



Let's Drive !



October, 2023

**Delmarva Driving Club,
Inc**

Bits and Pieces—Club Information

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Attention!!

* A DDC Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 12, 2023 at 7 p.m. The meeting is open to the Membership—members may speak on a subject, but they may not vote. This will be a Zoom Meeting—look for an invitation one week prior.

A DDC General Membership Meeting was held on Sunday, September 24, 2023 in conjunction with the Delaware Equine Council Membership Appreciation Ride and Drive Event at the Redden Forest in Georgetown, Delaware. The minutes of the February 2nd General Membership Meeting were approved as read. As of September 13th, the Treasury was \$6930.90. Details of expenses and income were available for review via the Treasurer's Ledger. The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented. The 2024 DDC Pleasure Show will be held on May 11, 2024 at the Wicomico Equestrian Center in Salisbury, Maryland. Judge's contracts are in process and there will be one new Class added – a Picnic Class. The Show Committee is meeting regularly and the Prize List will be available in January, 2024.

Volunteers are always needed and welcome. Meetings are held via Zoom. Contact John Layton at 609-556-9749 if you would like to be involved!

Frances Baker reported numerous cards have been sent from the Sunshine Committee. The membership has expressed gratitude and happiness upon receiving the personalized cards and Frances was thanked for her efforts. The 40th Anniversary Celebration of the DDC will be held in conjunction with the December General Membership Meeting and Christmas Party. The event location will be at the Redden Lodge in Georgetown, Delaware on December 2nd beginning at 1 pm. Shorty's will be the caterer and invitations will be mailed to all members and special guests. If you would like to help, please give John Layton a call at 609-556-9749 or email him at

JohnLCDEdriver@gmail.com.
Anniversary Event.

On October 28th, Michele Brauning is hosting a Picnic Class Clinic. This horseless event will help introduce everyone to this unique and interesting class. Look for more details in this newsletter. A Driving Derby Event is planned for November 11th. Additional details are in this newsletter.

The DDC donated \$560 to the Delaware Equine Council's Large Animal Rescue Response Squad fundraiser. This money was donated in memory and honor of DDC Member George Parris. The DEC has reached their goal of \$20,000 and the trailer and equipment has been ordered. The equipment will be housed at the Technical Response Unit in Georgetown, Delaware and firefighters are currently receiving training. They will work in conjunction with local veterinarians. Volunteers are also needed for several committees. We would love to have you involved! Call any Board Member for information.

From the President



Hello everyone!

Fall is a great time to drive and there are still plenty of events going on. With the cooler days and nights, it is more enjoyable for both us and our equines. We are fortunate that our great club still has a variety of events going on for the rest of the year! Are you interested in learning about a Picnic Class? - come to our clinic on October 28th. Interested in Driving Derbies? - come to our Driving Derby on November 11th. We are here to help anyone who wants to try anything. If any one has any ideas for events for 2024, please bring it to our attention. Please don't forget about our 40th anniversary celebration and our Christmas party on December 2nd! Come Drive With Us.

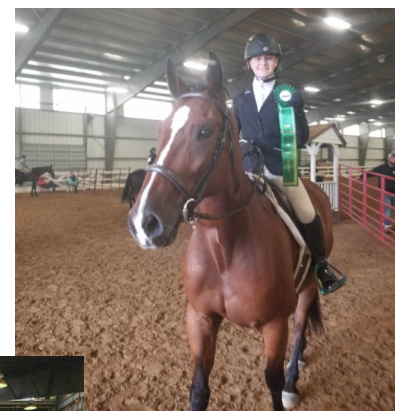
Colleen Layton's Journey to the Standardbred Nationals

September 22nd thru the 24th were very special days for Member Colleen Layton. She has loved and worked with horses from a young age, however at the age of 43 she was diagnosed with a muscle disease, making walking and riding difficult. So she took up driving. Two years ago Colleen and John adopted Ideal Kiss from former DDC Member Jane Ramsey. Kiss was a good pacer who made a lot of money for a lot of people, he was claimed 27 times - 27 different owners, drivers, trainers, homes. He arrived at their house and they asked him to change everything. He was asked to change his mindset, his harness, what he pulled and how he pulled it. He had to change his musculature, to move differently, to use his body in such a different way, and to change his gait from the only one he had ever used, from a pace to a trot. They also asked him to accept the change in how his feet were trimmed, what he ate, the type of trailer he rode in, and where he worked. Kiss had to change how he walked on a lead rope with Colleen, because she can't walk fast. He learned to stand very still while Colleen climbed in and out and on and off the carriage slowly and clumsily. He didn't move a foot, even when Colleen fell on occasion. He was asked to slow down and not rise to the challenge from another horse coming from behind, even though his whole career was based on that. Kiss learned to carry someone on his back and learned to balance all over again. But Kiss really shined at being a good example, showing that a Standardbred can do driven dressage and navigate obstacles. This is the second year Ideal Kiss and Colleen have participated in the National Standardbred Show and they totally rocked it! They entered the War Horse Division which consisted of an In Hand Class, a two Gait (Walk/Trot) Pleasure Class, a three Gait (Walk/Trot/Canter) Pleasure Class and an In Harness Class. (The War Horse Division is open to horses with over \$200,000 lifetime-earnings, or over 100 lifetime-starts.) Due to Colleen's physical limitations, she had a village help with her journey: her husband John handled the In Hand Class and won 10th out of 40 in the Class. Member Alex Driscoll was Colleen's legs for the two Gait Pleasure Class and won 6th Place. (Alex had only ridden Kiss a hand full of times prior to the Show). Another friend handled the War Horse three Gait Pleasure Class and Colleen drove in obstacles, reinsmanship, cones, and War Horse In Harness to win a 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th. Members Josh and Erin Gale showed up to cheer her on after a long day on their farm and even brought pizza since the food truck had left. They also got Colleen out of the carriage in one piece. Member Alex Driscoll and her family provided behind the scenes support and photos to document the event! The Club's motto is "Come Drive with Us" and this event really showed how our members support each other.



Members Shine at Showing

Our DDC Members are now competing in prestigious Regional and National events and really 'shining at what they're doing'. What a neat way to demonstrate their equestrian knowledge and skills while getting to know regional counterparts! Congratulations go to: Michele Brauning—she competed her VSEs in Regional, National and World Shows this year—everywhere from Ohio to Oklahoma to Texas; Martha Duchnowski competed her VSEs in pair hitch classes for the first time at Regional and National Shows; Charlie Purnell's Welsh Stallion won Championship awards in the Welsh National Show in Oklahoma; Michele Novack was invited to participate at the elite Dressage at Devon and won the Cleveland Bay Breed Class; Adriane and Dennis Baker from Scotchmans Glen Gypsies attended the Gypsy Live & GHSA Regional Championships at the World Equestrian Center in Ocala, Florida with their horse Marley and did fantastic. They also showed at the New England Gypsy Horse Club Show in Cobleskill, NY and received an invitation for their Gypsy Vanner named Marley to compete at the Colonial Classic in Prince George's Equestrian Center in Upper Marlboro, MD. Melinda, Dakota, and Savannah Soethe competed and did well in the 2023 Maryland Mustang TIP Challenge and the MD Mustang Show in Bel Air, MD. Alex Driscoll rode Colleen and John Layton's Ideal Kiss to a 6th Place finish in the National Standardbred Show.



DEC Ride and Drive Membership Appreciation Event

On Sunday, September 24th, the Delaware Equine Council held its 10th Annual Membership Appreciation Ride and Drive Event at the Redden Forest Headquarters in Georgetown, Delaware. This event allows equestrians to ride, drive, socialize, and eat. Even though the weather forecast kept a few participants away, the trails were in excellent condition and the food was fantastic! Thank you Delaware Equine Council for hosting such a wonderful event! Following the event, the Delmarva Driving Club was able to hold a 'face-to-face' General Membership Meeting.



Stan Vonasek



Pam, Gray, Mary Bashtarz, Carol Seilor



Mayvis Baker



Sherry Harris,
Martha
Zimmerman,
Alan Poole



Frances Baker,
Linda Thomas



Brooke Baker,
Phoebe Drury



Members Out and About



Mayvis and Brooke Baker at the DEC Show



Colleen Layton and Alex Driscoll at the National Standardbred Show



Michele Brauning, Charlie Purnell, and Diane Savage at Wicomico Equestrian Center



Faye Brewster at the MARD Event



Paul Maye driving Charlie Purnell's Welsh Stallion Bobby at the Welsh National Show



Members Out and About, cont.



Frances Baker driving an obstacle at Fair Hill



Michele Brauning and Toy Story in Texas



Michele Novak with Penny at Devon



Jess Tanglao driving Cash



Sunshine Corner

The Sunshine Corner is Back! It was established to express congratulations, sympathy or concern to members of our Club in the event of illness, bereavement or milestone events. Frances Baker has graciously volunteered to be our Sunshine Coordinator—if you know of someone needing “Sunshine”, please contact Frances at 302-381-2979 or email her at francesbaker65@gmail.com. This month **Sunshine** has been sent to:

Thinking of you/Get Well Wishes were sent to: Pam Gray who is doing well after her recent hip replacement surgery; Martha Zimmerman’s horse Belle underwent complicated eye surgery at New Bolton and is now home after 6 weeks; Kaye Purnell’s husband (Charlie Purnell and Tara Bruning’s father) was recently hospitalized and now is recovering in a rehab facility.

Congratulations were sent to: Donna Hurst whose father was inducted into the Hall of Fame for his leadership role in fisheries management in Delaware Bay as well as his work in Youth and Adult Marine Education. Congratulations go to: Michele Brauning, Charlie Purnell, Martha Duchnowski, Michele Novack, Adriane and Dennis Baker, and the Soethe Family for their amazing equestrian wins in very prestigious shows and events.

Welcome New Members

The Delmarva Driving Club welcomes new member Paige Horine from Baltimore, Maryland. Paige has been involved with anything equine for a good part of her life and she has been a long time competitor at the DDC Pleasure Driving Show. We look forward to seeing her at future events.



Upcoming Events

Always call ahead to ensure an event is still scheduled to be held as events can be cancelled or rescheduled.

- 10/5-8/23 Garden State CDE at the Horse Park of New Jersey—
<https://www.horseparkofnewjersey.com/> or contact John Layton for more details
- 10/7/23 Celebration of the Horse at Tuckahoe Equestrian Center—A driving Demonstration will be performed by DDC Member Judith Hartman
- 10/20-21/23 Amish School Sale at 764 Winding Creek Drive Dover, DE 19904 A multitude of items are available and it's a Benefit auction to raise money for the Amish Parochial Schools
- 10/20/23 Martins 52nd Annual Fall Auction at the Lebanon Fairgrounds—starts at 9 am
- 10/28/23 How to Pack a Picnic for a Picnic Class with Susan Koso—to be held at Brooklyn Meadows in Berlin, Md beginning at 11 am (see flyer and information on pages (9 – 10)
- 10/29/23 The Brandywine Fall Frolic at Fair Hill—in addition to fun classes like a Picnic Class a Carriage Dog Class, and a Pleasure Drive Pace, there will be Turnout, Timed Obstacles, Reinsmanship, Working, and Juniors Classes. The Judge is DDC Member Bill Venditta. Classes are \$15 each (except 7, 8, and 9 which are \$20) Registration is available online at <http://bvdc.org/frolic-registration>
- 11/11/23 DDC Driving Derby at Hollyville Farm—see details on page 11–12
- 12/2/23 **DDC 40th Anniversary Celebration and General Membership Meeting at Redden Lodge in Georgetown, DE Details to follow**



Delmarva Driving Club, Inc.
"How to Pack a Picnic for the Picnic Class"
Information



Date: Saturday, October 28, 2023

Start Time: 10:00 am

Location: Brooklyn Meadows 10442 Brooklyn Lane Berlin,
Maryland 21811 (on the lawn)

Attire: Neat and tidy, be sure to dress for the weather
and your presentation (if doing one)

Discussion: This is a 'horseless' event designed to prepare participants
for the second part of the Picnic Class at the 2024 DDC
Pleasure Show (the first part involves Ring Work with
your horse and carriage). You are encouraged to prepare
a picnic which will be tasted and judged or you can be one
of the 'tasters/judges'. ADS Judge Susan Koso will be
giving pointers and assistance. Dessert will be served by
Hostess Michele Brauning

Registration: Please complete the attached registration form and return
it to Michele Brauning no later than October 20th.
Either email to: j.brauning@mchsi.com or mail to:
Michele Brauning 10634 Piney Island Dr. Bishopville, MD
21813
Call 410-422-3387 for additional information

View the webinar 'The Picnic Class: A to Z' by the BVDC at <https://youtu.be/ieAgUQvJj4I?si=dUUSEksiOYx1GNT9> to prepare or review the American Driving Society Rulebook Chapter 6, Article 232 of the Pleasure Driving section.



Delmarva Driving Club, Inc.
"How to Pack a Picnic for the Picnic Class"
Registration

Participant's Name: _____

Contact Number: _____

Email: _____

Registration:

I will be actively participating in the Picnic Class by staging a picnic. (Please bring your own table and chairs -bring a pop-up tent if inclement weather.)

I would like to participate in the Judging. (Please bring your own chair)

Please complete the above registration form and return it to Michele Brauning no later than October 20th.

Either email to: j.brauning@mchsi.com
or mail to: Michele Brauning
10634 Piney Island Dr. Bishopville, MD 21813

Call 410-422-3387 for additional information



Delmarva Driving Club, Inc.
Driving Derby Information

Entries are Open Now and Close 11/3

Date: Saturday, November 11, 2023
Start Time: 10:00 am
Location: 23430 Hollyville Road, Harbeson, Delaware 19951
(in the front pasture)
Attire: Neat and tidy, helmet and whip required, vest is recommended

Divisions: Training (Walk/Trot) and Preliminary (Walk/Trot/Canter)

Fee: \$40

Trailer Parking: After you enter at the main gate, trailer parking will be in the big field on the left. The competition area is located at the far end of the pasture

Warm-Up Area: Look for signage - we will have practice cones there.

Off-Limits Areas: This is a working farm—do not venture any further than the Barn—Signage will be posted!

Competitor's Documents will be emailed to you upon completed registration

No Food is available at the site, but water is available for your equines



Delmarva Driving Club, Inc. Driving Derby Registration Form

Driver's First and Last Name: _____

Driver's Email: _____

Driver's Phone Number: _____

Emergency Contact & Phone #: _____

For Driver's under 18:

Driver's Birthdate: _____

Accompanying Adult Name & Phone #: _____

Equine Information:

Name: _____

Size: _____ Breed: _____

Gender: _____

Division Entry Information:

Training (Walk/Trot Only) Preliminary (Walk/Trot/Canter)

What needs to be submitted with this registration form:

Coggins within the past 12 months

Waiver signed by driver and groom(s)

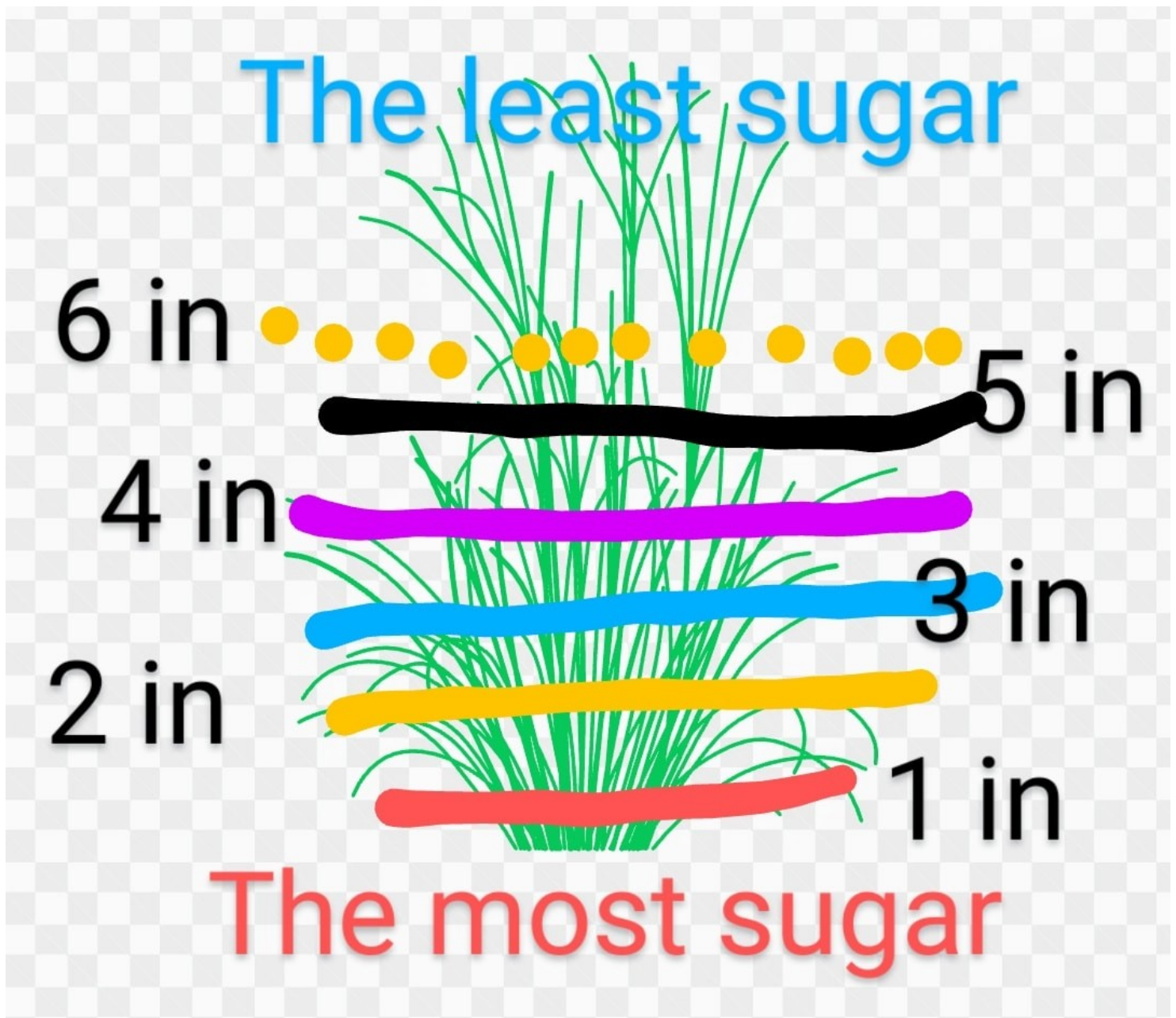
Payment—DDC accepts Paypal (delmarvadrivingclub) or Check made payable to the DDC

Registration can be emailed to delmarvadrivingclub1983@gmail.com or sent to
Delmarva Driving Club P. O. Box 415 Delmar, DE 19940

Contact John Layton at 609—556-9749 for additional information

Helpful Hints!

Have you ever wondered why you can have a 15 acre field and part of it is chewed down to nubs and the other part has grass a hand high, But your horse is constantly grazing in the chewed down part? Well grass 6 inches and taller has less sugars than grass under 6 inches. For every inch drop below 6 inches, the fructan (sugar) content rises. Grass under 6 inches is stressed like it's a Monday morning with a project deadline. It uses sugar to repair itself. So stop mowing your fields short. Stop grazing your 'overweight or chubby' equines on chewed down grass. (this is why grazing muzzles are so touted...they keep the horse from being able to get much short grass). You shouldn't let your fields be 3 feet tall, by any means— the optimal thing to do is keep your pastures 6-8 inches tall and rotate your pastures.





We're on Facebook
and Instagram!
Check us out



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John Layton

Vice President

Frances Baker

Treasurer

Stan Vonasek

Secretary

Colleen Layton

Board Members:

Michele Brauning

Josh Gale

Anna Klumpp

Charlotte (Charlie) Purnell

Facebook/Newsletter Editor

Linda Thomas

Sunshine Chair

Frances Baker

If you need to contact the Board of Directors/Officers or Committee Chairs, please use our new Club Email: delmarvadrivingclub1983@gmail.com

or P. O. Box 415 Delmar, Delaware 19940