.com) or George Parris (302-846-2189). Celebrate the DDC's 35th Anniversary. More details to follow!!!
- 6/28 & 29/18 Lancaster County Carriage & Antique Auction Bird-in-Hand, PA. Call 717-945-4945 for more information
- 7/21/18 Lorenzo Driving Competition Lorenzo State Historic Site, NY—Bill Venditta is one of the judges.
- 9/15/18 Delaware Equine Council is sponsoring a Ride and Drive at Stuart Ramsey's in Northern New Castle County—Details to follow
- 9/30/18 DEC Membership Appreciation Ride and Drive at Redden State Forest
- 11/8/18 Return Day Parade in Georgetown, DE. Carriage participants wanted
- 12/1/18 DDC General Membership Meeting and Holiday Party



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