



Let's Drive !



January, 2020

Bits and Pieces—Club Information

**Delmarva Driving Club,
Inc**

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A DDC Board Meeting was held on Thursday, January 9, 2020 and the minutes of the December General Membership Meeting were approved as submitted. The current Treasury balance is \$7,205.82 after \$250 in deposits and \$554.66 (reimbursement, Staples bill, and Conference Calls) in expenditures. The Treasury audit will take place on January 11, 2020. A discussion ensued on a proposed Budget for 2020 and after corrections it will be re-discussed at the next Board Meeting.

An update was given on the May Pleasure Show. The Prize List is nearing completion and will soon be ready for distribution. In order to promote our Show, we are contacting all local driving clubs as well as listing the event on the ADS Calendar and in driving and equine publications. Forms for advertizing and Sponsorship of classes will distributed to all

members via email. Updates regarding the show will be available on the DDC Facebook page as well as the DDC webpage. We encourage all members to promote this show by either volunteering, participating, and/or selling advertising. The Show Committee is still seeking a Food Vendor. If you have any suggestions, please contact Sherry Harris at 410-482-2402. Any other comments or concerns, please contact Pam Gray, Show Chairman, at 410-819-6113.

Our Club By-Laws were reviewed and there were no changes or updates. A copy is available on our webpage.

It is time to renew your DDC Membership and a renewal form is located in this newsletter. Be sure to send it to Deb Dawkins who is our Membership Chair. A 2020 Membership Roster will be distributed to members by March, 2020.

Hopefully the weather will cooperate this year, as we have many ideas for driving venues. The Club is hosting a Fun Day to Drive at Holly Ridge Equestrian Center in Willards, MD on Saturday, February 8th. There are trails and both an indoor and outdoor arena available. There will also be individuals with advanced driving skills to offer assistance as needed. More details are available in the Upcoming Events section. Drives are being planned for Fair Hill, MD, Wye Island, Idylwild Wildlife area, Blackbird State Forest, and possibly near the Handsel House in Vienna, MD. Watch for details in upcoming newsletters and on our Facebook page.

Since the Delaware Equine Council has been so generous to the DDC, the Board voted to donate \$150 towards Scholarships for students studying in the equine and agricultural fields.

Attention!!

* DDC Board Meeting on Thursday, March 5, 2020 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#

Happy New Year!

2019 Year in Review



The DDC was presented awards for winning the Electronic Newsletter Division and Reserve Champion in the Overall Newsletter Division at the Carriage Association Learning Weekend held in Sarasota, Florida in January, 2019



**Accidents Hurt—
Safety Doesn't
Seminar**
at the Baker's Farm in
February, 2019



May, 2019—12th Annual DDC Pleasure Driving Show



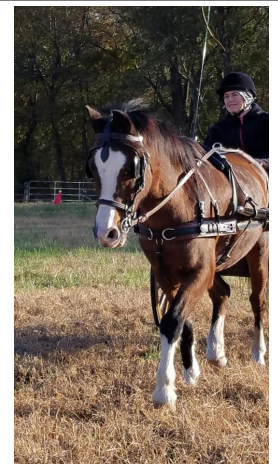
2019 Year in Review



June 22, 2019 Club Drive at Blackbird Forest near Smyrna , DE



Delaware Equine Council Membership Appreciation Ride and Drive at Redden Forest in DE/DDC General Membership Meeting on September 29, 2019



Drive to Learn Event at Anna Klumpp's Cair Paravel Farm on November 9, 2019.

Members Out and About



Christmas Elf Don Stewart



Elf Linda Thomas giving Christmas rides with Big Jim



Sherry Harris and her Haflinger Smarty dressed in their Holiday finery

Colleen Layton driving Jazz (on the left) and Maddy Zacharkow (on the far right) driving Starlight were able to drive with friends at Crystal Lake Park in Bordentown, NJ.



Members Out and About (continued)



Anna Klumpp's VSE 'reindeer'



Linda Thomas doing a wedding in Cambridge, MD

Frances Baker enjoying a drive with her youngsters Echo and Kenny



Shannon Gandee driving Beau



Linda Thomas in Berlin, MD with Big Jim

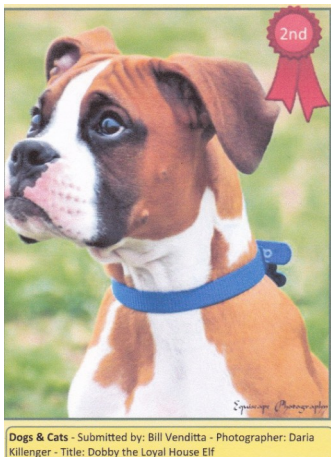
Martha's Christmas Surprise



Christmas is known as the most wonderful time of the year! In the Spirit of the Season, we're encouraged to be joyful, charitable, generous, and kind. DDC Members Shannon Gandee and Martha Zimmerman are good friends and Martha has been instrumental in helping Shannon drive her horse Beau. Shannon's mom is a talented artist and Shannon wanted to surprise and thank Martha for all her assistance with a portrait of her horse Elroy. Unfortunately Martha's beloved horse succumbed to colic in October. However today Shannon was able to present the completed pastel drawing of Elroy to Martha. She was very touched and this will be a fantastic way to remember and honor her special horse.

Photo Contest Winners

Every year the Brandywine Valley Driving Club holds a photo contest in December at their Annual Christmas Get Together. This is a fun event which regularly attracts well over 80 entries. Here are some of the winning shots that were entered by DDC Members Mary Nelson, Dianne Valentine, Bill Venditta, and Linda Thomas.



Dogs & Cats - Submitted by: Bill Venditta - Photographer: Daria Killenger - Title: Dobby the Loyal House Elf



Pleasure Shows & Drives - Submitted by: Mary Nelson - Photographer: Ed Nelson - Title: Who's Photographing Who?



Humorous - Submitted by: Linda Thomas - Photographer: Linda Thomas - Title: Oodles of Noodles, Oh My!



Scenic Shots—Equine - Submitted by: Dianne Valentine - Photographer: Dianne Valentine - Title: Sunset Drive

Don't miss out on any DDC Events or Information—Be sure to renew your membership with the form below. If you have any questions, contact our Membership Chairperson Deb Dawkins at 410-310-9569 or email her at pulling4u2@gmail.com

DELMARVA DRIVING CLUB, INC. 2020 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

To be considered for membership, submit this completed application each year, with a check made payable to The Delmarva Driving Club, Inc. or cash in the amount of the current annual membership dues payment to the address shown below. As an applicant, your signature on the line below declares that you will abide by all Club rules, regulations and by-laws. You will be notified of your acceptance, at which time you will receive your copy of the by-laws, a membership roster and newsletter. Feel free to join in the Club activities while your membership is being processed. Your signature below shall serve as consent to allow your photographic image taken at any DDC event to be used on any and all DDC publications.

Type of memberships: _____ (\$20/individual or _____ \$30 family)

Name of member _____

Farm Name _____

USPS address _____

CHANGE from last year's Renewal Form! _____yes _____No

Newsletters will arrive via Email unless otherwise indicated:

_____ @

I do not/cannot receive my newsletter via email and thus request a hard copy be mailed (donation suggested to defray mailing costs). _____

The best number to reach me by phone is _____

I would like to donate \$ _____ to the Delmarva Driving Club.

VOLUNTEERS: Please mark as many items for which you are interested in volunteering. This information will be used by the various event coordinators to reach out for your help!!

- _____ Leading a Casual Drive
- _____ Horse Show Volunteer
- _____ Clinic Volunteers
- _____ Administrative help
- (e.g. Serving on a committee, mailing, printing and sending show information out, etc.)
- _____ Serving as a member of the DDC Board or future Officer
- _____ Hosting a clinic (on any equine related subject)

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____
Make check payable to Delmarva Driving Club Inc. in the amount of \$20.00 per individual/ \$30 family. C/o Deborah Dawkins (Membership Chair) 25460 Dodd Lane Denton, MD 21629

Harness and Vehicle Care Mistakes (by IVC Carriages)

"We've Made All the Mistakes So You Don't Have To". Most of these mistakes are not "life-threatening" but can help you take better care of your equipment so it will last longer and stay in better shape. Some of these mistakes we have made ourselves, while others we learned about before we made them.

-Not closing the crupper – keeping the crupper buckled when not in use, or at least closed somehow will help it maintain its shape. A crupper that is left hanging open, especially a leather one, can develop cracks in the leather at the crease from which it is hanging.

-Not closing the caveson – this is the same principle. A caveson/noseband left open hanging on the rack will form a crease/crack at the point where gravity takes over. Most of the time, I just tuck the bight into the keeper instead of buckling it so that it is ready for the next time I put the bridle on the horse.

-Hanging the bridle on a hook - a "half moon" bridle rack will maintain the shape of the crown much better than a simple hook.

-Hanging a full collar from the top – a full collar should be hung upside down with its top closed if it has a fastener on the top.

-Stuffing the harness in a suitcase or tote – I am a big fan of hanging up your harness on harness racks. They help keep the harness' shape much better. I have seen patent leather skirts stretched, cavesons creased, and backbands twisted when they are stuffed in a box. To keep the harness clean, cover it with towels and maybe a light plastic bag to keep off dirt and dust. If you are going to be storing it for a while, take apart any pieces that may get creased or stretched and lay them over the harness rack.

-Storing a leather harness in a heated house – a little heat isn't bad, but most of us don't live where it is 40 degrees F with perfect humidity. Storing a harness in a 70-degree house will dry out the leather. It is better for it to live in an unheated area than have the moisture sucked out of it in the house. Conditioning it will help, but it is better to hang in the tack room and kept clean if possible.

–Using leather conditioner on patent – patent leather just needs some furniture polish to make it shine. Using leather conditioner or Vaseline will just make it "greasy".

-Furniture polish on vehicle paint – clear coated painted carriages need to be treated like they are fine cars. Using furniture polish on paint will put oily swirl marks on the paint. Using a detail spray designed for paint is imperative on painted vehicles. And waxing that carriage is also beneficial. Waxing a painted carriage helps make it easier to clean as well as protects the paint.

-Leaving mud on a carriage - The sooner you get mud washed off, the better. Scrubbing a carriage – when washing a vehicle, use lots of water first to remove the major dirt. If you scrub off the dirt, you can scratch the finish with the abrasiveness of the dirt. Once the major dirt is off, then you can use a soft cloth, like a microfiber cloth, to remove the rest of the dirt, again, along with lots of water. Vehicles should basically be treated like an automobile.

-Washing a carriage in direct sunlight – vehicles should be washed in the shade so as not to damage the finish, just like a car.

-Polishing vinyl seats - putting Armor All on vinyl seats sure looks nice, but whoever is driving will NOT be happy with you! Just use some water to clean vinyl seats. (A tip, you can use a little rubber shelf liner under your derriere to help keep it in place on vinyl seats.)

Harness and Vehicle Care Mistakes (continued)

-Wearing new jeans on light fabric seats - This probably goes for all new fabric. Make sure your apron has been washed appropriately so it doesn't bleed on your light seats.

-Resting wood shafts on the ground – Most wooden shafts are made of hickory. A cart resting on its own weight on the ground will eventually develop a warp that is unfixable. Wood vehicles should always have their shafts supported. The same goes for wood wheels or they can develop flat spots from being in one position too long. A vehicle not in use should have the axles supported so the wheels are not on the ground, or rotate the wheels regularly.

-Keeping spring trace holders open – while this is more convenient to be able to put to without having to lift the holder, keeping it up can stretch the spring making them unusable. Store them in the down position.



-Not using a whip reel – bow top whips should be stored on a whip reel. This will help keep the bow nice so it doesn't develop a crease and crack at where the stick meets the lash.



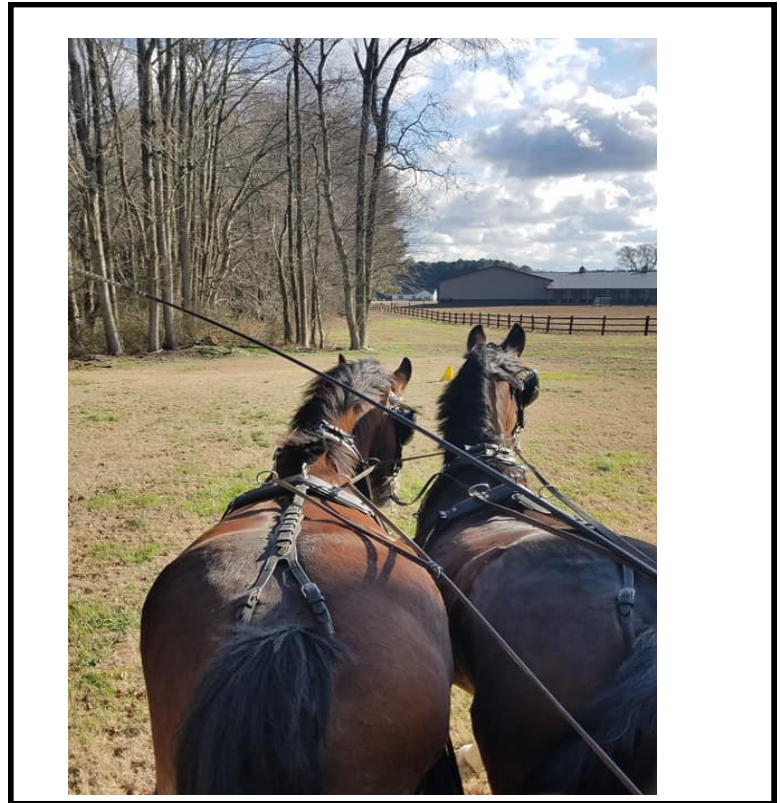
Upcoming Events

- 1/11/20 Frances and Wayne Baker will host a talk about their Driving Experience in Acadia, Maine. Bad weather date is 1/18/20.
- 1/23-25/20 CAA Carriage Symposium will be held in Herndon, VA. This will include tours of the National Sporting Library, the Winmill Carriage Museum and Whitestone Farm. This is in addition to the ten international and domestic speakers. Go to the Carriage Association of America website for more information.
- 2/8/2020 Fun Day to Drive at Ann Luke's Holly Ridge Farm Equestrian Center 36609 Purnell Crossing Rd. Willards, MD 21874 in Willards, MD. Come join your fellow drivers and DDC Members for a fun day of driving. The Holly Ridge Equestrian Center has both an indoor and outdoor arena, as well as trails for cross country driving. There will be individuals with advanced driving knowledge available to offer assistance as needed. Lunch will be served in the Club House and all participants are asked to bring a covered dish to share. There is ample parking for any size trailer!!!! If you need more information, please call George Parris at 302-846-2189, Hope to see you there!
- 2/27-3/1/20 PA Horse World Expo at the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg, PA
- 5/9/20 Annual DDC Pleasure Driving Show will be held at the Caroline County 4-H Park in Denton, MD

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!
Check us out



Board of Directors

President

Anna Klumpp (410) 708-3588 montalmax@hotmail.com

Vice President

Sherry Harris (410) 482-2402 sah181920@gmail.com

Treasurer

George Parris (302) 846-2189 gigiparris@verizon.net

Secretary

Kim Baklarz (410) 490-6548 kimbaklarz@yahoo.com

Board Members:

Michele Brauning (443) 856-7744 j.brauning@mchsi.com

Charlotte (Charlie) Purnell (443) 880-2710 c.purnell1967@gmail.com

Frances Baker (302) 381-2979 Francesbaker65@gmail.com

Diane Savage (410) 641-1837 savagpearl@aol.com

Harry Hassan (215) 480-3118 heh313@yahoo.com

Facebook/Newsletter Editor

Linda Thomas (410)-430-6943 glassmanlpt@aol.com

Membership Chair

Deb Dawkins (410)-310-9569 pulling4u2@gmail.com

Sunshine Chair:

Darlene Logan (410)-200-0960 maneship@yahoo.com