
NEWSLETTER



❧ WWW.MHDVA.ORG ❧

NO. 95

MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN DRIVING SOCIETY

SPRING/SUMMER 2015



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FROM THE EDITOR

Hello All! I hope this finds everyone doing well. I have again been neglectful in getting the newsletter out! I was planning for a nice spring newsletter to come out right after the Stallion Expo, and time has passed me by, yet again, other than not being able to work on this at work, (we are no longer allowed on the internet), I have no good reason to have not gotten this out to our membership this spring and I apologize! Now I have gotten my wi-fi reception straightened out I can email out to everyone.

After my mis-adventures last fall, I did in fact turn over a new leaf, work is a means to fund my horse trips! I am still working shift work, soon to begin working day shift for the first time in probably 10 yrs. I still work some overtime, but am no longer working 70-80 hrs per week. As a result I have actually been using my horses at home and they're not quite sure what to do about that, LOL.

I started the "season" out with Barb Chapman's spring drive in May, I missed the club show in June, in July I was able to head to Sleepy Hollow, and I just got home from Gladwin Carriage Festival. I will be heading to my cousins house in the center of New York for a week, then heading from there to the National Drive at the KY Horse Park, to round out the fall trips. I will miss the Beautiful Northway Drive though.

I have a young friend that has been coming out regularly and working Miles (the Welsh pony) under saddle, and my friend Grace has been coming to the house regularly; where we alternate working Dream or Milton down the roads from the house.

I have just found a wonderful teenage girl for Isabella (the quarter horse mare) to call her own. Mariah came out to meet her and fell in love, and rode her without fear. I expect that they will go far together and look forward to seeing her reach her potential. An added bonus, she is only 30 minutes away, very likely I have now found another local riding and driving friend in Mariah and her mother Bethann. Happy Trails!



FROM THE PRESIDENT:

(from March)

After such a cold February and the continuing cold into March, I am more than ready for some warm driving weather. I have wished many times for the ability to sleigh in the winter. I miss spending more time with my equine friends in the winter months. Do any of you have a way to spend more equine bonding time in the winter or do you hibernate like me?

Remember to be safe starting with checking your harness for wear and making sure all bolts are tight and everything lubricated on your carriage. Follow that by maintenance of your towing vehicle and finally, check out your trailer. Make sure your spare is ready and that you have everything you need for a tire change. Also, look into your first aid kit. Make sure everything is there that would be needed in an emergency. I have had US Rider insurance for years. The one time I needed, I was very impressed with their service!!!

Finally, keep checking the MHDVA.org calendar for upcoming drives. I hope to see you this summer!!

Sincerely

Dorothy Childs



Miles—above

Isabella - left, in her new home

BARB'S DRIVE , METAMORA MI

Barb Chapman is always a wonderful and gracious hostess! Again this year she invited us to enjoy her gorgeous facility, providing stalls for those who wished to stay the weekend.

Those who participated from both MHDVA and MCDA clubs had a wonderful time, participating in an arena driving trial and enjoying the roads and the trails on the farm.

THE CARAVAN:

Many of us followed the posts and stories on Facebook, many of us have met Mr. Gerard Paagman at the National Drive, where he has his semi of driving equipment for us to shop from. This is a fabulous adventure, story from Driving Digest!

Story page 6



FROM LINDA ALOYO:

I would just like to take a minute to give everyone who helped with the MHDVA MSU Expo table a BIG THANK YOU for the group effort and the TEAM play & also to the backup Alternates who were ready to jump in "just in case"! Though we were not in a very well-traveled area this year, we were still there. Maybe next year they would let us display a cart/ carriage outside the building in the corner under the overhang and we could display a sign that said something like "Displayed by the Michigan Horse-Drawn Vehicles Association...check us out at booth #10". (Just a thought)

We have a little tweaking to do to make sure our sale item prices are well marked....but we're getting there. If anyone has any other suggestion to help attract people to our booth, drop us a line and we'll discuss it.

So once again THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU! Also THANK YOU to Michelle VandenBoom who filled in when the club she signed up for didn't work out; I am sorry for them but happy for us! J

Sincerely,
MHDVA

NORTHWAY FALL DRIVE: FROM LINDA WELLS:

The last full weekend of September we'll be hosting our annual carriage drive. About a month ago I sent a heads' up and several people have responded.

If you plan to come spend the weekend Sept 25-27th, please let me know, and what you may need from us; stall, pen, electric etc.

For those who come on Friday I'll do a light supper in the barn. Saturday evening we have a pot-luck so bring a dish to pass for that. Other meals are on your own.

I know I some T-shirt sizes from prior years, but don't expect me to be smart enough to have retained that information..... so please, help Richard order enough and in the right sizes by letting me know your size.

Please let any of your carriage driving or riding friends know about this event. They're very welcome to come and have fun!
Hope to see you next month!

Thanks, Linda
lawells126@gmail.com

SLEEPY HOLLOW CAMPOUT

Sleepy Hollow trail riders, and camp host Gale Moore again hosted a weekend of camping out and trail riding and driving at Sleepy Hollow State Park.

We had good weather, though the mosquitos were well fed too (despite Gale spraying camp for us).

If you have not yet partaken of this beautiful facility the trail riders have been working hard to promote the horse trails in the park, building a driving trail around the lake a couple years ago, and brush hogging the riding trails where the brave and hardy drivers can also drive. A word of caution to those driving the riding trails, some are rougher than others and you may come across a gate that is closed to "vehicles", saddle horses can go around the side of the gates, but you may have to unhook and turn around, so it is best to have a helper with you, and I would not recommend anything but a 2 wheel cart to go onto the riding portions of the trails.

Always a great group of people, we had grand feast of pot-luck for breakfast and dinner, living up to the nickname "The Driving and Dining Club".



Photo : Northway fall drive
2013

MEMBERSHIP:

Welcome new member. Please pencil into your 2015 Membership Roster a new member:

Jack & Marilyn Cameron
9627 Copas Rd.
Lennon, Mi. 48449
810-516-8468

Jack & Marilyn have a pony & a paint that they drive to an Easy Entry cart. They were at the February ask the experts meeting at MSU and enjoyed a good meal and a very informative talk by Jack Mirakian. We hope to see them at more MHDVA events this year.

Also...Congratulations to Melissa Boyd of Equine Sports In Fenton for becoming the 2nd Platinum Member in the MHDVA. Thank you for your continued support.

Also...Please add Carrie Barr's email address & phone number to your roster. It is: rcbarr7557@hotmail.com / 517-230-7032...she is grouped with Gale Moore.

Renewing member:
Rainelle & Greg Matte
7800 Wildcat Rd.
Ovid, MI. 48866
989-834-1178
Cracklingpine@gmail.com

New Members:
Kim & Melodie Moore
4152 Shepherd Rd.
St. Louis, MI. 48880
989-284-5032

Angela & Albert Hohenbrink
D529 County Road 10
Hammer, Oh 43524
419-274-1122
Groom@carriagedog.com

Rick Watkins
3462 Millington Rd.
Millington, Mi. 48746
989-871-3684
rwatkins@nicki.net

GLADWIN CARRIAGE FESTIVAL

This years Carriage Festival was the best ever weather! Rain overnight on Friday was it, not too hot either, I'd guess it to be mid 70's.

Festival organizers, especially Pam Allen worked very hard to re-build the event. Sadly many of the re-enactors were not there, and many vendors also did not participate. Partly possibly due to their 4-H fair having been moved to the weekend just prior to the Carriage Festival. Also missing from the event was the Vintage Baseball game. Perhaps I did not notice in prior years, but this year I observed a couple of gentlemen with a grand collection of violins and or fiddles, he was providing free lessons to anyone who wished to play. I enjoyed watching and listening! There was also music every night in the front barn.

Chariots provided by Gale Moore were a great hit with the spectators, and participants as well. Horse games were moved to the front area just inside the gate to make it easier for the public to see and access. A dressage area was also set up to demonstrate for the public.

In discussions with Pam we tossed around many ideas for next year, and hope to continue to re-build the event. I believe this years festival horse participants were all from MHDVA, including the folks who came all the way from Indiana! **A big thank you from Gladwin Historical Society for your support of this event!**

This is the most economical recreational event you can attend with your horses! The public attending the event made sure to mention how much they appreciated those of us who took time to talk to them about the horses and allow them to have a pet and pat! Hope to see you next year!



Gale Moore @ Gladwin Fest

Nancy Caulfield and Pam Allen



Carrie Barr @ Gladwin fest



MHDVA CLASSIFIED

For Sale: **Meadowbrook** style cart, spares box, step in the rear, one seat lifts up for easy entry, 2 sets of wheels (48" and 52"), \$1600. Pictured below.



For Sale: **Smuckers Harness**. Black Pleasure (wide) backpad, deluxe breast collar, false martingale, deluxe bridle, stand-up rein turrets, extra hip and neck straps, all russet reins. Metal parts are stainless steel as much as was available. No patent leather except a tiny bit on browband. \$800

For Sale: **Letties ladies driving gloves**, \$100, used only for a few shows. These are fabulous gloves, reinforced in all the right places for driving.

For Sale: Wire wheeled, metal **pony cart**, has interchangeable, pole and shafts and a set of metal sleigh runners. \$400

For Sale: Other **misc. driving items**; wool lap robes, men's hats, women's hats, sleigh bells, 51/4" snafflemouth liverpool, ear doilies, black fleece harness pad, hatpins, nice gloves (thin and soft, but not Letties), various driving whips, and tons of other horsey stuff for riding and driving, too numerous to mention.

For any of the items above: contact Susan at myerssus@msu.edu. For those who do not have access to email, you may call between 5pm and 8pm weekdays and 10am to 8pm weekends (517) 694-6490.

FOR SALE:

Pony sized easy entry cart with harness for 12 hand pony or donkey for sale.

Also Draft size easy entry cart.

Pictured below - American Cart and Harness easy entry cart (made in the USA). The wheels are 44". The shafts are 98" long and 37" wide at narrowest point. Cart weighs approx 250lbs. The seat is 44" wide, good for 2 good sized adults.

The shafts are metal and are removable for transport. It has flush hubs and seat is adjustable for balance if necessary. It is ready to use, no work needed, as it has a fresh coat of paint and poly. Comes with the cart stand and whip socket. Make me an offer

Cady Ness-Smith
Ph: 517-281-9139
Fx: 517-338-5001
Email: sascns@flash.net

CARRIAGES/CARTS:

Meadowbrook two wheel carts. Plans, parts, or custom made carts. Easy entry.

Jack Sanderson

6900 80th Fremont, MI 49412

Phone: 231-924-3796

Email: jack@meadowbrookcarts.com

Wen: www.meadowbrookcarts.com

WANTED:

USED CONES FOR MHDVA

MEMBERSHIP:

Membership special-

CARRIAGES -

Custom Trail carts and repairs

Contact: Gale Moore

Moore 48848@yahoo.com

517-896-1488

3 mini Chariots available, \$650 each



Lull Carriage Company Sleigh. This was manufactured in Kalamazoo, MI between 1891 and 1920. It has doors (in working order) and also springs. Shafts included (may have been repaired at some point). Seat is original with straw filling. Sleigh is painted black and red. Horse sized. Asking \$1250 517-281-9139 or sascns@flash.net



FOR SALE:

Harness

Leather horse harness , \$200 obo . Meadowbrook cart, horse size, 84 in shaft, extra leaf spring, flush hubs, like new \$1200 obo

Call Michelle VandenBoom

810-305-1280 or email

zambo48049@yahoo.com



Jann Normington
7700 Kimball Rd.
Lyons, MI 48851
616 902 2937

A small, fluffy dog sitting on a pile of yellow leaves.

THE CARAVAN

Led by Gerard Paagman of Ideal Harness, and Access Adventure founder Michael Muir, some traveled with The Caravan for a few days or weeks. Some came to drive, others to ride, and a few just to help and be a part of it.

The journey took them through deserts, mountains and plains, over rivers and bridges, and along highways. They drove through rain and cold, sunshine and dust. They drove on the beaches along the Gulf of Mexico.

Rests were scheduled every few days to give the animals a chance to relax and the people a chance to shop, do laundry and reorganize. A two-week break for Christmas started December 17 and reconvened in the New Year.

“The Caravan is not just an adventure – it is also a learning experience,” said Gerard Paagman. This was Gerard’s dream – to drive across a country – one he has come to know well from the seat of his orange 18-wheel tractor-trailer – but this time he would do it on the box seat with the lines of a four-in-hand of Friesian horses in his hands. A native of the Netherlands, he has always commented on the beauty of the American landscape as he traversed it at highway speed. Now he had his chance to explore and enjoy it at a slower pace.

This was Michael Muir’s fourth cross-country journey. His motivation was to reach out to injured and disabled veterans by stopping at veteran facilities and inviting them to ride on his carriage. On Veterans’ Day they participated in a parade in Yuma, Arizona. Because of his own disability, Michael now drives a wheelchair accessible carriage. He believes one should “focus on what you can do, not on what you can’t do.”

Many people opened their farms and ranches to The Caravan, providing hospitality to the travelers and their animals. The generosity of these hosts was amazing. One example – when asked where hay could be purchased, the host had a large round bale delivered that he donated to the group.

The logistics of such an enormous endeavor were complicated, and in the beginning there were some kinks. Drivers and their entourages slept in RVs, horse trailers, even tents. Getting everything packed up and moved every few days was a bit of a chore. The group spent over a week at Indian Spirit Springs in Bryan, Texas, a 900-acre ranch turned equestrian facility. Not only could Caravan participants use the clubhouse to shower and wash clothes, they could turn their horses loose. For a week they all ran free in a herd – the Friesians, the Gypsy Wagon Percherons, and even Ticket, the miniature horse. They always showed up at the trailers at feeding time and were ready in the mornings to be caught and harnessed for the day’s ride or drive.

Louise Nyquist, a 70-year-old woman from Scio, Oregon, drove her miniature horse Ticket from start to finish. “It was a chance of a lifetime,” said Louise, and it “absolutely” lived up to her expectations. “I have a whole new family,” she said.

Ticket is a 9-year-old gelding that Louise has had for four years. She started endurance training with him in July to prepare him for the journey. “He was probably the most fit of any,” said Louise. Michael Muir didn’t think he’d make it, but he was wrong. Ticket was put to a hyper-bike, weighing only 30 pounds; Louise didn’t want Ticket to have to pull any more weight than necessary.

Only a handful of people did the entire drive. One couple was John and Joanne Van Eck. They drove a Gypsy Wagon pulled by a pair of Percherons. Along the way, they modified the pole to accommodate a third horse – the added horsepower made pulling the heavy wagon easier.

What were the best parts for Louise? She says the start, from Murietta, California, and the end at Grand Oaks Resort in Florida were the highlights. However one day in Las Cruces, New Mexico, was especially meaningful. The Friesians (driven by Paagman) and Louise and Ticket, drove to the Rio Grande and ceremonially poured some water into the river that had gone totally dry. After that, they drove to an elementary school where the children came out to see the horses and carriages. Ticket welcomed the children’s attention, and as she drove up to the group, the children opened up like a “V” and the children just enveloped Louise and Ticket.

The Dragoons and the Chiricahuas in Arizona were the only parts of the drive in which Louise and Ticket didn’t participate. They were too mountainous for Ticket. The rest of the drive, they led the parade. “We were always half to three-quarters of a mile ahead of the Friesians,” said Louise. “Ticket gets into a trot and holds it for hours. The Friesians would trot a while, then walk, trot and then walk.” Louise guesses that Ticket actually drove a total of 1700 miles.

Kristin Whittington of Indiana didn’t bring her own horse, but hooked up with the Caravan in Texas, and drove Paagman’s team on the beach in Galveston. She later rejoined the group at the Louisiana/Florida border with a single Morgan. One thing that could be counted on was that you couldn’t count on anything. “By tomorrow everything would be changed,” Kristin said.

Meredith Commons Russo and her husband Jere joined the Caravan in Texas on January 4. “For me, the opportunity to have driving lessons with a four-in-hand of Friesians was second to none. Learning to tell each of the ten Friesians apart was a private daily exercise that went on for weeks.” The Russo’s didn’t bring their own turnout, but came to be a part of the crew and Meredith set up a mobile shop to make and repair whips out of their horse trailer where they also lived.

“The key people who made this happen included the incredibly generous and energetic Gerard Paagman, dedicated worker Jean-Paul Gautier, the talented and hardworking Friesian trainer and driver, Anne Ockema, and the remarkable Joan Fernandez, owner of Friesian Focus Farm in Murietta, California who started the group off and was there to help us celebrate the finish. The effort also owes a huge thanks to her benevolent presence in person but more often in spirit!” said Meredith.

As the end of the journey drew near, the group reorganized at the Florida Horse Park in Ocala to prepare for the final leg of the trip. The last 20 miles would take them to the Grand Oaks Resort in Weirsdale, Florida, and they would be joined by many more carriages and riders to help celebrate the finish. A mounted police unit would accompany them on their final drive. About a mile before the entrance, a final regrouping allowed others to join in – flags a-flying.

For those who had been together for the entire journey, the end was bittersweet. “We had become a family,” said Louise. Louise and Kristin reminisced during the Windsor Trace CDE at the end of March, where both were competing. They remembered when Gerard’s big truck got stuck in the mud; when Michael Muir’s horses and carriage became bogged down to the axle in quick-sand type muck in Galveston – the horses were taken off the carriage, but Michael in his wheelchair had to wait until the carriage could be pulled out. Lots of flat tires, equipment problems occurred, but nothing marred the spirit of these intrepid pioneers.

A documentary of the entire Caravan journey is being produced by Doug and Margot McMasters, a team that has earned two Emmy’s for their previous work, and is scheduled for release at the Calgary film festival in the fall. See the trailer at <http://thecaravanfilm.ca/video-trailer/>

VITAL FIRST AID SUPPLIES

Every horse owner needs a few basic first aid essentials. These items will help you dress wounds, reduce swelling and inflammation, and more. In fact, since a horse injury can occur at any time or in any location, keep at least a basic first aid kit in your barn, truck or travel trailer, and saddle bag. Depending on your preference, pre-made first aid kits are available. Or, make your own kit with the following items:

Bandages - protect wounds, support muscles, and hold ice packs with horse leg wraps or self-adhesive bandages, including CoFlex, PowerFlex, and Vetrap.

Blunt-Tipped Scissors - safely cut away and remove bandages and wraps.

Buckets - soak hooves and more with a few buckets kept specifically for first aid use.

Flashlight - view wounds and injuries in darkness or poor light conditions.

Hemostat - remove splinters, burrs, thistles, and more from your horse's skin with a hemostat.

Hoof Pick - remove foreign objects from hooves and shoes.

Ice Packs - prevent and reduce swelling with Ice Cells.

Lubricant - help insert thermometers with mineral oil or Vaseline®.

PVC Pipes - cut 6" diameter piping in half lengthwise and then into 1-1/2 to 2 foot sections for use as an emergency splint.

Rubbing Alcohol - quickly disinfect scissors, thermometers, and more.

Sheet or Roll Cotton - help apply pressure bandages or offer support to injured muscles or bones.

Sterile Gauze - clean and cover minor cuts and wounds with sterile gauze or Telfa (non-stick) pads of various sizes. Use gauze rolls to hold dressings and pressure wraps in place. (Diapers and maxi pads make wonderful, inexpensive and sterile pads)

Surgical Gloves - keep your hands clean and help prevent wound contamination.

Thermometer - measure your horse's temperature (normal range is 99.0°F to 101°F) with a fast and accurate digital thermometer.

Wire Cutters - free your horse from fences.

Wound Antiseptic - prevent infections with an antiseptic powder or ointment. Some insect repellents, such as Roll-On Fly Repellent and SWAT® are designed for use around wounds to help repel insects for added wound protection.

Wound Cleaner - clean fresh wounds with a gentle, iodine solution like Povidone-10%.

Easy access to your veterinarian's and farrier's contact information is also vital. In addition, a complete record of all your horse's medications, vaccinations, and wormers is essential - especially in an emergency. The best way to track all this information is with your FREE Horse Health Record.

Helpful first aid extras

The best first aid kit holds a range of products to deal with a wide variety of injuries or accidents. In addition to the basics, however, having the following products accessible will help you further prepare for almost any mishap:

Electrolytes - help hydrate your hard-working horse with an electrolyte paste.

Eye Cleanser - flush away dirt and debris from sensitive eyes with Eye Clens® or Clear Eyes.

Fly Mask - protect face wounds and eyes from insects.

Hoof Boot - treat abscesses and sore feet with a convenient boot kit, such as the HOOFix Kit or HOOFix Emergency Trail Boot.

Medicated Shampoo - kill bacteria and fungi on your horse's skin and coat with a iodine-based shampoo.

Phenylbutazone - treat inflammation and manage muscle, joint, and bone pain with this non-steroidal pain medicine, available by prescription in paste or powder form from the Drs. Foster and Smith Pharmacy.

Poultice - draw out infections, soothe sore muscles, and more with a poultice, such as Epsom Salt or Ictight.

Twitch - keep your horse's attention while wounds are tended with a twitch.

Great Lakes International Draft Horse Competition

Welcome to MGLI's fantastic 39th anniversary event! With over 1,200 draft horses from the U.S. and Canada, The Michigan Great Lakes International Draft Horse Show and Pull (MGLI) is the largest annual draft horse event in North America. MGLI's annual mid-October 4-day event features some of the finest Belgians, Clydesdales, Shires, Percherons and mules that have ever performed in an arena or in the field – anywhere! MGLI is the only event in the world to feature halter classes, hitching, plowing, pulling and riding for draft horse breeds and mules at the same time and location. These elegant and massive horses which weigh over a ton compete in single horse hitch through the entire range of eight-horse hitch classes.

These “big boys” will also demonstrate their raw power in the light and heavyweight pulling contests during which they pull a truck-mounted dynamometer, and during the “barnyard pull” teams test their horse power with a weighted sled.

To see these heavy horses perform the tasks that they were bred for, be sure to visit the plowing matches and field events on the East side of the Pavilion, where admission is free. And, English and western saddle classes demonstrate that these gentle giants can be ridden as well. Commercial exhibits jam-pack the pavilion offering thousands of unique equine items, and the major breed associations are on hand to promote their breeds and answer questions. Join us! Bring your family and cameras!

Calendar for the events can be found on their website:
<http://www.mgli.org/>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPT Win a Gin, Tim Wrights show.

SEPT 11-13 Villa Louis Carriage Classic, Prairie du Chien, WI. ADS Pleasure driving event. held on the lawn of the Villa Louis Historic Site. Contact - Mike Rider - info@carriageclassic.com www.carriageclassic.com; 608-326-4436

SEPT 25-27 Lake City Drive/ Northway Hackmans fall color drive lawells126@gmail.com

OCT 6 -11 National Drive, Kentucky Horse Park, contact Christy Warrington 270-250-4463 tnd@nationaldrive.net

OCT 15-18 Great Lakes International Draft Horse Show , MSU pavilion

NOV 1 Annual Meeting, MSU Brody square, lunch 12pm, business meeting 1pm , speaker 2pm

To add driving activities to our Calendar of Events, contact Joyce Miller, Secretary, MHDVA tylertwo76@gmail.com

Mid Michigan Certified Equine Appraisals

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5191 North Chester Road
Charlotte, Michigan 48813-8869
(517)541-9908

www.MMCEA.com American Society of Equine Appraisers



Budweiser Clydesdales,

photo courtesy of Jim and Melody Derbin, taken at the Armada fair

Date _____ **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Membership Type

Annual Dues:
\$30 Individual or Family
\$350 Platinum

Name _____

Farm Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phones: Home () _____ Work () _____ Fax () _____

Children _____

Breed of Horse _____ Vehicle Type(s) _____

E-mail _____

Please send a check made payable to M.H.D.V.A and
this form to:

Linda Aloyo
4123 S. Portsmouth Rd.
Bridgeport, MI 48722
989-777-0659



Linda Aloyo
4123 S. Portsmouth Rd.
Bridgeport, MI 48722

