



# Let's Drive !



March, 2018

Delmarva Driving Club, Inc

## Whoa—What a Great Newbie Clinic

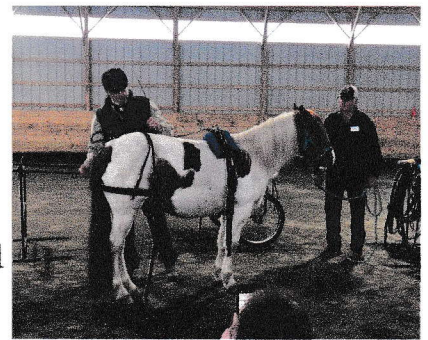
### Inside this issue:

From a Coach Horse to a Therapy Horse—The Unspoken Trust and Communication We Have With Our Horses	2-4
Dressage 101 at Cair Parabelle Farm	5-6
DDC Pleasure Driving Show Update	7-8
Meet the Members	9
Sunshine News	9
Upcoming Events	10

WHOA! What a great turnout for the DDC Newbie Clinic on February 10th! 35 folks watched while veteran carriage driver (and DDC member) George Parris discussed and demonstrated beginning basics for carriage driving. Of course safety was a big focus! It seems this clinic just whet people's appetites for more knowledge - a followup clinic was requested!

Twenty-seven of the attendees were non-members and after the clinic, a family and an individual completed membership applications! Many thanks go to all who made this event happen; especially George Parris for being the clinician; Laurie and Stan Vonasek for providing the wonderful facility, the equine 'model' and harness; Nancy Kratz Offen for sharing her

photographs and 'spreading the word about the clinic; Melissa Deitrich for sharing her photos from the clinic; and thanks go to all the attendees who showed that driving is 'still alive'



## From a Coach Horse to a Therapy Horse— The Unspoken Trust and Communication We Have With Our Horses - by Frances Baker

### Attention!!

\* DDC Board Meeting on Thursday, April 5, 2018 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#

A few years ago I donated one of my coaching horses to the local therapeutic riding facility. Southern Delaware Therapeutic Riding (SDTR) is a relatively small farm, operating almost entirely with volunteers. They are PATH certified, meaning both their center and their instructors are accredited through the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (thus the letters PATH). SDTR, a non-profit in Eastern Sussex County, Delaware, was established in 1988 in order to provide horseback therapy for children and



## From a Coach Horse to a Therapy Horse continued.

and adults with disabilities. Their mission is to improve the physical and emotional well being of children and adults in the lower half of Delaware .

Talking with Georgia Truitt, who runs the facility, I wasn't surprised to hear that Lee was one of their favorite horses. As Lee will stand perfectly still at the loading ramp and hoist for as long as it takes to get a person from their wheelchair onto his big strong back.. Because that is exactly what Lee had to do for me - stand patiently for as long as it took to hook the team of four to the coach or other large vehicle.

But what I have never been able to measure or put a name on is the TRUST and COMMUNICATION all of my horses have in me. For instance driving my coach back to the stables from The Winterthur Point to Point races in Wilmington, DE, I was almost finished with three beautiful days of driving when up ahead was Smith's Covered Bridge. Covered bridges can be one of the spookiest situations for horses. As if a hilly road approaching the bridge wasn't enough, there was also a sharp curve just before the bridge. This would have been just enough to give the team of four a change to refuse, but brave Lee was in the lead and that wasn't an issue. Next it was dark in the covered bridge and as my eyes tried to adjust to the change of light I could hardly see. However what I could see was sparks flying in the dark from the horse's shod feet making contact with the large metal bolts holding the wooden plank floor of the bridge together. In addition to the smell of smoke from the sparks, there was quite a lot of noise from the metal wheels of the coach making contact with the plank floor. And then there was an oncoming car, in a hurry, of course. The horses never faltered and we were out of the bridge in no time.

Now comes the part that doesn't have a name and cannot be measured by any means. I fractured my hip this fall and had hip replacement surgery recently. One of the people helping me during my recovery was a Physical Therapist named Steve Peet.

It's hard to visit my home without seeing horses everywhere: they are in the pasture, there are pictures everywhere, and they are forever in my heart.

Steve mentioned that he had a brother named Joey Peet, who has been riding at Southern Delaware Therapeutic Riding for nine years. When the connection was made between Lee's former career as a coach horse and his present job as a therapy horse, I started asking questions. What makes Joey Peet smile so big when he rides? Joey's Mom, Sue, answered me.



## From a Coach Horse to a Therapy Horse (continued)

Joey is nonverbal, but as you recognized in the photos people and horses do not need to verbally communicate with each other in order to provide a powerful connection with each other. Tom, Joey's dad, and I always tell people you need to witness the horses work their magic with their riders. They are so patient, calm, supportive, and mostly very accepting to each and every

rider despite their abilities, spastic movements, loud outbursts or various other personality traits they may have. I have had the privilege to watch not only my son, but many other people, both young and old, enjoy the horses and the benefits they have received from interacting and riding them.

We recently had a beautiful spring day right in the middle of winter, so I invited Joey, Sue, and Tom to my farm to meet one of my carriage horses and to have Joey try sitting in a carriage in anticipation of a spring carriage ride across the farm.

My carriage horses are not therapy horses and they have never had five minutes of therapy training, but I think they are very special. One in particular is especially laid back and really enjoys the crowds at big horse events and shows. When unsuspecting parents push their baby strollers too close to the team, Dundee (the laid back horse) can always manage to find some cheerios on the stroller tray and eat them - usually to the delight of the child in the baby stroller. So I thought he would be a good choice to meet Joey.

Next we got Dundee out of the pasture away from his buddies. Horses are herd animals and do not like to be separated from their herd. Even though it's a beautiful, unseasonably warm day, the wind is blowing terribly. And I had that same feeling I felt for a few minutes approaching that covered bridge, but Dundee was as calm as he could be and stood submissively, chewing while Joey petted and patted maybe a little too hard. But the amazing thing was they gazed into each other's eyes and for a moment they appeared as one. I don't know what they communicated to each other.

Sue tells me that Joey can only walk while mounted on his therapy horse as he has to have aides beside him to lend support if he needs it. But he's always wanted to trot. And so that is the plan. As soon as my hip heals and the weather warms up, we're going to take Joey out in the carriage with Dundee for a nice trot around the farm



About the Author: Frances lives with her husband Wayne and eight horses on a farm outside of the beach community of Lewes, DE. When she's not driving or showing her horses, the beach is her favorite place to be. In the off season she loves to drive her team along the ocean in the state park. Frances is a member of The World Coaching Club, The Four In Hand Club of Unionville, Pa, The Philadelphia Four In Hand Club, The CAA, The ADS and the Delmarva Driving Club.

More information is available on Southern Delaware Therapeutic Riding at [www.sdtrhr.com](http://www.sdtrhr.com)



At the Left: Lee as a Coach Horse with Frances Baker in the Bershires



Above: Lee as a Therapy Horse at Southern Delaware Therapeutic Riding



To the Left and Above: Joey interacting with Frances Baker's horse Dundee in anticipation of a carriage ride and 'being able to finally trot'!



## Dressage 101 at Cair Paravelle Farm On April 21st (raindate April 22nd)

Ever wonder what the fuss is about dressage? Ever gone to a combined test or horse driving trial, and wondered how they came up with those numbers, and what is all means? Is it just the difficult thing you have to do at a horse driving trial before you can do the fun part, that is cones and cross country? Or is it a means to help your horse balance itself better so that it is happier doing the job of pulling the carriage? Is it one means of improving communication between horse and driver?

If you want to know more, there will be a clinic offered in which you can bring your horse or just come to audit and learn more about this part of driving. Each lesson will involve up to three participants driving some of the figures in an elementary dressage test in an effort to help improve the willingness of the horse to move forward on the bit, and help the driver with understanding how to achieve better accuracy in executing these figures.

There will be a maximum of three group lessons, and during the lunch break, all participants and auditors are welcome to walk a test with the clinician.

Cost per participant and horse is \$20 payable to the DDC and auditors are encouraged to bring a dish to share. Lunch meat, bread and condiments will be provided by the club. All participants and grooms are expected to sign a DDC waiver available on the web site. Coggins are required

Call Anna Klumpp if interested or for more information. For those with driving experience and no horse, there is the possibility of using one of Anna's minis for the lessons at additional cost.

Single horse and vehicle combination only please





# Dressage 101 Entry Form

## Entry Form

Driver: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse: Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_

Describe our experience with driving \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you bringing a groom?   Y   N

Name and address

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mail to Anna Klumpp

13931 Eagles Nest Farm Lane

Still Pond, MD 21667

Or [montalmax@hotmail.com](mailto:montalmax@hotmail.com)

410-708-3588

Entries for participating with your horse must be submitted by April 19, 2018



## DIY Corner—Projects for Your Barn Using Recycled Materials

Spring is on the way and with it the dreaded insects—FLYS!!! Make your own Fly Spray with these simple ingredients and directions

**Fly Spray**

**Ingredients:**

- 2 cups white vinegar
- 1 cup Avon Skin So Soft Bath Oil  
(Original Scent)
- 1 cup water
- 1 tablespoon eucalyptus oil  
(available at health food stores)

**m**ix ingredients together in a spray bottle. Apply to your horse before riding or turning out. It will wear off as your horse sweats, so reapply as needed. ♥



Make your own drag with an old tire and some bolts

## Meet the Members!

The DDC welcomes back Dave Wilson and his business, Royal Acres Haflingers. Dave has been a longtime horse owner and breeder of Haflinger Horses. He can be seen at the Delaware State Fair every year with his beautiful horses. Dave is the owner of Wilson's Auction in Lincoln, Delaware and sponsors an annual Carriage Drive and Auction. You can also find Dave working hard at the Delaware State House of Representatives.

Welcome Back Melissa Stewart Deitrich. She has been a past Officer and Board Member. She loves, owns, and rides, and drives gaited horses and mules. Melissa is also a breeder, exhibitor, and owner at Fuzzibutt's Rabbitry. Melissa's mother, Diane Stewart, also joined the DDC and her passion is mules.

## Sunshine Report

Darlene Logan reported the following Sunshine sent:

Chris Bailey was sent best wishes/get well soon due to an upcoming surgery.

Call Darlene at 410-200-0960 or email her at [maneship@yahoo.com](mailto:maneship@yahoo.com) to have Sunshine sent!





## Upcoming Events!

4/21/2018

Dressage 101—An all day clinic held by Anna Klumpp at her farm in Still Pond, MD— will include hands on classes with participants able to bring their horse. See details and Entry Form on page 2 & 3.

5/12/2018

The 11th Annual DDC Pleasure Driving Show will be held at Caroline County 4-H Park. It is a traditional driving show featuring divisions for VSE, Pony, Horse, Multiples, and Novice Driver. Some additional classes included are Costume Class, Ride and Drive Class, Carriage Dog Class, Cones Course, In Hand Class, and Command Class. Division Championships and Reserve Championships will be awarded. Volunteers are always needed!! Contact George Parris at 302-846-2189 for additional information. The judge will be Jessica Axelsson from New Jersey. The Prize List will be available soon. See additional information regarding the Show on pages 7 & 8. We would love to promote your advertising and class Sponsorships are always needed and welcomed.

5/24 to 6/3/18

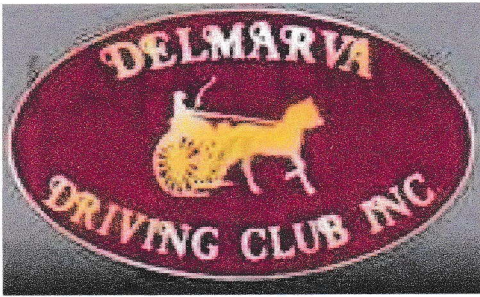
Devon Horse Show in Devon, PA (Driving and Coaching classes)

6/3/18

Come join DDC members for a leisurely drive through the beautiful trails at Furnace Town Living Heritage Museum. This venue is located just outside of Snow Hill, Maryland. The event will feature a drive from 11 am to 1 pm followed by dinner (Pig Roast). Each DDC Whip (driver) and groom will receive a free dinner voucher. Additional meal tickets can be purchased at a cost of \$35.00. Traditional driving dress is recommended (but not required). For more information, contact Diane Savage (410-641-1837 or [savagpearl@aol.com](mailto:savagpearl@aol.com)) or George Parris (302-846-2189). Celebrate the DDC's 35th Anniversary. More details to follow!!!







## A Delmarvalous Driving Club for 35 Years!

Most clubs and organizations can't be all things to all people but the Delmarva Driving Club sure comes close! The DDC is a group of enthusiasts that thrives on diversity. The Club is open to new ideas but at the same time holds with tradition. Members range from folks that never care to leave their home town to others that show and compete throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. All that is asked of members is to have a love of horses and an interest in driving!

We're on  
Facebook!  
Check us out

## Board of Directors

### President

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

### Vice President

Jane Bailey (443) 988-1395 andovermeadow@gmail.com

### Treasurer

Carol Bush (443) 553-6186 clbush2@yahoo.com

### Secretary

Kim Baklarz (410) 490 -6548 kim@qalibrary.org or kimbaklarz@yahoo.com

### Board Members:

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

Nancy Offen (302) 228-7612 nvoffenlit@juno.com

Michele Novack (202) 841-0019 cbhwhip@gmail.com

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

Carol Seilor (443)-466-5043 carol.seilor@live.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