



# Let's Drive !



August, 2021

## Bits and Pieces—Club Information

**Delmarva Driving Club,  
Inc**

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There will be a General Membership Meeting on Sunday, September 26, 2021. It will be held in conjunction with the Delaware Equine Council's Membership Appreciation Ride and Drive Event at Redden Forest. Located north of Georgetown in Sussex County, Redden State Forest totals approximately 13,969 acres. The forest offers camping, horseback riding and driving, and public recreation opportunities. Three of the buildings at Redden (Horse Barn, Ranger's House, and Redden Lodge) are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

And the 5 mile loop is great for driving. Our Meeting is scheduled to start at 2 p.m.

As 2021 is starting to wind down, the DDC Nominating Committee will begin recruiting members for the Board of Directors and Club Officers. Our Club Officers include a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and 5 Board of Directors (who serve 2 year terms). Please contact any Board Member if you are interested in serving! The only criteria is that you have been a member of

the Club for at least one year.

The Show Committee is always looking for volunteers, so please contact Pam Gray at 410-819-6113 or email: [pgray59@hughes.net](mailto:pgray59@hughes.net).

Driving Digest is the only independent magazine in North America devoted to carriage driving. In their July/August, 2021 edition, there was an article regarding our Spring Pleasure Driving Show. The full article is on pages 5-6 in this newsletter.

### Attention!!

DDC Board Meeting on **Thursday, August 26, 2021**. The meeting is open to the Membership—members may speak on a subject, but they may not vote. Meetings will now be held via Zoom and an invitation will be sent via email 1 week prior to the meeting.





## Conespalooza in Frankville, New Jersey

Driving cones has become increasingly popular, mainly because it is a great way to test the fitness, obedience and suppleness of your equine, as well as your skill and competence (as you must weave cleanly through a narrow track outlined by cones with balls balanced on top). The cones are set in a manner similar to a jumping course, with left and right turns, combinations, and sometimes obstacles such as bridges. On July 25th Stafford Carriage Driving in New Jersey hosted a Conespalooza. This event offered four unique cones courses to tackle: a CDE Course, Pick Your Route, Cones Bingo, and Fault and Out. The CDE Course combined the cones course with some obstacles, Cones Bingo was a cones course where the order to be driven was determined by a random draw of numbers, called by the announcer, and the Fault and Out had a certain time on the clock which allowed drivers to accumulate points by driving clear through the course in order as many times as possible. As soon as you knock a ball down, a whistle will sound and you are dismissed.

There were around 30 participants and the DDC was well represented!!! Congratulations go to DDC Member John Layton, who drove his Hackney Pony Magic. He was the Pony Division Grand Champion and his clean sweep of that Division made him Show Grand Champion! DDC Member Katelin McConkey Cook drove DDC Member Jess Tanglao's horse Savannah to the Grand Champion of the Horse Division! Jess Tanglao drove DDC Members Dennis and Adriane Baker's Gypsy Vanner Marley, DDC Member Kaiya Baker drove Jess Tanglao's pony Jammie, DDC Member Kate Pantelione (who celebrated her 18th Birthday) drove the Layton's pony named Jazz, and Helen Heinzer drove her Morgan. They all did well, looked great in their tie dyed shirts, and had a great time!!! Everyone is waiting for the next one!





## Members Out and About



Tara Bruning and Charlie Purnell at the Maryland Pony Breeders Show in Bel Air, MD



Jess Tanglao, Colleen & John Layton, Katelin McConkey Cook, Kate Pantelione, Dennis, Adriane, Kaiya, & Kyle Baker, and Helen Heinzer at Conespalooza in New Jersey



Kaiya Baker driving the Tanglao's pony Jammie



Judith Hartman and Marigold at My Lady's Manor CT



Jess and Rainier Tanglao at a funeral in Oxford, MD



## Members Out and About (cont.)



Frances and Wayne Baker at their Hollyville Farm driving a 4 Seat Roof Seat Break



Linda Thomas driving Bonne and Jake to a hay wagon for a kid's summer camp



Jess Tanglao driving Savannah and Dancer to a Vis-a-Vis



John Layton and Kate Pantelione at Conespalooza with Magic



## Activities

Wicomico's plush accommodations welcomes drivers

# New Venue Attracts Drivers to Delmarva Show

by Linda Thomas

FOR NINETEEN YEARS, THE MARYLAND-based Delmarva Driving Club has held a pleasure driving show. This show is a traditional driving show featuring divisions for VSE, Pony, Horse, Multiples, and Novice Driver. Some additional classes included a Cones Course, Cross Country Course, Gambler's Choice, In-Hand Class, Ladies and Gentlemen to Drive, Carriage Dog, and Command Class. There was also a Super Reinsmanship Division (using ADS Test 2) with a fabulous trophy. Even though there is an ADS Judge, and the rules follow ADS guidelines, this low-key show is an excellent introduction to pleasure driving shows.



Junior Driver Champion Iza Bieniecka from Waymart, Pennsylvania, drove A Little Bit of Magic, a 6-year-old VSE. Photo by Alex Briggs

This year the club moved the show to a new venue: the Wicomico County Equestrian Center in Salisbury, Maryland. This venue has a colorful past; it was built by real estate developer James Caine in 1972 for his daughter and was opulent by anyone's standards. The barn had 35 stalls paneled in knotty pine and marked with carriage lamps. Each stall had automatic water buckets, feed drawers built into the



Mary Lehberger from New Jersey driving a quarter horse to a restored 4-wheeled Brewster was Single Horse Champion. Photo by Linda Thomas

doors, battery-powered flycatchers, and heat and air conditioning. The floors of the passageways were covered with an acre of all-weather track material designed to eliminate noise, dust, and slippery spots. The tack room had Persian rugs, and there were fountains and chandeliers everywhere. Up in the rafters, beyond the chandeliers, were a battery of mercury

lamps that spared the horses glare and shadows and a sprinkler system for settling the dust. There were wash stalls with vacuum hoses and heat lamps and two whirlpool baths 3½ feet deep that could be heated to 100 degrees with underwater jets. Mr. Caine also built a stone shop building for his blacksmith and a carriage house. He then acquired antique wagons



George Parris drove Frances Baker's pair in the Gentleman to Drive Class. Photo by Alex Briggs



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Salisbury, Maryland.*

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and carriages at a record pace and shipped them off to be restored, many by John Lapp. They even built an equine swimming pool and barn to go with it, where owners could send their injured or winter-bound horses for exercise. Eleven miles of fencing with all concrete posts surrounded the farm and a Grand Prix jumping course. However, the most impressive or well-known feature of the farm was the indoor riding ring which was 225 by 175 feet (larger than the Madison Square Garden's arena), and it was illuminated by three large chandeliers. The farm then experienced some financial trouble and was even banned from shows for a year. In 1975, the Winter Place Carriage Collection was dispersed. Now part (18 acres) of the facility is home to the Wicomico Equestrian Club.

On May 8, driving enthusiasts came from Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania – one competitor drove 372 miles one way. Saturday's pleasure show had so many winners as far as the number of accomplishments achieved. There were new drivers for which this was their first show experience, there were equines who were being introduced to a show ring for the first time, and there were other driver/equine combinations that were able to show how hard all their practicing had paid off. Congratulations go to everyone. It was a fabulous day of driving (even if Mother Nature tested us a few times). There were 27 entries, which included everything from VSEs to draft size who participated in a wide variety of classes. Jessica Axelsson was the



Tara Bruning driving her Welsh pony Caries Skies of Blue, won the Single Pony Turnout class. *Photo by Linda Thomas*



A stunning turnout: Jane Oehler from Pennsylvania driving Skye. *Photo by Linda Thomas*

judge and she offered a lot of supportive advice and constructive criticism. With COVID-19 restrictions being lifted, we were able to have spectators, and they thoroughly enjoyed watching all the beautiful entries.

The camaraderie of equine driving enthusiasts truly made the day a success, and several asked if we would hold a fall show. Ω

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## Sunshine Corner

***The Sunshine Corner is Back!*** It was established to express congratulations, sympathy or concern to members of our Club in the event of illness, bereavement or milestone events. Frances Baker has graciously volunteered to be our Sunshine Coordinator—if you know of someone needing “Sunshine”, please contact Frances at 302-381-2979 or email her at francesbaker65@gmail.com. This month **Sunshine** has been sent to:

Sympathy was sent to Charlie Purnell for the loss of her beloved pony Beanie, her horses Queenie, and Oliver

Get well wishes were sent to Ed Evans

## Best 'Barn Hacks'

1. When braiding your horse, use a rubber band on your comb to mark the width of each braid. Your finished braids will all be perfect! (Well, at least they will all be the same width.) Be sure to thin your horse's mane so it's even from poll to withers, so your braids are equally dense, too.



2. Use an empty feed bag to easily load a hay net. Place a flake or two in the feed bag, then slide the net over the feed bag. Flip over and remove the feed bag. You can also use empty feed bags for loads of other things; such as trash bins, etc.

3. Use the little trays from mushroom containers to hold and catch the spills from your favourite hoof dressings. Or leaky, cracked or drippy bottles. Really, anything that needs some containment.

4. Plain white vinegar is a great post-shampoo rinse to get rid of all suds, add some shine, and repel bugs. (Some bugs are attracted to vinegar smells, though, so do some experimenting.) Vinegar is also great for cleaning around the barn.

5. If your horse looks like he was dropped into a burr and wind-knot machine, use some leave-in conditioner/detangler to loosen and condition the hair so you can get those burrs out and the knots removed.

6. Use a fair amount of detangler product on your horse after a bath and before a clip. This makes your clipper blades glide through the hair. You can also use a grooming oil.

7. Use old clipper blades to shorten a mane. Backcomb the hair and use the old clipper blade to chop off the end of the hair. Some clipper blades can only be sharpened once or twice, then they can live on in your grooming kit as a mane tool.

## Best 'Barn Hacks' cont.

8. To create hot towels in the cooler weather for stain removal and warming up the bit, use a (supervised) crock pot with water and small dish towels. You can also use an instant-hot kettle. Hot toweling is a great way to clean your fuzzy winter horse! Also a nice way to add hot water to your horse's meals, or if you need to dissolve some meds into his food.

9. Hang a hoof pick on your horse's stall door to pick his feet before you exit the stall. This keeps your barn aisle tidier and creates less mess to sweep later. Hoof picks are also great for installing screw eyes at horse shows and leveraging open tubs.

10. Hang your horse's bit in a sunny window on chilly days to warm it up as you groom. For really cold days you might need to dunk it into hot water. An instant-hot kettle is the quickest way to achieve this.

11. To keep shavings inside the stall, you can create a soft, hoof-friendly lip with a piece of stall mat. You can also use the cut-down bristle end of a couple of old push brooms. The mat or brooms are better than a board across the stall threshold if your horse likes to whack his hooves around.

12. Use a tire rim as a hose holder to make the most awkward horse barn chore of rolling the hose up easier. Better yet, get some of those shrinking hoses that you have seen on TV ads – they are amazing and save so much time and hassle.

13. Use a PVC tube with a closed end as a whip holder. Mount on a wall or post and drill a hole in the bottom for drainage, just in case.

14. Have some shatterproof mirrors around so your horse won't get lonely in his stall, the trailer, or for when you need to see just how bad your helmet hair really is. Shatterproof mirrors have been known to help the horse that weaves, too, as this vice is derived from stress, not boredom. Showing him an identical buddy may soothe his nerves.

15. Diapers are great for wounds and also packing hooves. They serve as wraps for hoof poultice or packing, and can be wet and frozen for icing weird horse leg areas, like fetlocks and knees.

16. Keep panty liners in your first aid kit for instant horse-size band-aids. These are not as bulky as diapers and can be easier to wrap on your horse. And because they come in all thicknesses, you can be prepared for anything.

17. Veggie baby foods are great mixers for gross-tasting medicines! Be sure that you pick a flavor that your horse will like, like carrot or apple, and stay away from broccoli and other veggies that are toxic to horses.





## Upcoming Events

Due to the Covid 19 virus, many events have been canceled for everyone's safety. Always call ahead to ensure an event is still scheduled to be held as many events have been cancelled or rescheduled.

- 8/5-8/21 ORLETON FARM DRIVING COMPETITION, Orleton Farm, Stockbridge, MA. Combined Driving Test, Super Derby & Cross Country Pleasure Drive and Pleasure Driving Show. Website: [www.colonialcarriage.org](http://www.colonialcarriage.org) ADS Omnibus: <https://americandrivingsociety.org/docs.ashx?id=784157>
- 8/13-15/21 National Standardbred Show at the Horse Park of New Jersey. This Show will help show and promote the Standardbred as a pleasure riding and driving horse
- 8/21-22/21 CARRIAGE DRIVING CLINIC WITH SUZY STAFFORD—Horse Park of NJ, Allentown, NJ. Website for more info: <https://www.horseparkofnewjersey.com/>
- 9/9-12/21 ADS MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL DRIVE - Fair Hill NRMA, Elkton, MD Muffy Seaton will be available for lesions and clinics. Closing date for registrations is Tuesday August 31. Please mail all registrations (payable to "MARD") to: Heidi Ferguson MARD Organizer & ADS Regional Director 2686 Canterbury Road Milford, DE 19963
- 9/10-12/21 40th Annual Villa Louis Carriage Classic in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. This show hosts some of the finest carriage driving competition the Midwest has to offer—it features a wide range of divisions, providing a first class experience for novice and experienced whips alike.
- 9/12/21 Double Down Driving Derby at Stafford Carriage Driving in New Jersey. FREE "How To Derby" Clinic on Saturday 11th for paid entries. There is no need to be intimidated, come on and we will guide you, help you walk the course and understand the rules. FIRST COURSE WILL BE DRIVEN FROM 9:30AM-12:30PM - All drivers will drive a "practice" round then the same course again to count in competition. Lunch Break at 12:30. The new course will be set and available for walking from 1:00-2:00 SECOND COURSE WILL BE DRIVEN FROM 2:00-? All drivers will drive a "practice" round then the same course again to count in competition. AWARDS APPROX. 4PM-5PM COST: \$70 for the Derby and the CLINIC: IS FREE TO ENTRIES OF THE DERBY (\$10 for NON- ENTRIES) CLOSING DATE: SEPTEMBER 3rd For all registration forms visit <http://www.staffordcarriagedriving.com/Stafford/Events.html>
- 9/18-19/21 GLADSTONE HORSE DRIVING TRIAL - Gladstone, NJ. Info: John Hoffner ([jph8941@gmail.com](mailto:jph8941@gmail.com) 484- 550-9406).
- 9/19/21 BUXMONT RIDING CLUB DRIVING SHOW, Tylersport, PA, Website: [www.buxmontridingclub.com](http://www.buxmontridingclub.com). Prize list & preregistration available on the website. Info email: [buxmontridingclub@gmail.com](mailto:buxmontridingclub@gmail.com)



## Upcoming Events, cont.

- 9/26/21 Delaware Equine Membership Appreciation Day Ride and Drive at Redden Forest (near Georgetown, DE). **A DDC General Membership Meeting will be held in conjunction with this event** beginning at approximately 2 pm. More details to follow
- 9/26/21 DRIVING SHOW AT SUFFOLK STABLES, 1418 Old Indian Mills, Rd, Shamong 08088. info@suffolkstables.com or call 609-346-7093. Website: <https://suffolkstables.com/suffolk-shows> Facebook: Suffolk Stables Show Series ([https:// www.facebook.com/groups/436886869733411/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/436886869733411/) )
- 10/8-11/21 Garden State Combined Driving Event at the Horse Park of New Jersey. Check out the website: [gardenstatecde.com](http://gardenstatecde.com) for more details
- 10/15/21 Martins Auction at the Lebanon Fairgrounds in PA.

Don't forget to use your Membership Roster in order to contact fellow members for a spur of the moment 'fun drive/get together'.

Please help us fill in the Upcoming Events page with things you would like to see the club participate in. All you need to do is contact any Board Member or the Editor of the Newsletter/Facebook and we can help make your idea a reality. We have club members with experience that can help you plan/host a drive or event. This is your club—so let your voice and ideas be heard.







We're on Facebook  
and Instagram!  
Check us out

## Board of Directors

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**Membership Chair**  
Deb Dawkins

**Sunshine Chair**  
Frances Baker

If you need to contact the Board of Directors/Officers or Committee Chairs, please use our new Club Email: [delmarvadrivingclub1983@gmail.com](mailto:delmarvadrivingclub1983@gmail.com)