



Let's Drive !



August, 2019

Beau's Story by Shannon Gandee

Delmarva Driving Club,
Inc

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Attention!!

* DDC Board Meeting on Thursday, September 5, 2019 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#

I first met Beau at one of the Heart of Phoenix Equine Rescue Foster Barns in West Virginia. He had been running as a herd stallion on 300+ acres when his owner's health declined and he could no longer care for the two herds. I just really felt a connection with him while volunteering with the rescue, although I would later learn that this approximately 10 year old stallion was never started, ridden, and/or schooled prior to his entrance into the rescue in late July 2016. Beau was gelded and then started under English saddle in September 2016. Many times it has been stated that 30 days of training does not make a well broke horse—well Beau and I are the epitome of this. I officially adopted him in early September, 2016 and I am just a beginner novice rider. The relationship SHOULD have been a disaster for both of us, however I refused to give up on Beau and have ALWAYS

placed BOTH of us in the presence of more knowledgeable and skilled equestrians/trainers and mentors. Beau was and still is a "reactive" horse and it does not take much to have him spook. So I made plans for him to spend time with a reputable trainer in West Virginia. This trainer, Mike Hurst, has a good reputation starting Mustangs and also competes regularly in Mustang Makeovers and Challenges. Beau spent 4 weeks with Mike in November 2016. Once Beau had this training behind him, I moved him to a barn close to my West Virginia home and found another trainer, Dan Hull, who worked with Beau and I for the next year, concentrating on desensitizing Beau and schooling both of us. Dan also introduced Beau to a hackamore as he does not believe that bits are needed in most cases. One day, Dan decided to try Beau in a driving harness, as he had done

well with line driving and schooling in the round pen. So he placed a biothane harness on him and Beau did not react to the crupper. Dan felt Beau may have been introduced to a harness previously. I have since learned that this was not the case, so Beau is just very tolerant of anything/any tack that is put on him. We started with more line driving and worked up to pulling pallets and even a plastic calf body used for roping practice. Beau took it all in stride, progressing to small pony carts and soon eventually working up to the full size cart that I found second hand. During this training, Beau was also being driven in an open bridle with a snaffle bit. This was done because Dan wanted him to see everything around him and not be so easily spooked. It worked well and we progressed from driving in the indoor arena to the outdoor arena and then to around the large farm.

Beau's Story — continued

In October 2017 I lost my job in West Virginia and found employment on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Beau was my first animal moved and he came to Maryland in February 2018. My husband, dogs and cat came to our new home in Salisbury in March. Before I even settled in, I found people to continue schooling Beau under saddle, helping me ride and then I found George Parris to continue his driving training. We got together monthly to drive Beau and to continue to teach me to drive as well.

Life takes twists and turns and in February, 2019 Beau found boarding in Salisbury with DDC Members Martha Zimmerman and Allan Poole. Now Martha and I get together and drive frequently. Beau is also continuing his schooling under saddle with Kirsten Willey. George Parris continues to train both of us and has been instrumental in the progress that both of us have made. We are forever grateful for his time and efforts. Beau and I have even been able to participate in some Club activities and are looking forward to future events. In September, 2019 Beau and I will celebrate three years on this journey and in this partnership. Stay tuned for more progress!!!



Brandywine Valley Fun Day

On Sunday, July 28th, Brandywine Valley Driving Club hosted a Fun Day at Dr. and Mrs. Riddle's Farm in Port Deposit, Maryland. Many DDC Members were seen having fun practicing and learning about Cones Courses, Gambler's Choice Courses, Cross Country Courses, and an Obstacle in an informal setting. Since there was so much positive response from this event, the DDC will host a 'Drive to Learn' event on Sunday, October 20th at Cair Paravel Farm (Anna Klumpp's) in Still Pond, Maryland. More details to follow.



Colleen Layton and Jazz



**Anna Klumpp and her VSE's
Nicky and Jerry**



John Layton and Mr. Magic



Members Out and About



Linda Thomas driving her Haflinger Flush



Linda Thomas and Randy Davis providing carriage rides in Berlin, MD



Frances and Wayne Baker driving the team of Duke, Cooter, Kenny, and Faith. In the carriage are their guests Sally Armstrong from Texas and Margie Cox from Oklahoma. Linda Thomas is one of the grooms. Photo courtesy of Anibal Escalante (the other groom)

Charlie Purnell driving Kaye Purnell's pony Snappy



Members Out and About continued



Judith Hartman driving her Welsh pony Holly



Marcy Eades and Merlin competing at Morven Park in Leesburg, VA



Mary Pines riding her driving mule Snowy



Meet the Members

Meet new member Maddy Zacharhow who is from Tabernacle, New Jersey and drives a VSE named Oreo. She is also Momma to a 4 year old, a 2 year old, and one more on the way. When not driving horses and mothering children, she is a music teacher, special education teacher, and a behavior therapist. Her immediate driving goals are to start her 4 year VSE Starlight in harness and put miles on both Oreo and Starlight in between sleepless infant nights. She also wants to support her daughter Audra's desire to drive. Audra loves to ride in the cart and thinks 'Oreo trot faster through the water' should actually be a voice command. Welcome Maddy and hope to see you at future DDC events! (Photo by Michael Pontz)



Welcome Back Lavonne and Kevin Watkins. The Watkins live in Ridgley, Maryland and have Haflingers, VSEs, Alpacas, and Cows (but only the Haflingers and VSEs drive)! We hope to see you at future DDC events!



Sending Get Well Wishes/Speedy Recovery to Deb Dawkins who had shoulder surgery at the end of June. Even though it was quite an extensive repair, Deb is doing well and hopes to be back driving after about four months of Physical Therapy!

Deb driving one of her ponies in a St. Michael's, MD parade



Drive to Learn Day

What:

Informal day of driving to allow DDC Members the ability to try Dressage Tests, Cones Courses, Gambler's Choice Courses, Obstacle Driving, and a Cross Country Course. Instructor and Judge Jessica Axxelson will be providing instruction and comments for the Dressage Tests (participants can select any dressage test and they will be able to perform it twice with encouragement from Ms. Axxelson).

Pre-registration is required for the Dressage Tests only—a sign up sheet will be available soon; all other activities may be performed at will and driven as many times as you wish

Don't drive? - Come Volunteer or Spectate!

When:

Sunday, October 20th at Cair Paravel Farm (Anna Klumpp's Farm)
13931 Eagle's Nest Lane, Still Pond, MD 21667 9am to 4 pm

Cost:

\$20 per turnout—Junior Drivers are FREE!

Please bring a helmet as well as a whip.

You are encouraged to bring your lunch in order to socialize and share driving experiences during a midday break.

If you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact

Pam Gray at 410-819-6113 or email her at pgray59@hughes.net



Upcoming Events

- 08/08-11/19 ORLETON FARM DRIVING COMPETITION - Orleton Farm, 31 Prospect Hill Rd, West Stockbridge, MA 01266 - Website: ColonialCarriage.org
- 09/12-15/19 MARD (Mid Atlantic Regional Drive) - large recreational drive held at Fair Hill, Maryland—details on ADS Omnibus
- 09/21/19 Beginner Driven Dressage Clinic (driven Dressage for Dummies)
8:30am-5:30pm; Location: 330 Ferguson Ave Franklinville NJ 08322
Sign up info coming soon...
- 09/29/19 Delaware Equine Council Membership Appreciation Ride and Drive at Redden Forest— DDC General Membership Meeting will be held immediately following lunch. More details to follow.
- 10/11-13/19 Garden State CDE at the Horse Park of New Jersey
- 10/18/19 Martins Fall Carriage Auction at Lebanon Fairgrounds in Lebanon, PA
- 10/19/19 35th Annual Delaware Amish Parochial School Sale 764 Winding Creek Drive Dover, DE 19904
- 10/20/19 DDC Drive to Learn Day at Cair Paravel Farm—practice Dressage, Cones Courses, Gambler's Course, Cross Country Courses, and an Obstacle. Instructor and Judge Jessica Axxelson will be available to help drivers with their Dressage tests
- 10/27/19 BVDC TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC HDT - Location: Fair Hill NRMA, Elkton, MD. Maximum 25 entries. Entries will open 9/16 and close 10/16.

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.



Activities

All shapes and sizes turn up at Delmarva

Delmarva Drivers Tune In and Tune Up

Article and photos by Linda Thomas



1

THE WEATHER FINALLY COOPERATED FOR the 12th Annual Delmarva Driving Club Pleasure Show that took place May 11, held at the Caroline County 4-H Park in Denton, Maryland.

Seventeen unique entries participated from a novice with three weeks of training to a three-abreast hitch of VSE/Minis. Spectators were able to watch two rings of classes, one ring where classes were judged on performance and quality of the equines and the driver while the other ring contained the timed classes. A cross-country course was set up around the perimeter of the grounds. There were wonderful comments made about the classes, the grounds, the competitors, the volunteers, the vendors, and judge Kail Palmer-Miller.

This low-key show, which followed ADS guidelines, offered the newbie/novice driver a chance to learn about pleasure showing and the more advanced drivers could use this event as a tuneup for the upcoming show season. □



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4



5

1. Anna Klumpp and Donna Hurst put together a three-abreast turnout of VSEs and minis .
2. The Harry and Anne Hassan entry of a Friesian pair named Bert and Storm showed in the Working class.
3. Bill Venditta with Don Stewart, Jr., as groom, competed with the Gelderlanders Bullet and Bandit in the cones course.
4. Maddy Zacharkow of New Jersey drove her VSE, Oreo.
5. Diane Savage and her Welsh pony Benjamin cross the bridge obstacle.

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This is from the July/August issue of Driving Digest - an article about the DDC May Pleasure Show on page 28 & 29! The Driving Digest is the only independent magazine in North America devoted to carriage driving. Their tag-line is "carriage driving for every equine," which means they cover not only driving horses & ponies, but also donkeys, mules, drafts & minis. The magazine is published 6 times per year and their goal is to provide informative and educational content for anyone interested in driving any kind of equine. All breeds are represented as well. Readers range from the backyard driver to those who aspire to compete internationally, and even World Champions and everyone in between.



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