



Let's Drive !



September, 2023

**Delmarva Driving Club,
Inc**

Bits and Pieces—Club Information

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Attention!!

A DDC General Membership Meeting will be held on Sunday, September 24, 2023 at Redden State Forest Headquarters in Georgetown, DE. The meeting will follow the Delaware Equine Council's Ride and Drive Membership Appreciation Event (beginning around 1:30 pm). All members are encouraged to attend.

A DDC General Membership Meeting will be held on Sunday, September 24, 2023 in conjunction with the Delaware Equine Council Annual Ride and Drive Membership Appreciation Event at the Redden Forest Headquarters in Georgetown, Delaware. The Ride and Drive Event begins at 10 am sharp with carriages on the trail first, followed by the riders. Lunch, catered by Shorty's Catering, will occur from 12 noon to 1:30 pm. The DDC Meeting will begin immediately following lunch. Besides being a great event at a nice driving venue, this is a wonderful opportunity for you to join a DDC Meeting in person! Current Delaware Equine Members are admitted free to the ride/drive and lunch, however you can join the DEC that day for the following fee: Youth—\$10,

Individual—\$25, Organization—\$30, and a Commercial Membership for \$40. As an added bonus, current members can renew for 2024 at a \$5 discount. Please RSVP for the Ride/Drive and Lunch Event by September 18th by calling or emailing Stan Vonasek at 302-684-3966 or Stan22146@hotmail.com. If you are unable to make the Ride/Drive Event, please join us for the General Membership Meeting beginning at 1:30 pm.

John Layton is the Show Chairman for the 2024 DDC Pleasure Driving Show. Planning has already started for the show and volunteers are always needed and welcome. Meetings are held via Zoom. Contact John at 609-556-9749 if you would like to be involved!

2023 is quickly coming to an end and it is time to start planning our Christmas Holiday/40th

Anniversary Event. The 40th Anniversary Committee is actively working on this special event which will be held on December 2nd. If you would like to help, please give John Layton a call at 609-556-9749 or email him at JohnLCDEdriver@gmail.com.

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 Cones/Driving Derby Event is in the planning stages for the weekend of November 11th/12th. Watch for more details soon.

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!

As we approach the final months of 2023, there continue to be a lot of driving opportunities. Be sure to check the Calendar so you don't miss anything. The next Club event is on Sunday, September 24th. The Delaware Equine Council is once again hosting their Annual Membership Appreciation Event which features a 5 mile drive on the hard packed trails at Redden Forest. This is a great place for all levels of drivers. Following the Drive there will be a General Membership Meeting which will allow us to all meet face to face with the opportunity for Member input. On

October 28th there will be the opportunity to learn about a Picnic Class which is a part of Pleasure Showing. Michele Brauning is coordinating this 'horseless event', so look for some great information and hands on participation. Don't miss our 40th Anniversary Celebration in conjunction with our December Christmas Party and Membership Meeting on December 2nd. Look for details on all of these upcoming events in the Newsletter, on Facebook, and via Club email. Don't hesitate to call any Board Member if you would like to be involved.

Congratulations to Kate Pantelione and Maui

Congratulations to DDC Member Kate Pantelione and her VSE Maui. This was Kate's last year in 4-H and the season's last 4-H State Horse Show in New Jersey. Kate and Maui (or Add A Little Spice) were Grand Champions of the Driving Division! Kate began her driving career in 2019 at the Atlantic County 4-H Fairgrounds when she rode in the Show Ring with DDC Member John Layton. From that moment Kate has taken a very active interest in driving - from pleasure to competitive showing! She has been a groom, navigator, and driver of many different horses and breeds. About nine months ago, Kate rescued Maui and they have become quite a team. They participated in the DDC Pleasure Show, the Elk Creek CDE at Fair Hill, the Lorenzo Driving Competition in New York, several Driving Derbies, and they are scheduled to compete in the Garden State CDE at the Horse Park of New Jersey in October. It's great to see young people find an outdoor passion, something that pulls them away from the computer screen and encourages them to be active. Horses also help you learn life lessons that help make you a good human, learn to be caring and selfless, and build a good work ethic.

Way to Go Kate and Maui!



Trot the Trails Event on August 19th!



DDC Members Frances and Wayne Baker's Hollyville Farm in Harbeson, DE was the site for the recent Trot the Trails Event. Besides the wonderful location, the beautiful weather was perfect for the participants from Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Ten entries navigated three different courses. There was a cones course designed to be easy enough for a novice, but still challenging for more experienced drivers, followed by a 6 kilometer (4 mile) pleasure drive through the wooded trails of the farm. The event ended with a Driving Derby which is very spectacular and now quite popular with both drivers and spectators. It can take place outside on a plot

provided for this purpose or inside an enclosure, like an arena. Driving derbies are a great way to have fun and ultimately are used as practice or 'tuning up' for combined driving events. The components of this event include a cones course (pairs of numbered cones with a ball set on the top) and two combined driving style obstacles. Both the cones and the gates within an obstacle have a red marker on the right and a white marker on the left thus indicating the correct direction to be driven. Competitors may be allowed to drive multiple rounds of the course, with each round scored separately. After the judge has blown the whistle, the competitor passes through the Start/Finish line, which starts their time. They then proceed through a series of numbered cones and then into the first obstacle, driving the lettered gates in alphabetical order and in the correct direction. Once the obstacle is complete the driver proceeds through another set of numbered cones and into the second obstacle again driving the lettered gates in order and in the correct direction. After the second obstacle, they proceed through the last set of numbered cones to the finish line where their time stops. Scores are determined by the time on course plus any course or other penalties (assessed in seconds). Placing is determined by the fastest time including time added for penalties. Derbies usually include different divisions to accommodate a variety of skill levels from rookie drivers (or horses) to those who are very experienced. The four divisions are Training, Preliminary, Intermediate and Advanced. The differences between the levels are the allowed gaits of the horse and the amount of compulsory lettered gates in the obstacles. Training level is only allowed to walk or trot, whereas the other levels allow the entries to canter on course. The number of compulsory gates in an obstacle changes for each division. Training has three gates labeled A through C, Preliminary A through D, Intermediate A through E, and Advanced A through F.

Ideally, marathon vehicles are driven for derbies, but traditional vehicles may also be used. Navigators are required for each entry (with a few exceptions). Navigators are allowed to communicate with the driver and give directions as to the route intended to be driven, but of equal importance, the navigator is a counter weight on the back of a marathon. In a derby, horses need to be sound but do not have to be as fit as they would be if they were competing in a combined driving marathon. Protective equipment for the horse such as splint boots, bell boots and harness padding is allowed. The driver and navigator are required to wear approved helmets and safety vests are strongly encouraged for adults and are mandatory for juniors. The attire of the driver and navigator is casual similar to what would be worn for the marathon portion of combined driving.

A driving derby is an excellent opportunity to gain experience for those who are new to combined driving as well as a "tune up" for seasoned entries. To add to the challenge of our Trot the Trails Driving Derby, awards were given for the best times for VSE, Pony, Horse, and Multiples (since many of our participants were new to the event)! Winners were: Kate Pantelione in the VSE Division, Stan Vonasek for the Pony Division, Ken Lehberger for the Horse Division, and George Clardy for Multiples. All the participants enjoyed this fun and educational event and are ready to try it again! Many thanks go to : Frances and Wayne Baker for planning and hosting the event and volunteers Kim Baklarz, Rich Graves, Ann Lioio, Sherry Harris, Mary Bashtarz, Linda Thomas, Brianne Reynolds, and Lane Reis. Participants were John Layton and his Cleveland Bay Sport Horse Eris K, Ken and Mary Lehberger with Big Ronda, George and Barbara Clardy with their Highland Pony pair, Zina Hense and her VSE, Stan and Laurie Vonasek with York the pony, Charlie Purnell and Olive Oyl, Michele Brauning and her VSE pair, Diane and Rick Savage with her Welsh pony, Kate Pantelione with Maui, and Donna Hurst with Moose. During this event, the DDC even gained 4 new members!!!!

Trot the Trails Event on August 19th!, cont.

The Volunteers



John Layton



Sherry Harris and Mary Bashtarz



Linda Thomas and Lane Reis



Kim Baklarz and Rich Graves

Camera Shy - Ann Lioio

Trot the Trails Event on August 19th!, cont.

The Participants



Ken & Mary (Doughtery) Lehberger driving Big Ronda in the Cones Course



Charlie Purnell and Jay Wilson with Olive Oyl



Michele Brauning with her pair of VSEs



Diane Savage and Lauralee Purnell with Twinkie

Kate Pantelione and Maui



Trot the Trails Event on August 19th!, cont.



Barbara & George Clardy with their Highland Pony pair



Stan Vonasek and his pony York



Donna Hurst and Moose



John Layton and Eris K

**Driving Derby Winners: L-R
George Clardy, Kate Pantelione,
and Ken Lehberger**



Members Out and About



Diesel Baker enjoying a Carriage Ride



Frances Baker driving a Unicorn Hitch



Jane Oehler and her corgi Ghillie



Martha Duchnowski and her pair of VSEs



Linda Thomas giving carriage rides at the Great Pocomoke Fair



Members Out and About, cont.

Judith Hartman and Rainbow at Harlequin Farms



John Layton driving Eris K and Alex Driscoll driving Jazz



Marcy Eades driving Aslan at Harlequin Farms

Frances Baker driving six of her horses in a 6 horse hitch



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: Shannon Gandee is recovering from knee replacement surgery.

Congratulations were sent to: Kate Pantelione for winning the 4-H Grand Champion of the Driving Division at her last 4-H Show; Michele Brauning was inducted into the American Miniature Horse Association Hall of Fame

Welcome New Members

The Delmarva Driving Club welcomes back member Lauralee Purnell from Berlin, MD. Lauralee has been involved with anything equine for a good part of her life. She drives a pony and we look forward to seeing her at future events.

Jay Wilson and Glenda Braddock work at Holly Grove Stables in Berlin, MD and even though they are new to carriage driving, they are really enjoying the sport. We look forward to Jay and Glenda joining us for DDC events.

Susan Koso is a licensed American Driving Society Pleasure Judge who spends her time between Massachusetts and Maryland. She is actively involved in all types of carriage driving and shows. She even volunteered at the 2023 DDC Pleasure Show.



Upcoming Events

Due to the Covid 19 virus, many events have been canceled for everyone's safety. Always call ahead to ensure an event is still scheduled to be held as many events have been cancelled or rescheduled.

- 9/3/23 Ludwigs Corner Horse Show—See and enjoy the carriages on Sunday during Labor Day Weekend; these “turnouts” should pass through the Main Ring about 2 PM. A pleasure drive of the surrounding countryside follows. Website: <https://ludwigshorseshow.com/carriage-exhibition-drive/> For more information about driving in this event, please call Tracey Freeman (484-437-5200) or Pam Bastings (610-384-1891).
- 9/7-10/23 MARD—Mid-Atlantic Recreational Drive held at Fair Hill, MD. There are 2 barns of stabling reserved and Fair Hill has 30-40 miles of carriage-accessible trails, mostly dirt and gravel roads and open meadows. A limited amount of weatherproof trail maps may be available on-site. Registration is available via ADS online Omibus or <https://www.facebook.com/groups/midatlanticrecreationaldrive> or contact Heidi Ferguson at (302) 632-8024.
- 9/8-10/23 Villa Louis Carriage Classic - The 2023 Prize Lists are now available for this neat show in Prairie du Chien, WI Check their website for more details www.CarriageClassic.com
- 9/9/23 Driving Derby at Fair Hill, MD—sponsored by Brandywine Valley Driving Club—check their website for details
- 9/16/23 GLADSTONE EQUESTRIAN ASSOC FUN DAY OF DRIVING, Gladstone, NJ - Includes cones and games. Website: <https://www.gladstonedriving.org/calendar> (rain date 9/17)
- 9/24/23 BUXMONT PLEASURE DRIVING SHOW - Website: <https://www.buxmontridingclub.com/copy-of-mini-horse-shows>
- 9/24/23 Delaware Equine Council Membership Appreciation Trail Ride and Drive at Redden State Forest in Georgetown, DE beginning at 10 am, **the DDC General Membership Meeting will be held immediately following lunch**
- 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—details to follow
- 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 on page 11)
- 12/2/23 **DDC 40th Anniversary Celebration and General Membership Meeting at Redden Lodge in Georgetown, DE Details to follow**

How to Pack a Picnic for a Picnic Pleasure Class



Come join fellow DDC Members learn how to prepare and pack your Picnic for a Picnic Pleasure Class. ADS Pleasure Judge Susan Koso will share her knowledge at this 'horse less' event. There will be lots of information as well as a chance to sample some of the 'goodies'. This type of class is unique and does require a lot of preparation and organization. However to help you understand this event, the American Driving Society Rule Book outlines the guidelines for this Class in Chapter 6, Article 232 of the Pleasure Driving section. There is both a performance section and staging section of the class, but this clinic will focus on the staging section.

When: Saturday, October 28, 2023 beginning at 11 am

Where: Brooklyn Meadows—10442 Brooklyn Lane, Berlin, MD

For more information and to RSVP, please call Michele Brauning at 410-422-3387.



"Member Appreciation Day" Trail Ride and Drive

Sunday, September 24, 2023 - 10:00 AM

**Redden State Forest Headquarters Tract
18074 Redden Forest Drive, Georgetown, DE**

Registration begins at 9:30

Carriages drive out at 10 am, riders to follow
Catered lunch provided by **Shorty's Catering** 12 noon till 1:30

"Current members admitted Free"

Members may also renew for 2024 at a \$5 savings the day of the ride.

Non-members? Become a current member & 2024 DEC member,
enjoy the ride/drive and lunch!

(Youth \$10, Individual \$25, Organizational \$30, Commercial \$40)

RSVP no later than September 18, 2023 to:

Stan Vonasek 302-684-3966 or Stan22146@Hotmail.com

or

Pam Nebel 240-994-2220 Call or Text



**Please REMEMBER the DDC General Membership Meeting
will take place at 1:30 pm**

Helpful Hints!



It seems all equestrians have some kind of battle with keeping water troughs filled. Here's a helpful hack—place the end of your hose through a Jolly Ball—it keeps the hose from 'flying out' of the trough and you can see from a distance when the trough is full.

Tether your brushes to your water buckets.

If you are regularly filling your water buckets only to realize you left your brushes somewhere else, you can just run some baling twine/rope through holes on the rims of your buckets and attach the brushes directly. That way, they will always be there.

If you make up feed ahead of time, don't leave it in an open bucket/pan. Instead, cover it with a shower cap. That is enough to prevent flies from getting at the food. Supposedly it can deter rodents too, but rodents can chew through plastic pretty easily if they realize there is food under it.





We're on Facebook
and Instagram!
Check us out

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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