

Newsletter of the Delmarva Driving Club, Inc.
Martie Bolinski, editor

December 2010



DDC Meeting Schedule

Dec 8th—BOD mtg
via conference call
6:00 pm

Dec 11th—General
Membership Meeting
and Christmas
Party—6:00 pm so-
cial/7:00 pm mtg

Jan 5th—BOD mtg
via conference call
6:00 pm

If you would like to
participate in a BOD
mtg, please contact
Jane Ramsey 302-

Delaware Equine
Council meets on
the 3rd Monday of
each month at the
Harrington, DE Pub-
lic Library. [http://
www.delawareequine
council.com](http://www.delawareequinecouncil.com) Or
phone Stan 302-684
-3966

Important Information

Upcoming DDC Events:

- December 11th DDC Christmas Party and General Membership Meeting at Nutter Marvel Carriage Museum. Pot luck, DDC will provide meats and drinks. Contact John Bolinski 410-398-**0257** . **Bring a small gift if you wish to take part in the Bandit's Gift Exchange.** bolinsj@myshorelink.com. BOD elections.
- **January 15—Selecting the Suitable Driving Horse Talk. 11-1 Hartley DE. DDC members and prospective members. Contact Pao Lin Hatch 240-274-6180 or 302-381-2979; paoball2000@yahoo.com.**
- **February—no dates set yet—”So you want to do multiples, tandems and teams?” Horseless clinic. And/or General membership meeting and videos of the WEG.**

Please remember to contact the host for any DDC event—
it's important to have an approximate head-count.

DDC Dues

The DDC membership will vote at the annual Christmas Party on whether or not we need to raise our dues to cover normal operating costs. A packet of information with the data from this year (through the 3rd qtr) was mailed to all individuals .

Costs the past two years have risen dramatically, especially insurance costs. Your thoughts about the issues would be appreciated before the meeting but discussion will be held before a vote.

2011 Elections

Elections will be held, as usual, at the DDC Christmas party. Now that we have tested the conference-call BOD meetings, there is no need for officers or board members to drive long distances to attend the meetings. The conference calls are free to members.

So—if you'd like to volunteer to become a member of the board, or sit in (via phone call) on our meetings, please contact Donna Hurst at 302-492-3932 and let her know to put you on the ballot. Anyone over 18 y.o.a. with one year of membership can run for office.

Letters To the Editor: From Joe and Pansy Plummer—“We love to get your newsletter so I'm sending you some money for a contribution”. THANK YOU Joe and Pansy for your generous contribution. MB

Please have items for the January 2011

Delmarva Driving Lines Pao Lin Hatch, 240-274-6180 paoball2000@yahoo.com
Before December 27th.

December 2010 Newsletter Contributors

Contributors: Out And About—Return Day-Frances Baker; Aiken Vacation-Pao Lin Hatch; Chapter 1 Farms HTD-Anna Klumpp; Hollyville Halloween Drive- Martha MacDonald; On the Fly—Martie Bolinski; Welsh Pony Show Circuit—Sharon Little; Sunshine—Lois Evans; , Meeting Minutes—John Bolinski; Treasurer's Report—John Bolinski; Photos—Frances Baker, Donna Hurst, Anna Klumpp, Carol Seiler; A-La-Cart—Editor's Ramblings-Martie Bolinski

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Delmarva Driving Club Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
November 3, 2010 via conference call
Time: 6:10 pm to 7:05 pm

Present: Donna Hurst, John Bolinski, Sherry Harris, Jane Ramsey
 Absent: Frances Baker, Pao Lin Hatch
 Visitors: Martie Bolinski

The following reflects the subjects discussed:

Minutes of 10/6/2010 BOD Meeting - The minutes were approved as written in the November newsletter
 Treasurer's Report - The November treasurer's report was approved as written in the November newsletter
 CAA Membership - Jane Ramsey will contact the Carriage Association of America to see if we can get a lower rate.
 Long-Lining Clinic - Jane Ramsey is coordinating a long-lining clinic in April 2011 given by Ann Rawl. More details to come
 Redden Drive - Pao Lin Hatch and Frances Baker are sponsoring the November 28, 2010 drive at Redden State Forest.
 2011 BOD/Officers Election Ballot - The board is still looking for candidates to run for the 4 officers and one director positions. With the board meetings being held on conference call, it is hoped that some more folks will step forward to give a break to those who have served. Some have been on the board for as long as 9 years. Martha MacDonald has indicated an interest in serving as secretary.

DDC Treasurer's Report

December 1, 2010
 Submitted by: John Bolinski, treasurer

Beginning Balance (checking)	\$1,776.00
<u>Deposits</u>	
Newsletter Ads	\$100.00
Dues	\$20.00
Contributions (Joe & Pansy Plummer)	\$25.00
<u>Payments</u>	
Conference Calls (7 months)	\$105.50
Halloween Drive	\$145.50
Website Upgrade	\$9.95
Ending Balance	\$1,871.09
CD#1	\$2,245.65
CD#2	\$7,500.00
Grand Total	\$11,616.74

Fight Horse Respiratory and Skin Problems in Winter
By Allison Rogers

With all your winter-wear, your lotions, vitamins, flu shots, your heated gym, office and home, you're living in the lap of luxury compared to your horses in the winter. Even in regions where temperatures remain moderate throughout the winter, horses suffer from ailments similar to those that plague their owners, including runny noses, chapped skin, the flu and even cabin fever.

The irony is that many of the horses' winter-related problems are initiated or exacerbated by their owners' good intentions. In trying to keep their horses as warm and dry as the hairless human deems comfortable, they drape naturally insulated animals in blankets, seal them up in airtight barns and stuff them with scoop after scoop of grain. Indeed, most of the wintertime woes that plague horses could be prevented with some simple management changes. Consider these 4 seasonal troublemakers and some winterizing tactics that work with horse nature, not against it.

Respiratory Difficulties

Good air quality is essential to the health of a stabled horse no matter what the season of year. But in winter, when your inclination is to cover windows and vents, disconnect fans and shut barn doors, inadequate ventilation can cause serious respiratory problems.

Research has shown that by the time ammonia buildup in stalls reaches levels that we can smell, the gas is already

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Sunshine:



There is \$90.95 in the Sunshine Fund. Cards were sent to: Anna Klumpp and to Jimmy Duchowski (appendectomy).

Please remember to contact Lois Evans if you know of any sunshine items. Input is important. 302-875-4971

A-La-Cart—**Editor's Ramblings** - Martie Bolinski

This is my farewell edition as 'editor in chief' for the Delmarva Driving Lines. Pao Lin Hatch has graciously offered to take over the newsletter and give me a break for a while. I will continue to keep my hand in as I am able, and I spoke with Wee Willy who has agreed to continue his helpful by-line for as long as he is can—so long as I remind him of his deadlines.

I first took over the newsletter from Carl Zimmerman about 9 years ago. I was afraid I had bitten off way more than I could chew. Carl produced a very informative newsletter. **A real class act! After a couple months in the editor's chair, I knew I was right!** Thanks to all of the helpful folks in the club who fed me info, did editing for me, gave me helpful hints on where to go to get information and what information the drivers in the club would find interesting and just gave me lots of **warm support, I've been able to muddle through and** (hopefully) improve over time.

I've really enjoyed the job—and a JOB it is. I doubt that many who read the newsletter realize just how many **hours of work go into each printing. Not just the editor's time** to type it out, format it and print it—the time that each of you takes every month to collect, write out and send me your information and wonderful photos. It really is a group effort.

Since I started the newsletter our membership has **grown! Thanks to modern technology, we've been able to** lower our costs quite a bit over the last 2 years by sending email editions of the newsletter to anyone who is willing (and able) to receive them in that format and by Pao Lin adding the .pdf files to the website. We now send out less than 45 **paper copies. That's a large saving in print costs.**

We've gone from a 4-6 page newsletter to 10 pages and included many more photos than in the past.

Carl's newsletter was a very informative and educational publication. I knew I did not have the background or experience to match, so after a few editions I decided to try **my own style, which is more 'down-home-sittin'-on-the-back-porch-chattin'** sort of effort. **Much less formal, I'm afraid. I can't wait to see what Pao Lin will do with things. She has so much more computer expertise than I have, an abundance of fresh energy and ideas—and I'm sure she will be making lots of changes of her own.**

Let's give Pao Lin all of the support we can—and keep on sending in your stories, advertising, photos, articles and other items.

Go get 'em Pao Lin!!

There are times when you can trust a horse, times when you can't and times when you just have to.

Source unknown

Out And About—**Member's News**

Return Day—*Frances Baker*

DDC Members Turn Out in the Rain for Return Day—November 4th, 2010

This was, by far, my best Return Day because I challenged myself by taking 3 carriages and 6 horses. We pulled it off smoothly with lots of DDC help and participation. What a nice mix of horses/mule and carriages we had in the parade.

Participating were: Frances Baker and Pat Roth driving our circa 1900 depot wagon; Wayne Baker driving our reproduction 1898 Studebaker Wagonette made by Otis Marine; Hanna Beck (my 14 year old groom with Carla Schirmer, my head groom) driving our derby break; Wayne Conner driving a 6-passenger surrey made by Otis Marine in 1980; Linda Thomas driving a wagonette with her helper, Sandy Davis; Dave Wilson with 2 carriages, driven by Larney and George Wilkins—Dave rode in one as a Representative; Deb Dawkins driving a circa 1880 runabout; Grier Stayton led the parade with his faithful **mule, Katie, pulling one of the Marvel Museum's antique carriages** dressed in a period outfit; The hearse carrying the ceremonial hatchet was driven by Gary Marvel for the Hastings Funeral Home in Selbyville.

The rain didn't really dampen our spirits as we have all acquired 'proper rain gear' through the years of getting soaked at horse shows and events. There was a spirit of helping each other at the parade. Linda Thomas commented about this after the parade.

Deb Dawkins had a trace down before the start of the parade and someone fixed it before it was an issue. My horses were antsy and prancy at load up time...I looked up and there was Peggy Koster who gave my antsy mare a calm word and a gentle touch...just at the right time. I also noticed from the photos afterward that Peggy was there helping John Carney with the big back step on our Derby Break. Peggy Koster and Paula Barto handled the registration and greeted everyone as they arrived.. Donna Hurst and Sherry Harris also helped at the start when needed and then, somehow beamed themselves up to the school to take pictures and then re-beamed themselves back to help unharness wet itchy horses.

We couldn't have pulled this off without the additional help of Terry Johnson, who practiced every week faithfully driving with Wayne. And Hanna Beck's mom, who took the day off to be in the carriage with Hanna because of Hanna's young age. Also assisting was Toni Weblinger in the back of Wayne's carriage.

The Nutter Marvel Award went to Deb Dawkins this year for her 10 years of dedicated driving in the parade. My Hanna Beck got a special award for being the youngest driver in the parade. My own reward was working with the horses and

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humans, getting them all there, everyone working together so well. I drove the governor, who got out of the carriage at the circle to greet the crowd. But he managed to find me at the end of the parade, behind the court house and shake my hand. And thank me. Carla Schirmer told me that after she had stood in the rain for a long time, John Carney's wife wiped her seat off just before she re-entered the carriage. Carlo also told me that when our own Sue Anderson (the official horse announcer) announced Hanna as the youngest driver in the parade at the circle that not only did the crowd cheer, but everyone in the carriage applauded as well. Talk about rewards for lots of hard work!

On a side note, Donna Hurst asked me how we can get more young people like Hannah involved in the club. **It's easy**—teach them to drive and take them places.

I personally would just hate to see the carriage tradition of Return Day end. It has been going on since the late 1700's. **Nutter Marvel and friends revived the tradition in the 1950's.** Please consider Return Day in 2012! See you there.

Vacation in Aiken South Carolina—*Pao Lin Hatch*

Bill and I just returned from our vacation in Aiken. **If you've never heard of Aiken, it is about the 'horsiest' place in America.** Over only 4 days, our crew attended the Aiken Steeplechase, the Professional Rodeo of America's SC Rodeo, Aiken 9 Goal Polo Championships and Katydid Combined Driving Event competition. What a great place!! If you ever get a chance to visit—JUMP on it.

Chapter One Farms HDT—*Anna Klumpp*

The HDT was great fun. I entered Robin as a single Prelim VSE and navigated for Samea Baker, driving my pair so that I could finish out the two requirements that I needed for my Proficiency level 2 portfolio. I finished the Prelim VSE in first place, by less than 0.5 points. It was close between first and second. Afterward, Helene Paxton men-

DDC's First Clinic for 2011

**"Selecting the Suitable Driving Horse" and other topics of driving interest
January 15, 2011, Saturday at 11:00 am—2:00 pm**

Have the itch to start driving? Have a horse/pony you'd like to start the process with but don't know if he/she is right? Have questions about how to get started? What to buy? Where to go for advice? Overwhelmed with info and choices?

Location: Gardner Farm, 3048 Hartley Rd., Hartley, DE. Contact to pre-register or ask questions: Pao Lin Hatch 240-274-6180 or Paoball2000@yahoo.com or Donna Hurst (day of event only, please) 304-249-3932.

This is a NO-horse event—please come with only human friends.

Free to all DDC members and prospective members who are ready to make the 'plunge' into the wonderful world of driving.

Dress warmly, bring photos of your horse/pony and existing harness (if you have any) to show our experienced members or clinicians.

DDC will offer warm beverages and snacks; feel free to bring something to share.

Bring a friend! Bring questions!

tioned to me that she wished she had given both myself and Debbie Wolf first places as we were so close together. My pair went fine, and with the only Training Level Pair VSE, we were mostly focused on schooling. It was very interesting for me to see the difference between how I would drive the obstacles and how Samea drove them.

The best part of this show was the costume



contest. Not everyone came in a costume, but since I love to dress up for Halloween, I brought my Doctor Death outfit out of retirement (I wore it to work once and scared too many of my child patients so I couldn't wear it to work for the Halloween costume contest there), got some graveyard types of décor (tombstones, bones, a skull and spider webs and a 'mini' human skeleton), put them on my carriage and Samea wore a red wig. Jerri and Ditty wore devils' horns and we became the Wagon of Death, or in keeping with a Shakespearean context, "something wicked this way comes: (Macbeth). For my singles entry, Robin was a bumblebee and I dressed as Puck (Midsummer's Night Dream). I ended up

tying myself for 3rd place and took home two Halloween gourds.

Helene was a most gracious host and I would recommend that anyone thinking of trying an ADS recognized HDT to consider going to Chapter One. It is a close drive and a low keyed event that is fairly well run.

Hollyville Drive—*Martha MacDonald*

The sun rose on a chilly but sunny day when Mike Lawrence arrived with his friend, Barbara and Mike's Morgan, Lance. Into his beautiful trailer we piled my mini, cart, harness and donation to the food table and headed to Frances and Wayne Baker's farm in Harbeson, DE.

It took us only 75 minutes to get there and we were soon hitched and ready to drive. Frances had arranged for Martie Bolinski to take photos out in her new arena in the woods. Most of the trail was through the woods with the most perfect footing...packed sand. I spoke with Wayne Baker and he told me how he took a bulldozer through to rip out tree stumps and then graded it so his wife would have lots of trails to drive without going on the road. As a result, she actually has miles

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of trails..of course owning so many acres helps a lot! But the route through the trees offered shelter from the winter winds and shade from the summer sun. Fabulous!

The drive was an option of line drive or free drive and most folks departed as they were ready. As a result, everyone had the pleasure of driving the marked routes or the additional mapped routes and could go at their own speed. Several drivers chose to do the route twice as it was about 3 miles and so the more fit, experienced horses used the trails as great training/working experiences. Cara was a star but a few horses took exception to seeing a mini. However, the way Frances had planned the drive, we were able to do most of it without seeing anyone else and the path was one-way on the trails so there was no passing of anyone. Cara did well with a few questions in her heart where ghosts floating in the breeze marked the turns and of course...tree stumps are not on her list of favorite things. But if we met up with someone, her little motor kicked in and her trot became a real working trot! For the whole drive, her ears were up and she was having a blast. It got a bit warm for all her hair **but she wasn't breathing hard so I knew we'd done well for this drive.** And she was a champ going through the mud and water puddles we came to. I was very proud of her.

Costumes were judged before we departed and there were more than 10 carts/carriages and more than 29 whips/passengers and now and again a rider on horseback. This was the largest group to show up for this event and when the word gets out how terrific the footing and the drive, more folks are sure to arrive next year.

As ever, lunch with Frances and Wayne was 'over the top'. The Baker's provide the worlds best fried chicken from a local 'hole in the wall' that starts with fresh chicken and their own batter. As one who completely overindulged, I can say it is the best in the world. Everyone else contributed salads, chili, corn bread and more desserts than can be imagined. Have I mentioned before ...horse people really like to eat well!

From the costumes to the number of attendees to the variety of breeds to the food and camaraderie...this is an event not to be missed.

Carol Seiler driving her new pony

Heard on the Fly—Martie Bolinski



I heard from two drivers at the Halloween Drive that they have been driving their new ponies! Congratulations to Sherry Harris and Carol Seiler for getting those equines out. We hope to see them at a future DDC event soon.

Welsh Pony Show Circuit—Sharon Little

Several DDC youth have been very active on the Welsh Pony Show Circuit. Often competing in classes of 10 or more entries, these young ladies from Harrington, DE made an impression on the Welsh world! Cassidy Kohland with Cross Haven Skipjack took Champion Leading Rein in the Southeast region as well



Welsh Pony Show Circuit, cont.

as placing in the top 4 in Walk/trot and walk/trot poles. **Claudia Little, with Loafer's Lodge Cinderella tied for 3rd in the Nation for Walk and was reserve champion in our region.** They also placed in the top 4 in walk/trot and walk/trot poles! **Christie Little, using her sister's pony, Cinderella, won 4 out of 5 showmanship classes, putting her 1st in the region and tied for Champion in the nation!** Christie made her debut on *Almosts N Oreo* at the final show of the Welsh season, competing over fences in Short Stirrup. Thanks to the coaching of Bonnie Forgacs, the pair won over fences and were reserve on the flat. These kids worked hard all season, riding and driving their amazing ponies. They missed many DDC events because of their busy show schedule but are looking forward to attending the fall/winter events as well as the DDC Spring Driving Show.

CBMF Walk the Lin, the Morgan won by Christie Little in 2008 is doing GREAT! Look for Cash and Christie at local shows and at the Mason-Dixon Morgan Show in April. Any youths wishing to try to earn a Morgan of their own should go to www.morganhorse.com/news_events/latest/news/winamorgan_10/. Tell them Christie sent you.

Calendar of Events—DDC Items are in Bold

More information about activities will be available in future issues. Check for changes and additions. If you plan to attend a DDC sponsored event, PLEASE contact the host before the event.

All members are welcome to attend the monthly BOD meetings, but we would appreciate a heads-up if you plan to attend so that we can phone in case of any change in time or location.

- December 4th—Open House Tack Sale/Swap. 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Rain or shine in the indoor arena. \$10 a table—they supply. Kent Equestrian Center in Chestertown. Open house and family fun right after. Contact 410-708-5261 for info.
- **December 11th—DDC Christmas Party at Nutter Marvel. Contact John Bolinski 410-398-0257 bolinsj@myshorelink.com**

2011 events

- **January 15—Selecting the Suitable Driving Horse Talk. 11-1 Hartley DE DDC members and prospective members. Contact Pao Lin Hatch 240-274-6180 or 302-381-2979; paoball2000@yahoo.com.**
- January 20-23—Horse World Expo, MD State Fairgrounds, Timonium, MD www.horseworldexpo.com, 301-916-0852 My Lady's Manor booth #412/413
- **February ? - tentative—no date set—So..You want to do multiples, tandems and teams? Different kinds of harnesses and carriages. DDC or non members, no horses**
- **February ? - tentative—general membership meeting and videos of the WEG?**
- February 5th—Tuckahoe's 1st ever Horse Trailer Parking Clinic and Challenge sponsored by Traveled Lane Trailers of Centerville, MD. From 10-12; hot soup and lunch break from 12-1 then a challenge competition. Divisions for 2-3 horse bumper pulls, 2-3 goose neck, 4 horse and up bumper pull and 4 horse and up goosenecks. Prizes and ribbons. \$30 for the day with a \$5 discount for TEC members. Looking for a 2nd clinician who is professionally trained on driving trailers and who is comfortable explaining techniques and tips to adult learners. Contact Pao Lin Hatch 240-274-6180 paoball2000@yahoo.com
- Feb 12th—9:00am-3:00pm MLMDC Intro to Driving I; Goucher College, Towson, MD (snow date 2/13) open to non-members. Anne Council and Dana Bright. \$40 contact Kathy Schymitt 717-235-7061; kawschmitt@att.net or Marjorie Richmond 410-323-3837 margiebr@earthlink.net.
- February 24-27th—Horse World Expo, PA Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg, PA. Www.horseworldexpo.com , 301-916-0852
- **March 5—Ground Driving the New Driving Horse, Chestertown MD. Rain date March 6th. DDC members only. Contact Pao Lin Hatch 240-274-6180; paoball2000@yahoo.com**
- **March 19th—Drive at Mike Lawrence's Grassmead. Details to be announced.**
- March 19th— MLMDC Intro to Driving II Goucher College, Towson, MD. Members only—new members welcome Kathy Schmitt 717-235-7061 or kawschmitt@att.net
- March 19th—Novice Driving Clinic BVDC; Lore Homer at Chapter One Farms. Contact Helene Paxton 856-299-5124 chapteronefarms@hotmail.com
- **April ? - tentative—date to be determined. Learning Dressage/Bending the Driving Horse. Free to DDC/\$35 for others. Limited number of horses; auditors free.**
- April 2nd—rain date April 9th; Mt. Hermon Plow Days, Salisbury MD. Contact Oren Perdue 410-749-1723
- April 2nd—Chapter One Farms Spring ADT, Pedricktown, NJ, 222.chapteronefarms.com. Helene Paxton 856-299-5124, hpaxton@chapteronefarms.com
- **April 10th+11th— Continuous Driving Event at Anna Klumpp's Cair Paravelle—DDC members only . Info to follow. .**
- April 10th—MLMDC Long Lining Clinic and Driving Horse Suitability Clinic. Owings Mills, MD Anne Council; members only. Contact Kathy Schmitt 717--235-7061 kawschmitt@att.net
- May 1st—Gladstone Driving Trials—more info to come. Www.gladstonedriving.org.

- **May 7th—DDC Pleasure Drive Show—more details to follow.**
- May 15th—29th My Lady's Manor Driving Club Show. Spring Valley Park, Wintertown, PA. Contact Dana Bright 717-246-2351 cdeponyz@comcast.net or Anne Council, 717-993-3956, birchhol-low_anne@verizon.net.
- June 4-5—Elk Creek CDE, Fair Hill MD. Www.fairhillinternational.com. Training, prelim, intermediate. Diane Trefry 410-755-6785 dtrefry@equestriane.com
- June 11th—BVDC Junior Driver Clinic with Jessica Snyder at Fair Hill, MD. Contact Jessica Snyder ponydriving@yahoo.com
- June 18th—MLMDC Ground Work Basics Hereford, MD with Marjorie Richmond and her horses. Members only. Contact Marjorie Richmond 410-323-3837 margiebr@earthlink.net.
- June 26th—Tentative—Drive at Fairhill. Details to follow. Contact Sherry Harris, 410-482-2402 or Pao Lin Hatch 240-274-6180, paoball2000@yahoo.com
- July 12th—Brandywine Carriage Driving Show at Fair Hill MD. Contact margaretgrillet@yahoo.com
- August 6—Southern MD Plantation Carriage Show, PG Equestrian Ctr. Upper Marlboro MD www.showplacearena.com .
- August 18-21—Mid Atlantic Regional Pleasure Driving Weekend at Fair Hill. Contact margaretgrillet@yahoo.com
- Aug 21st—MLMDC Schooling Driving Trial, Spring Valley Park, Wintertown, PA, open to non-members. Contact Anne Council, 717-993-8956, birchhol-low_anne@verizon.net
- August 28th—MLMDC Schooling Driving Trial. Wintertown, PA. Anne Council 717-993-8956 acbirchhol-low442@gmail.com



The BEST of the Holiday Season to all!!

DDC Classified

Sale: Large pony/small horse pairs' 4-wheel sporting trappe. Really elegant; too small for my pair. Asking \$3,500. Pao Lin Hatch 240-274-6180.

Sale: TexTan 16 inch western saddle in great shape, used under a dozen times \$750.00 or would possibly trade for anything a Mini could use. Contact Sandra Gumz 410-634-0182 or gumzx2@toad.net

Sale: AMHR eligible mini. Sadie is 4 mos old, beautiful silver dun. 4Gs Little Kings Alfalfa Pleasure (aka Hawk) bloodlines. Will be a class B mini (between 34 and 38 in. Great driving prospect. A steal at \$500 to see her in a great home. 302-387-2500 or mini-heehaw@gmail.com.

Note: Classified items will run for two months unless requested otherwise. Please let us know if your article has sold or if you want to



The sometimes skewed view of a paranoid pony

Fight Horse Respiratory, Skin Problems in Winter (Continued from page 2)

sufficient to damage horses' lungs. Dust and mold, too, can initiate or aggravate allergies—most notably heaves—and irritate respiratory membranes, making horses more susceptible to respiratory infections and bronchitis..

Be fastidious in your stable management, keeping stalls clean and dry with, if possible, daily cleaning and airing out. Passive ventilation—floor-and soffit level vents that operate on the hot-air-rises principle—provides a practically draft-free flow of fresh air. But if your barn has no vents other than doors and window-sills experiment with combinations of openings to let in air without blasting the inhabitants with wind and precipitation.

A properly installed mechanical system should change the interior air without causing drafts. Cool fresh air may make you shiver, but it's much healthier for stabled horses than stagnant dust-and-fume-filled air trapped unchanged within a sealed building.

A horse becomes chilled when he loses body heat too quickly, most commonly immediately after exercise on a windy and/or cold, low-humidity day. Without adequate cool-down after exertion, the mechanisms for dispersing body heat do not reverse quickly enough into the heat-conserving mode—hair coat dry, erect and fluffy, superficial blood circulation curtailed. This rapid heat loss drops the horse's body temperature to below normal and knocks a chink in his immune defenses.

Wee Willy Sez

This year I decided to make something special for Mom for Christmas. I know that she is going to love it! I would have asked Kilar if he wanted to contribute but he was sleeping so sound I didn't want to wake him. I'm sure he will be thrilled to have contributed. Did you notice that I even cable stitched my monogram on it??



A good rule of thumb for cold-weather riding is to spend twice as long on cooldown following sweat-making exertion as you would during fair weather. Then cover him with a cooler or quarter sheet to retain body heat until his head-conserving mechanisms kick in. A lofting layer of straw between the blanket and wet skin encourages air circulation and reduces clamminess.

Skin Conditions

Winter's increased humidity and precipitation added to well-insulated (by nature or nurture) skin create an ideal breeding ground for the agents of skin disease. The following conditions generally afflict horses when they're at their woolliest.

Rainrot—crusted, painful, infectious skin inflammation caused by *Dermatophilus* organisms and triggered when small to moderate amounts of moisture, insufficient to thoroughly cleanse, fall onto a dirty, neglected coat, scabbing and hair loss often follow rain rot runoff patterns.

Bed itch—dermatitis producing crusty, sore spots on parts of the body that make contact with soiled bedding, typically the thighs and elbows.

Ringworm—a contagious fungal infection causing scaling of skin and hair loss in roughly circular patches.

Scratches—scabby and/or oozing skin inflammation on the back of the pastern above the heels caused by overexposure to moisture and loss of protective skin oils.

Lice—blood-sucking parasites that thrive in the thick, unkempt coats of unthrifty, stressed horses, associated itch drives horses to rub and bite their skin raw, coat is matted with dandruff and slightly waxy to the touch.

Preventing skin problems in winter is a matter of cleanliness and diligence. Blankets, tack, grooming equipment and common living quarters can spread the contagious conditions of repeatedly re-infect the same horse unless you eliminate these infectious agents. Consult with your veterinarian about disinfectants and other treatment strategies if one or more of your horses comes down with skin crud. Keep your horses, the stalls and all equipment that comes in contact with them clean and dry and you'll avoid the vast majority of seasonal skin disorders.

This article originally appeared in the January 1997 issue of EQUUS magazine.

DAVE WILSON
Auctioneer & Sales Mgr.

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The Daffodils—*Frances Baker*

Many of the DDC members knew my first pair of mares, Jam and Jelly. Jam died suddenly from colic a few years ago and we buried her on the farm.

If you have ever driven or owned a pair, you know their relationship to each other is special. Jam was the engine and brakes for the pair and later for the four-in-hand that we put together with a couple of green leaders. In the early days I did little more than hang on and steer. It was Jam who made up for all the other horses pulling and stopping the carriage as a good wheeler should. In the four-in-hand

team, it's the wheelers who do most of the work.

Jelly was the slacker of the pair and team. Something else horses will do.

We tried to find a suitable well schooled replacement for Jam but instead found a whole team with lots of more mileage. Jelly found a new home as a riding horse with a young family who loved her in a very special way.

Last fall, before the weather went from bad to worse, I bought a bag of daffodils to plant on Jam's grave. I had the best of intentions, but never got the bulbs in the ground until spring. My gardening friends told me the bulbs would never bloom, but they did beautifully as the snow melted and winter

turned into spring the daffodils were beautiful. So this fall, I purchased an even bigger bag of bulbs and got them right into the ground.

I bumped into Jelly's owners at Wilson's fall carriage auction and of course, the subject of Jelly came up. I didn't tell you that Jelly, like Jam had done, died suddenly in January 2010. They told me that the strangest thing happened in the spring—a whole bunch of daffodils came up right in the exact spot where Jelly died. When I told them about Jam's daffodils that should not have bloomed, they just looked at me, unable to say a word. There may be a scientific explanation to what happened with the daffodils, but I prefer to believe that it's just a pair of mares who loved each other sharing the daffodils like they shared everything else.



Hollyville Halloween Blast 2010

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