

DDC Driving Lines July 2012

DELMARVA



DRIVING CLUB INC.

DDC Meeting Schedule

July 11*
conference call
6:00 pm
Call in #
877-216-1555
Pw # 290535

August 1 BOD Con-
ference Call
6:00 pm
Call in #
877-216-1555
Pw # 290535

August 18
Luncheon and meet-
ing before the tour.

September 5
conference call
6:00 pm
Call in #
877-216-1555
Pw # 290535

* meeting different date than
previously announced due to
holiday

Inside This Issue:

Upcoming DDC Events:

*July 22 Sunday Fair hill Drive (rain date July 29) Pao Lin Hatch
240 274 5180*

August 18 Luncheon and Museum Tour , Georgetown, DE



Farmers Chris and Jane Bailey 'haying' with their halflingers.. The most natural way it can be done!

July 2012 Newsletter Contributors

Contributors: Pao Lin Hatch, Darby Hewes, Frances Baker, Hilary Jenner,
Jane Ramsey, Lois Evans, Martha MacDonald, Samea Baker, Carol Seiler
Darlene Logan, ADS' mid-Atlantic weekend submission

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**Delmarva Driving Club Board of Directors'
 June 2012 Meeting Minutes**

Present: Donna Hurst, Jane Ramsey, Sherry Harris, Jackie McCann, Joan Smith, Martha MacDonald. Absent: Pao Lin Hatch

Treasurer's report was accepted as printed in the newsletter. The Secretary's report was accepted as printed in the newsletter.

Reporting on the show, Jane Ramsey pointed out that she'd told the L judge we had plenty of ribbons so rather than breaking ties, the judge handed out ties in several classes. Because of this, there were some questions about how the scoring was done for the Championship and Reserve Championship. A tie between Marcie Wozniak and Rachel Blanchard was settled by a coin toss but later a math error was discovered and the championship returned to Rachel. Good sportsmanship was shown by all but in the future, reinsmanship classes will be used to break a tie and if it is still a tie, the working class will be used to settle the championship. A full report on the show will be posted in the July BOD meeting. There appears to be a lack of communication between the 4H club and the State over the use of the show grounds and so the 4H manager was surprised to see we had stalls reserved. Apparently neither the State, the county nor the 4H club maintain liability insurance on the grounds. Fortunately DDC has full coverage through our membership in the ADS.

DDC maintains a small library of 6 books and numerous VHS videos and DVD's. Sherry Harris has the library and is working to transfer the VHS videos to DVD's. A list of the available titles will be posted quar-

terly in the newsletter and will be maintained on the website for members use. It was recommended that items being mailed out should have included a SASE to encourage returning the item to Sherry. Continued p. 9

Delmarva Driving Club	
TDDC's Treasurer's Report	
Beginning Balance – 05/22/12	\$3,556.81
Deposits:	
Silent Auction at Show	262.00
Show Entry Fees	140.00
Dues	20.00
Reimbursement for Bank Fee	10.00
Contributions	160.00*
Sales	70.00
Total Income:	<u>\$662.00</u>
Expenses:	
Newsletter	28.45
Postage	9.90
Telephone Conference Fees	72.67
Sunshine Fund	75.00
Website Expenses	160.04
Elk Creek CDE Contribution	25.00
Liability Ins. Premium	1,087.52
Show Expenses:	
4-H Rental Fee	100.00
Total Show Expenses	<u>100.00</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$1,558.58</u>
Ending Balance – 06/22/12	\$2,660.23
Savings Account	1,298.12
CD Balance	<u>7,717.11</u>
Total Cash Available	<u>\$11,675.46</u>

Sitting at E by Martha MacDonald

Recently I was given the privilege of being the scribe at E with Francois Bergeron from Canada (multiple year Canadian driving champion, including tandem, and a judge, breeder and clinician) during the Elk Creek CDE at Fair Hill. A fine gentleman and born teacher, it was a joy to sit with him and be able to ask questions while we watched Intermediate/Advanced, Intermediate and Preliminary drivers. People who ride or drive dressage are always concerned that the scores from the sides of the arena can be quite a bit different from what the judge in C might give. So I'm going to share some insights that I learned while sitting with M. Bergeron.

During your entrance, the judge at C sees how straight you are but the side judges will see if the horse is actually stopped squarely. When you are doing serpentine, the judges at E&B see how even your half circles are and if your loops are equal. I can't tell you how many times I wrote 'circle not round, loops not equal, 1/2 circles not round' and even, 'didn't use the corner'. In one case of a walk portion of the test, the driver had a brilliant walk developing but cut her corner a little short (about 4 feet) and got a 7. Francois turned to me and said "It would have been an 8 if she'd gone closer to the corner". I felt badly for the driver who could have had an even better score. In one test, the driver turns left at E and right at B. Because we were right there, we could see the drivers who turned too early or too late, and, like the entrance, we had a clear view of how straight the driver made it from one side of the arena to the other. For

horses who finished their test with a trot lengthening on the center line, the judges on the side have a much better view to evaluate what is performed. At this level, X and G are marked with shavings. Because X was directly in front of us, we could see who hit the spot perfectly and who missed...causing the loss of a point each time it was missed. The other issue most often commented on was 'irregular steps'. That is, the horse did not maintain a steady, consistent trot because he lost his balance for one reason or another. I can still hear my dressage trainer saying...whatever you do, don't lose the rhythm of the trot. Many drivers did and paid the price by losing points.

In between competitors, we were able to talk and I could ask questions and make comments to get his response. At one point, I said, "You know, I'm beginning to see how Pleasure Shows are actually the initial training for a CDE". Francois replied that it was there that the horse develops relaxation, acceptance of the bit, forward thinking and begins to develop 3 distinct trots",.....the beginning of the Training Pyramid. Our slow trot becomes collected, working becomes a stronger working and the strong trot becomes the lengthening or extended trot, depending on level of training. I guess we'll be heading back to the pleasure ring.

One complaint that Francois had was that no one works on the walk. Out of about 15-20 turnouts, only 3 had remarkable walks. Believe me, those drivers were some of the best from the US. Everyone else seems to ignore the walk and suffered scores of 5 and 6. One driver even earned a 3. But there, while competing at Intermediate, Francois commented that the driver and horse needed to go back to Training Level and fix the mistakes in

his training. He recommended 6 months of walking to get the horse to begin to understand that he is not the leader and decision maker.

I also asked about my issue of a counterbent horse and got a very interesting answer. "while going down the side (the horse is straight we hope), 10 meters before the corner, push the horse forward even more and then for the turn, release the outside rein, holding steady contact on the inside rein...don't pull". OK, I've probably read that and heard it a dozen times or more but suddenly it clicked. While telling Pao Lin (we shared a ride), she pointed out that when riding a bicycle, we don't pull a handlebar to make a turn, we push the outside one. Talk about CLICK! The image is burned in my brain and it is taking some work (I've driven for several hours since this event) to make myself 'give' the rein for the turn, rather than 'pull' the inside rein. Francois said the same thing about going into the halt and out of it. Encourage your horse forward into the bridle before the halt and then, after the salute, don't give the reins away when you ask for the trot off. Require that the horse first steps under herself and then you can let her move forward. If you give the reins first, the horse falls on her forehead and pulls forward, rather than pushing.

This has been a rather lengthy report but what I learned will make me a better pleasure driver and prepare us for continuous drives and more. I learned lots of interesting things and I strongly recommend that everyone give themselves a 'free' clinic with national and international drivers who are judges. They love to talk, love to teach and you can learn so much. And you get lunch, snacks and sometimes even a goodie bag..all for the cost of the gas to get there.

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.

Deadline for next's newsletter is July 27

- July 7-8 Gladstone Driving Trial www.gladstonedriving.com
- July 21-22 Lorenzo Driving Competition, Cazenova, NY http://www.americandrivingsociety.org/06_omnilistings/07lorenzo.asp
- **July 22 Fair Hill Drive, Drive off 10am. Contact Pao Lin Hatch 240 274 6180 paoball2000@yahoo.com. Rain date July 29. Look for more page 9.**
- August 2-5 ADS Mid-Atlantic Regional Pleasure Driving Weekend at Fair hill see page 9 for more information.
- August 8-12 Walnut Hill Driving Competition www.walnuthillfarm.org
- **August 18 Carriage Museum Guided Tour and Luncheon at the Nutter Marvel Carriage Museum. Georgetown, DE, FREE for members; \$10 for non members, **RSVP REQUIRED** to Frances Baker @ 302 381-2979**
- August 25 MY LADY'S MANOR DRIVING CLUB SCHOOLING DRIVING TRIAL, Spring Valley Park, Winterstown, PA. Contact Anne Councill, acbirsch-hollow442@gmail.com, 717-993-8956, www.mlmdc.org.
- Sept 7-9 Willow Glen CDE West Grove PA (Formerly where Laurels of Landhope competition was held) Con-

tact: Anne Pringle Cell 910-691-7735 annpringle54@gmail.com

- Sept 16 **30th ANNIVERSARY MY LADY'S MANOR PLEASURE DRIVING SHOW:** York County, PA. www.mlmdc.org. Pleasure, Obstacles, Pleasure Drive, Concours d'Elegance. Dana Bright, H: 717-246-2351, C: 717-471-7524, cdeponyz@comcast.net. Also Anne Councill, P: 717-993-8956, C: 717-880-3840, acbirsch-hollow442@gmail.com. Entries Open: August 1; Entries Closed: September 7. [Http://www.mlmdc.org](http://www.mlmdc.org)
- **Sept 23 Grassymeade Farm Drive, Chestertown, MD, rain date Sept 30. Michael @ 410-810-2997**
- **Sept 28-30 GARDEN STATE HDT and COMBINED TEST:** The Horse Park of New Jersey, Allentown, NJ. www.horseparkofnewjersey.com. Training, Preliminary, Intermediate. Liz Kwasnik and Judy Canavan, H: 609-259-3256, C: 908-612-5199, carriage-coach@optonline.net / jcanavan@ptd.net. Entries Open: July 16; Entries Closed: August 31.
- October xxx Driving Clinic with Anne Councill in Harrington, DE. Auditors free. Cost and details to follow
- **Oct Hollyville Drive, Harbeson, DE. Date tbd**
- Oct 18-21 Carriage Association of America Conference (Charleston, SC) Fall conference Meeting
- Dec 8 DDC Holiday Party—Ruthsburg Community Center, Queen Anne, MD. Details to follow!!



Pao Lin Hatch and her groom Donna Hurst having a ball with her pair of spotted drafts at the BVDC Continuous Drive

FAIR HILL JULY 'WATERMELLON' DRIVE



DDC members and friends plan to gather for a fun pleasurable drive through one of the prettiest and equine friendly areas in the Mid-Atlantic region. Fair Hill NRMA has several entrances and parking areas and we will be gathering at the smallish lot on Gal-laher Rd. If you have a big rig, please plan on coming a bit early and be considerate of where you park so that we can allow as many trailers as possible into the lot.

Details:

*There is a small Maryland park day use fee . Just park, grab a tag, push out the day you are in the lot and put your money in the envelope and into the box.

*Plan on driving off by 10, but not a line drive so you can drive off earlier or later if you wish.

*Tailgate picnic afterwards around noon and Pao Lin is bringing cool watermelon for all!

*Not a line drive but you can follow if you need directions

*Download trails map off the website but carriage trails are marked...note: avoid the narrow trails for riders and bicycles :-)

*no water nor toilet at this parking lot.

No need to rsvp but if you wish to let me know you're planning to come.. Pao Lin 240 274 6180 or paoball2000@yahoo.com

June 24 Grassymeade Pleasure Drive

By Martha MacDonald



A good number of DDC members and friends arrived at Michael Lawrence's beautiful Grassymeade farm for a drive and the challenge of a Mystery Murder challenge. Pao Lin Hatch, in her 'spare' time, created a challenging event of gathering clues during a lovely drive around the well cleared trails of Michael's farm. Because of the heat, most drivers arrived early and many took their horses home af-

ter the drive, then returned for a delicious potluck early dinner. Bill Hatch contributed his grilling skills to produce perfectly cooked London Broil provided by Michael. Those who stayed were able to follow the clues that had to be reached on foot, not while driving. Most clues were very clever, often leading the 'detectives' down false paths but in the end, Carol Seiler and Martha MacDonald, taking time to figure out which characters

couldn't/wouldn't have done it, settled on the young wife and her gullible 'step son' to try to inherit the goods. As a result, a nice contribution was made to New Spirit 4 Aussie Rescue. The pool was clear and inviting for those feeling a bit over-heated and Michael offered empty stalls for the horses who stayed while their drivers shared stories and food with fellow driving devotees. Once again, Michael Lawrence produced a wonderful day with the help of Pao Lin Hatch.



Michael Lawrence, with Michele Novak and Barbara Belden's assistance hooked up his Cleveland Bay, Rubik for the 1st time! Michael suspected Rubik had been driven before coming to Grassymeade but wasn't sure. Well, Rubik took to it like a duck to water! Isn't it great when the generous host also gets to have a blast?
Submitted by Barb Belden



*Nutter Marvel
Carriage Museum
Tour and
Luncheon*

**RSVP PERSON
Frances Baker
Francesbaker65@gmail.
com or
302 381 2979**



This DDC sponsored event is being hosted by Terry Johnson and the Georgetown Historical Society of Georgetown, DE at the Nutter Marvel Carriage Museum. A light luncheon will be offered with admission. Come out and support a wonderful organization and learn more about beautiful equine vehicles and Delaware history!

The tour and luncheon is **FREE** for current **DDC** members and \$10.00 for all others. Reservations are must by August 16 to ensure proper planning for the luncheon! Short DDC Membership Meeting during lunch. Rain or Shine~

Come plan on spending a few hours and 'travel' back in time with old and new friends!

**When: August 18, 2012 Saturday
Time: 11-3pm
RSVP: Frances Baker 302 381 2979**

510 South Bedford Street Georgetown, DE Georgetown, DE 19947

Directions: From the North: Go south on US 113/DuPont Hwy, go past Georgetown and turn left (if you are coming from the north) just before Motor Vehicle on Bedford Street then go around the sharp curve in the road and the museum is immediately on the left. Go through the horse head columns and the Lynch building is on your left and that is where the tour will begin! TOUR will start at 11:00, lunch and members meeting following the tour.

DDC Club pins will be available for purchase at all DDC events for \$5.00.

Here's our beautiful new pin! Buy a few and support your club.



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DDC Hats, Polos and sweatshirts for sale at very reasonable prices



Contact Donna Hurst
(302) 492-3932

Recent DDC Drive pictures May 2012 Starkey Farm

By Darby Hewes



Continued from page 2

The Christmas party plans were discussed. Rather than a gift exchange, ideas were reviewed to have a speaker on a topic of interest to the membership. Further ideas will be reviewed at the next meeting. The Grassymeade drive in June, Fair Hill drive in July and the luncheon at the Nutter Marvel Museum in August were reviewed. The Museum gathering requires an RSVP with a check for lunch made out to the Georgetown Historical Society and mailed to Frances Baker. Details will be listed in the newsletter.

Jackie McCann will send the list of currently approved DDC driving events for 2012-2013 to the insurance company for our renewal. It was approved to add \$75 to the Sunshine fund. It was also approved that Pao Lin Hatch have money available to update/renew the website. The BOD approved a \$25 donation to Glen Willow (formerly the Laurels) CDE. Respectfully submitted, Martha MacDonald

SUNSHINE REPORT

Sunshine thoughts and big hugs to Jane and Chris Bailey for the tragic loss of their Shire X mare a few weeks ago. This is the same mare who was at the DDC Show in May.

**** Explanation of Extra Contribution in Treasurer's Report ****

Our treasurer, Jackie McCann, wishes to clarify to the membership that the sum of \$110 was donated by Anna Klumpp from monies earned at her 2012 Continuous Drive.

THANK YOU ANNA!

Mid-Atlantic Region Pleasure Driving Weekend
Level 1 & Level 2 CAA Driver Proficiency Testing Offered

Aug. 2-5, 2012

Opening date June 1;

Closing date July 9

The Mid-Atlantic Pleasure Driving Weekend committee invites you to the 2012 Pleasure Driving Weekend at Fair Hill, MD, home of the Fair Hill International. Fair Hill is a 5,000+ acre multi-purpose Natural Resource Management Area located in the northeast corner of Maryland. A limited amount of trail maps will be available for sale on site.

The Weekend 2012 Committee has three goals for the weekend: good driving, good friends and good food with a little education thrown in for good measure!

The stables will open at 3:00 pm on Thursday, August 2 and close at 3:00 PM on Sunday, August 5. Fair Hill has 30-40 miles of carriage-accessible trails, mostly dirt and gravel roads and open meadows. There will be free drives throughout the weekend (maps will be posted on the notice board in the tent).

A guided, line-drive for minis will also be offered. Friday night will be on-site BBQ and Saturday dinner will feature Maryland crab cakes. Silent auction on Saturday Free breakfast on Friday, Saturday and Sunday will be hosted by My Lady's Manor Driving Club, Brandywine Valley Driving Club and the Garden State Horse and Carriage Society.

To register, [use this form](#).
For more information, please contact Heidi Ferguson, at 302-632-8024 or hunterhaven-farm@comcast.net.

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