



VIEW FROM BEHIND THE DASH

PROMOTING ALL ASPECTS OF EQUINE HARNESS DRIVING BY ENCOURAGING GOOD WILL AND EMPHASIZING SAFETY AND EDUCATION

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA WHIPS • SEPTEMBER 2018



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Christopher Carswell driving FloJo at the Spring Fling at the Florida Horse Park. See articles on pages 14 & 15.

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Florida Whips Board:
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View from Behind the Dash is the newsletter of The Florida Whips, a state-wide organization of driving enthusiasts. The newsletter is published September through May.

Join the discussion on Facebook.
Search for 'Florida Whips Carriage Driving'
and ask to join the group.



www.facebook.com/groups/457805587631636

BUSINESS ADS

Full Page (one issue) \$40
Full Page (annual).....\$300
Half Page (one issue) \$25
Half Page (annual) \$200
Quarter Page (per issue) \$15
Business Card (annual) \$75
(included with a business membership)

Annual newsletter ads run in all issues.
Annual business card ads are displayed on the website 12 months (Sept. through Aug.).

EVENT ADS

Event Sponsored by Florida Whips: Free.
Link to event forms/ads can be added to the calendar on www.flawhips.org

Other than Whips Events: one-half Business rate. Link to Event ad from newsletter can be added to the calendar on www.flawhips.org

Event Calendar listings on website: free link to organizer's event website. Email calendar information to calendar@flawhips.org.

DEADLINES AND SUBMISSION

Deadline is the 15th of each month preceding month of issue. For instance, for the May issue, deadline will be April 15. Payment must be received before inclusion. Submit ads electronically to newsletter@flawhips.org and webmaster@flawhips.org as appropriate.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Florida Whips members: One ad (per issue), up to 100 words, free for three months, text only; 1 photo and email link free on website. Additional ads past the first, \$10.00. Photo in newsletter \$5; additional photos past the first on website \$5 each.

Other than Whips Members: \$10.00 per ad, up to 100 words, for three months; text only; 1 photo in newsletter/on website \$5, additional photos on website \$5 each.

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Checks are payable to Florida Whips Inc., and mailed to our Treasurer:

Mary de Greef
P.O. Box 183
Parrish FL 34219
treasurer@flawhips.org

Credit card payments accepted online at www.flawhips.org or via Paypal to treasurer@flawhips.org.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

From El Presidente'

The hot wet Florida summer is almost over, our driving season begins on 6 and 7 October with the Olaf Larson "Drive a Test" clinics. Olaf is, without exaggeration, one of the best driving instructors in the business so please take advantage of this unique opportunity. This is followed by the ever popular "Camp Black Prong" which by this time has likely filled to capacity however, our Club members in the Northern Region always seem find a way to accommodate all those interested in attending. So please join us, even if you don't bring a horse come to Black Prong, we'll find a box seat for you to enjoy this unique event 18-21 October.



I'd like to personally thank everyone who organized and attended the Annual Membership Meeting at Grand Oaks this year. If you have an opportunity please thank Tom, Kacy, Chad and the Staff for providing their beautiful facility and equipment "gratis" to the Florida Whips and donated the stall fees back to the Whips – truly a class act. Hopefully they will open the doors to us once again in 2019. The business end of the meeting was very productive, we have a clear direction for next season and some great initiatives on the table to grow our sport in Florida. Our guest speaker Dr Wendy Ying rounded out the day with an informative and humorous presentation on the "5 Elements and Your Horse's Personality". Finally, we must recognize our silent auction organizer Anne Raisner, all who donated and those who purchased items – what a smashing success!

We tend to measure our clubs future by attracting young drivers through youth development which is important. However, the reality is the majority of our drivers come from those who hung up their spurs or became interested in driving from a friend with a carriage. So I challenge you to invite your saddle friends and acquaintances to join you on a drive or to one of our many events. Driving will sell itself, it is a fantastic experience whatever discipline you chose to participate. We are the grassroots of the driving community, novice to FEI, so please spread the enthusiasm and our sport will thrive and grow. The fact is, whether you are young or "mature" the future of our sport depends on us spreading the word and actively recruiting new drivers.

Drive On!

Paul VanSickle, President

SECRETARY REPORT

Here is a synopsis of the Board of Directors and the Membership meetings that were held at Grand Oaks on August 11, 2018.

A new website is being created for our club at www.flawhps.org/Wpdev.

We have created several new positions as follows: Bylaws committee is chaired by Mary de Greef. Mentor Committee is chaired by Lynn Parker. Members' correspondence handled by Linda Evans.

Several budget items were passed at the meetings: \$300 was budgeted from state funds for each Olaf clinic held on October 6 and 7. \$500 was budgeted from state funds for sponsoring a luncheon at the ADS annual meeting at Grand Oaks in December. Lunch provided to the members was approved by the membership. Calendars for Northern and SE Regions were approved.

The Southern Drive will be a Florida Whips event, held in May at Grand Oaks.

Eloise Nelson, Secretary

SOUTHEAST REGION REPORT

Hello and welcome to another exciting year. My name is Barbara Brooke-Reese, and I will be serving as the new southeast region director. We also have 2 alternate directors to help out as both Sali Petri and Ann Raisner stepped up as well.



Over the course of the upcoming year, the Florida Whips will be busy with lots of shows & activities. The northern region is taking the lead and hosting LOTS of events, and we also have a couple of events planned ourselves. Please check out the calendar for all of the events that have been scheduled.

Here is a listing of what the SE region has scheduled:

October 6, 2018

"Drive-a-Test" with Olaf Larsson - New Smyrna Beach, FL

December 16, 2018

"Social Drive Thru the Christmas Lights" - Melbourne, FL

February 2, 2019

Driving Fun Day - Jupiter, FL

April 20, 2019

Despooking Clinic - Vero Beach, FL

As far as other types of events go, I would like us to focus more on driver/horse education and community outreach this year. This year the Florida whips formed an education committee, and they are actively looking for ideas for topics and events that would help not only drivers but the equine communities that we live in. We understand that our "riding" friends don't always know what we do or vice-versa. We need to all get along and support each other as the places that we can ride/drive disappear a little every day.

The Florida whips should be putting out a questionnaire shortly regarding both educational and event suggestions very soon. I urge you to take the time and fill it out.

*Till next time, Barbara Brooke-Reese,
SE Region Director*

NORTHERN REGION REPORT

It is going to be a busy year for the Northern Region. In June we met for our planning meeting and came up with a long list of events. In August, they were approved at the general membership meeting held at Grand Oaks. Thank you to Tom Warriner opening this facility for driving, camping and our meeting.

ADS events do not begin until the end of Nov. at Grand Oaks. The last 2 STRIDE shows of their year-long season are Sept. 30 and Oct. 28 at the Horse Park.

Whips events begin with Camp Black Prong Oct. 18 thru 21. According to the organizers, Connie Thoreson and Linda Evans, this event is filling nicely and should be a lot of fun. Lynda Jowers is having an Olof Larson clinic Nov. 10 and her annual Iron Horse HDT Nov. 11.

For about a year now, Lynda and Reuben Jowers have opened their property in High Springs every Tuesday for a get together of drivers. New drivers are coming out of the woodwork weekly. They are improving by leaps and bounds with help from more experienced drivers and are having fun learning to be better drivers and trainers of their ponies. Yes, most of them are pony drivers! There will even be a 4 in hand of ponies making their debut this fall.

Drive on!

Dona Love, Northern Region Director

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

Check the Florida Whips Website Calendar for updates at www.flawhips.org

DATE	ORGANIZATION	EVENT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	CONTACT
10/6/2018	Fla Whips SE Region	Drive a Test Schooling Clinic	Lucky V Ranch 4159 Saddle Club Dr. New Smyrna Beach FL 32168	Paul & Glenda VanSickle 386-847-4642 luckyvranch@yahoo.com
10/7/2018	Fla Whips N Region	Drive a Test Schooling Clinic	Iron Horse Farm 308 SW Spirit Ave Ft White FL 32308	Lynda Jowers 386-454-3225 jowersl@aol.com
10/18/2018 to 10/21/2018	Fla Whips N Region	Camp Black Prong	Black Prong Equestrian Center 450 SW Co. Rd. 337 Bronson FL 32621	Linda Evans/Connie Thoreson 352-486-3197 levans0277@aol.com
11/10/2018	Fla Whips N Reigon	Olof Larsson Clinic	Iron Horse Farm 308 SW Spirit Ave Ft White FL 32308	Lynda Jowers 386-454-3225 jowersl@aol.com
11/11/2018	Fla Whips N Reigon	Iron Horse HDT	Iron Horse Farm 308 SW Spirit Ave Ft White FL 32308	Lynda Jowers 386-454-3225 jowersl@aol.com
12/16/2018	Fla Whips N Reigon	Fun Day in Tallahassee	Zander Farm 8509 Little Scenic Lane Tallahassee FL 32309	Steve & Lauchlin Waldoch 850-385-1246 lauchlin@mclawgroup.com
12/16/2018	Fla Whips SE Reigon	Drive Through the Christmas Lights	Wickham Park 2500 Parkway Dr Melbourne FL 32935	Barbara Brooke-Reese 772-532-7086 brookereese@gmail.com
2/2/2019	Fla Whips SE Reigon	Fun Day in Jupiter	Jupiter Farms Park 16655 Jupiter Farms Rd Jupiter FL 33478	Eloise Nelson 772-321-9903 ern7073@gmail.com
2/2/2019	Fla Whips N Reigon	Tidewater Drive	Goethe Forest 9110 SE 337 Dunnellon FL 34431	Sharon Flack 352-796-7796
2/6/2018	Fla Whips N Reigon	Steeplechase Continuous Drive	Salty Dog Arena 1600 SE 120th Ave Morrison FL 32668	Dona Love/Wilson Groves 352-817-4700 love2083@bellsouth.net
3/2/2019 to 3/3/2019	Fla Whips N Reigon	Metta Baxter Driving Class	U of F Horse Teaching Unit 1934 SW 63rd Avenue Gainesville FL 32608	Karen Wolfsheimer 225-767-9615 wacahootakj@gmail.com
3/13/2019	Fla Whips N Reigon	Steeplechase Continuous Drive	Salty Dog Arena 1600 SE 120th Ave Morrison FL 32668	Dona Love/Wilson Groves 352-817-4700 love2083@bellsouth.net
3/17/2019	Fla Whips N Reigon	Land Bridge Trail Drive	Florida Greenway Land Bridge 11100 SW 16th Ave Ocala FL	Judith Martin 352-638-8398 judycde@yahoo.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Omnibus Show Bill – 2018 STRIDE Dressage Schooling Show Series



STRIDE Dressage
Est. 1989

**STRIDE is the Ocala, Marion County,
Florida, General Membership
Organization (GMO) of the
United States Dressage Federation**

Four Sundays at the Florida Horse Park, Ocala: Jan 28, Mar 4, Sep 30, Oct 28
One weekend at Grand Oaks Resort, Weirsdale: May 19&20

Welcome to the 2018 STRIDE Schooling Show Series! This information packet includes show information, directions to both show facilities, class information, "How to Win a STRIDE Year End Award," and a standard entry form to be used for all STRIDE shows. Download additional copies from www.STRIDEdressage.org

Volunteers Needed: STRIDE is a volunteer organization and depends on club members to help support its activities. Volunteers are rewarded with vouchers that can be used for entry fees, membership fees, shirts or any fee associated with a STRIDE event. Typical volunteer jobs are show manager, scribe, scorer, test runner, timer, ring steward, set up or take down of arenas and cones, etc. **One day of volunteering earns one voucher, equivalent to \$20.** Vouchers may be earned and used, or earned and gifted. Frequent volunteers are also recognized and rewarded at the year-end banquet. Year-end award winners must volunteer 4 hours (more is always appreciated!). Contact Volunteer Coordinator Justin McClure, Justin.mcclure97@gmail.com or 813-210-5011 for details on volunteering.

VENDORS: If you are interested in being a vendor, please contact Marie Davidson, STRIDE Vice President

IMPORTANT – ASTM/SEI approved protective headgear mandatory at all times on show grounds when mounted or driving (including Western Dressage and Trails classes). *"From the time horses are officially admitted to the competition grounds by competition management, anyone mounted on a horse at any time on the competition grounds including non-competing riders, riders on non-competing horses, and those competing in all classes and tests, including Para-Equestrian tests must wear protective headgear as defined by this rule and otherwise in compliance with GR801. Any rider violating this rule at any time must immediately be prohibited from further riding until such headgear is properly in place. Protective headgear is defined as a riding helmet which meets or exceeds ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials)/SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) standards for equestrian use and carries the SEI tag. The harness must be secured and properly fitted."* http://www.usefnetwork.com/news/9593/2013/2/19/protective_headgear_rule_change_for.aspx

GENERAL INFORMATION

Four 2018 SHOWS AT [FLORIDA HORSE PARK, OCALA.](http://flhorsepark.com) Directions: From I-75 head east on CR 484. Continue on 484 for about 2 miles. Take a left onto S Hwy 475. Continue on 475 for 3.2 miles. The Florida Horse Park is on the left hand side. Directions at <http://flhorsepark.com/thepark/directions.aspx>

Directions to Grand Oaks: 3000 Marion County Road, Weirsdale, FL; 352-750-5500

“Drive A Test” Dressage Clinic with Olaf Larsson

Two Locations — Two Different Days

Saturday, Oct. 6, 2018

at Lucky V Ranch in New Smyrna Beach, FL

Sunday, Oct. 7, 2018

at Iron Horse Farm near Ft. White, FL

Entries limited to 20 total between both locations.

The Florida Whips is pleased to announce a “Drive a Test” dressage clinic with Olaf Larsson is planned for Oct. 6 and 7, 2018. The Saturday session will be at Paul and Glenda VanSickle’s Lucky V Ranch LLC near New Smyrna Beach, and the Sunday session will be at Lynda Jowers Iron Horse Farm near Ft. White/High Springs.

A discounted fee of \$45 per test will be charged to current Whips members. Training Test 4, Preliminary Test 2, and Intermediate Test 4 (40x80m) will be offered. Drivers will drive their chosen test, receive a critique from Olaf, and then drive portions of the test again for improvement based on his input.

About the clinician:

Olof Larsson, an influential player in the world of driving, was the Swedish National Champion in 1994 and 1995 with a pony that he converted from riding to driving. He is well-known for having worked for and trained with Chester Weber out of his legendary Live Oak Farm in Ocala.

Olof continues to balance his time between traveling to work with international competitor Misdee Wrigley Miller, teaching clinics, and helping his wife run her thriving dressage business out of their farm in Ocala. His calm manner and teaching style works equally well to help beginners and experienced drivers see improvement in their equines. There are limited openings and this clinic will fill quickly. Entry forms are included in this newsletter.

GENERAL ENTRY INFORMATION

A separate entry form including payment should be filled out for each driver/horse combination.

A non-competing horse must have a fully executed entry form and pay appropriate fees. This is an insurance issue.

* **FLORIDA WHIPS MEMBERSHIP** - You must be a Whips Member in good standing to participate at the regular entry fee. Non-Whips members may participate but pay the additional \$15 fee, which will apply to your membership if you join on the day of the event. See FlaWhips.org for application and annual fee: \$35 for single/\$40 for family.

Coordinator has the right to cancel event or combine divisions for lack of entries

SAFETY RULES FOR ALL ATTENDEES

These rules are for the safety of all drivers, horses, spectators and volunteers. Any questions or disputes will be addressed by the Event Coordinator(s).

HELMETS are required for all persons on the carriage.

WHIPS must be carried in-hand by the driver when they are seated in the carriage/cart. Dress is casual schooling attire.

Horses must have bridles on with reins attached prior to hitching to a carriage/cart. Leaving horses unattended (including tied to a trailer or other object) while hitched to a carriage/cart, or removing a bridle, or detaching the reins from bridle before unhitching is prohibited.

Once a horse is hitched to the carriage/cart, a driver **MUST** be in the seat.

- If the driver needs to make an adjustment to harness, etc., he/she should ask a person to stand in front of the horse while the adjustment is made.
- No one should “ground drive” (walk beside or behind) their horse and carriage/cart by holding the reins or a lead rope once the horse is hitched to the carriage/cart.

It is the competitor’s responsibility that all animals are serviceably sound and that harness is in good repair and the vehicle in sound condition.

Never pass another carriage at a fast trot or drive too close to another carriage.

JUNIOR DRIVERS under the age of 14 must be accompanied by a competent adult on the carriage at all times.

The organizer(s) has the discretion to ask the driver to stop driving or leave the premises if the organizer deems it to be necessary.

Consumption of alcohol is not permitted during Florida Whips events.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FLORIDA WHIPS INC. EVENT ENTRY FORM

Drive a Test Schooling Clinic
Lucky V Ranch LLC, New Smyrna Beach, FL
Saturday, Oct. 6, 2018
Entries limited and should be received by Oct. 1 to accommodate scheduling

Lucky V Ranch LLC
4159 Saddle Club Dr.,
New Smyrna Beach, FL
32168

OWNER/DRIVER NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

NAVIGATOR (IF APPLICABLE) _____ PHONE _____

EQUINE NAME(S) _____

Division: (Please circle) Training Test 4 (40x80m)
 Preliminary Test 2 (40x80m)
 Intermediate Test 4 (40x80m)

Size of equine: (Please circle) VSE/Small pony Pony Horse

Entry Fee \$45.00 \$ _____

Non-Whip Fee \$15.00* \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Make check payable to Florida Whips

Please mail entry form, coggins, and check to:

Paul and Glenda VanSickle
4159 Saddle Club Dr.,
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168

Please email organizer(s) for questions.
Paul and Glenda VanSickle
luckyvranch@yahoo.com

*See **FlaWhips.org** for application to join The Florida Whips or you can
join the day of the event. \$35 single/\$40 family

PLEASE NOTE:

One entry per horse/driver combination.

A non-competing horse must have a fully executed entry form and must pay appropriate fees for insurance reasons.

PLEASE INCLUDE A COPY OF YOUR COGGINS WITH YOUR ENTRY.

ALL ATTENDEES WILL NEED TO SIGN A LIABILITY RELEASE FORM.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS NEEDED FOR ENTRY:

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FLORIDA WHIPS INC. EVENT ENTRY FORM

Drive a Test Schooling Clinic
Iron Horse Farm, Ft. White, FL
Sunday, Oct. 7. 2018
Entries limited and should be received by Oct. 1 to accommodate scheduling

IRON HORSE FARM
308 SW Spirit Ave,
Ft. White, FL 32038

OWNER/DRIVER NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

NAVIGATOR (IF APPLICABLE) _____ PHONE _____

EQUINE NAME(S) _____

Division: (Please circle) Training Test 4 (40x80m)
 Preliminary Test 2 (40x80m)
 Intermediate Test 4 (40x80m)

Size of equine: (Please circle) VSE/Small pony Pony Horse

Entry Fee \$45.00 \$ _____

Non-Whip Fee \$15.00* \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Make check payable to Florida Whips

Please mail entry form, coggins, and check to:

Lynda Jowers
308 SW Spirit Ave, Ft. White, FL 32038

Please email organizer(s) for questions.
Lynda Jowers
jowersl@aol.com

*See **FlaWhips.org** for application to join The Florida Whips or you can
join the day of the event. \$35 single/\$40 family

PLEASE NOTE:

One entry per horse/driver combination.

A non-competing horse must have a fully executed entry form and must pay appropriate fees for insurance reasons.

PLEASE INCLUDE A COPY OF YOUR COGGINS WITH YOUR ENTRY.

ALL ATTENDEES WILL NEED TO SIGN A LIABILITY RELEASE FORM.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS NEEDED FOR ENTRY:

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Camp Black Prong Registration 2018 October 18th - 21st

Clinicians

**Thoreston Zarembowicz, Olof Larsson, Larry Poulin, Bob Giles, Gary Yeager,
David Jay**

Name _____ Phone # _____
Street Address _____
City, State, Zip _____ Email _____

Camp Fee Per Driver/Equine Combination \$350 _____ Non Driver Fee \$125 _____
Fee includes all meals, 8 hours group lessons and two fun driving competitions
Horse _____ Pony _____ Small Pony _____ VSE _____

Make checks payable to Connie Thoreson, 8038 NW 162nd Ct, Morriston, FL 32668. Current Coggins test required with registration. For more information, contact Connie Thoreson at 352-528-5646, cthoreson1@aol.com or Linda Evans at 352-486-3197, levans0277@aol.com

Contact Tom at Black Prong Equestrian Center, 352-486-1234, to make all lodging and stall reservations. \$30 per night for stall, paddock or grounds fee. Make check payable to Black Prong. Separate check for stall cleaning deposit of \$30.

Schedule

Thursday, Oct 18th

Noon check in

Drive at will. Schedule private lessons.

7:00 PM Welcome reception

Friday, Oct 19th

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	Continental breakfast
9:00 AM – 11:30	Free Time for private lessons & drive at will
11:30 – 12:30 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM	Group lessons
7:00	Dinner

Saturday, Oct 20th

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM	Breakfast
8:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Group lessons
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	Lunch
3:00 PM- 5:00 PM	Fun Competition
7:00 PM	Dinner

Sunday, Oct 21st

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	Breakfast
9:00 AM	Team Derby
1:00	Lunch, awards & raffle

The Florida Whips Annual Membership Meeting

by TriciaLynn Glotfelty-Grosser

The Florida Whips annual membership meeting was held Saturday August 11 at The Grand Oaks Resort in Wiersdale Florida. There were over 90 attendees at the meeting. Upon sign-in attendees were given the opportunity to become members or renew their memberships. Lynn Parker, Membership chairwoman, reported that there were 7 new members signed up and 66 membership renewals at the meeting. Prior to the meeting there were 17 new members signed up and 12 renewals. There are now 159 members that were current in the 2017-2018 year that still need to renew, and 82 from the 2016-2017 year that didn't renew that are still on the spreadsheet. If you know someone who needs to renew please reach out to them and welcome them back in. Whips membership has dropped from 354 members in 2017 to 229 members in 2018. As ambassadors for all disciplines of equine driving it is up to all of us as Whips members to foster and spread the love of this sport to new enthusiasts and to reignite it in former enthusiasts as well so encourage your driving friends to become members and help us to continue this great tradition.



Eloise Nelson driving Scarlet

An invitation was extended to the membership to bring their horses and to drive both before and after the meeting. 25-30 members brought horses. Eloise Nelson wrote, "I don't know how many drivers there were (but) I do know there were over 90 people at the meeting and lunch. That's probably the most we have ever had at a meeting. The driving is fabulous at Grand Oaks. I came on Thursday with my friend, Lynn West who is an out of state Whips member. I brought my VSE and pony, so we got plenty of driving in. We drove the paths under the oak trees, the roads all over Grand Oaks, practiced some dressage, played in cones and drove in several hazards. We stayed in one of the houses with the horses right outside our door. Perfect mini vacation!"

A silent auction was held before the meeting as well as a luncheon hosted by the Florida Whips. The main course consisted of a beautiful spread of roast beef, egg salad, tuna salad and my personal favorite, the loaded chicken salad. Several sides and accoutrements were offered as well as the most delicious cookies (thank you to our club secretary Eloise Nelson for saving the day by dashing to Publix to make sure we had dessert for all the sweet toothed drivers in attendance).

The General Membership Meeting was called to order by Whips President Paul VanSickle.

Gloria Austin spoke briefly about Heritage books and how important it is to pass on the history of driving. She reminded us all that we are the ambassadors of not only driving but also the heritage of the horse and it is up to us to keep the love of driving and of horses alive.

Past officers and committee chairs were presented with parting gifts of photo mugs. Recipients were:

Tom Warriner - President
John Porter - Vice President
Kathie Beeson - Membership
Judi Tintera - Photo Gallery
Eloise Nelson - SE Region Director
Linda Bennett - SW Region Director
Anna Crothers - SE Region Alternate
Kathy Brown - SW Region Alternate
Jan Petri - Facebook
Chris Carswell - Junior MVP

Your current officers and committee chairs are:

President: Paul VanSickle
Vice President: Linda Evans
Treasurer: Mary DeGreef
Secretary: Eloise Nelson
Membership: Lynn Parker
Education: Judi Tintera
Photo Gallery: Anne Raisner
Facebook/Website: Jan Petri
Newsletter: Sioux Winter
SE Region Director: Barbara Brooks Reese
SE Region Alternate: Sali Petri
Northern Region Director: Donna Love
Northern Region Alternate: Judy Martin



Judi Tintera

The treasurers report was given with the reminder that all dues need to be renewed as of September first.

The secretary's report was given and the past minutes accepted by the membership.

Regional reports were given by Dona Love of the Northern region and Barbara Brooke-Reese of the Southeastern region. Future events were discussed and all will be posted on the website.

The Education Committee report was given by Judy Tintera.

The website and Facebook report was given by Jan Petri. A new and improved website is in the works as well as a new Facebook page. Both are projected to be ready by the end of September. Please make sure you go to our facebook page to "like and share" it.



Jan Petri

The Newsletter report was given by Sioux Winter. A blog was discussed but it was decided that the newsletter will continue. Sioux introduced Tricia Lynn Glotfelty-Grosser who she will be training to take over as editor in the near future. She reminded everyone that the deadline for submissions is the 15th of every month.

The membership voted to support the sending of cards for sympathy, get well etc. to members in need.

The silent auction results were given: The auction was organized, set up and worked by Anne Raisner and her amazing team of whips auction helpers: Sali Petri, Maria Church, Linda Bennett, and Janet Carswell. There were 69 items donated including lovely driving hats, driving aprons, harness pieces, driving bits, halters, saddle bells, a driving whip, clothing, prints (some very funny comical driving caricatures), DVD sets, a hand painted trunk, grooming bags full of goodies, a gorgeous knife set, carriage lamps and so much more. The Auction netted \$2036.00. The most items

donated went to "A friend of the Whips" who donated 20 items. The top earning item was the custom made chest by Sali Petri which brought in \$175.00. There were 33 buyers; the buyer who spent the most was Robin Anderson who spent \$235. The Florida Whips extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated or purchased items and to Anne Raisner for organizing it and to those who helped her to make the auction possible. The Grand Oaks donated all the stall fees they collected from the Whips that brought horses to drive over the weekend as well.



Silent Auction shoppers

The silent auction was held to support and to help offset the costs of travel for two of our long time whips members, Bob Giles and Gary Yeager, to compete overseas.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Please watch the website and Facebook page for upcoming events. Its going to be a busy year and once the season kicks into gear in early October, the schedule of events will be posted online and in the upcoming newsletter.



Paul and Glenda VanSickle with Judi Tintera

NEWS



Judi Tintera and Dandee



Jan and Sali Petri with Jack



Supervisor



Lynn West and Spicy



Eloise Nelson with Spicy and Lynn West with Scarlet



Jan and Sali Petri driving Jack

The Keynote Speaker was Wendy Ying, DVM



Dr. Ying is the veterinarian at 5 elements for animals, a mobile traditional Chinese veterinary medicine practice. She has competed in combined and pleasure driving in singles, pairs, tandems, fours and has been known to drive a unicorn. She has USEF national championship titles in both combined and pleasure driving. Dr. Wendy is the co-host of the Horse Radio Network's fastest growing show, The Driving Radio Show, on the first of every month with over 40,000 listeners daily. Go to Horseradionetwork.com to tune in or just google horse radio show.

Dr. Ying spoke to us on the "5 element theory" which categorizes horses (and people) by behavioral elements which are aspects of Qi. When taken into account this theory can help to diagnose and treat horses based on the principles of mind, body and spirit. She discussed the many factors that go into the diagnosis and treatment of horses and explained that there is much more to consider when diagnosing a health or behavioral issue in addition to physiological attributes such things as history, discipline, housing, people, season, constitution, weather and geographical location, etc. She explained how health is a harmonious balance of all these elements and how the Qi of the elements waxes and wanes in daily and seasonal cycles. Each one of us, and our animals, is a unique and characteristic blend of all of these elements. She then explained the 5 different types of horse behavioral elements as described by this theory.

She began with horses described as Wood: "The General" who is outgoing and athletic. This horse needs to grow and expand; they are also dominant and a herd leader. When this horse is unbalanced they can present as angry, aggressive, and domineering. These horses make great leaders.

Fire was next. "The Diva" is a brilliant show horse who at times can be impatient and impulsive. These horses are often the most friendly and are always the first to the gate to greet you. When

unbalanced these horses can present as anxious, herdbound, can have temper tantrums and can often turn into stall walkers and weavers. These horses make good leaders.

Earth horses were next. "The Rock" is very food motivated, patient, nurturing and always lies in the middle of the pack. When unbalanced they can present as stubborn, worrisome, tiring easily and can shut down if treated unfairly. She stated these horses are the best wheelers.

Metal was the next element discussed: "The Boy Scout" is always organized, aloof, happy as an only horse, and with these horses she explained that it is difficult to change training methods. When unbalanced these horses may present as fighting change, will develop dull hair and itchy skin. These horses could serve as either a leader or a wheeler.

The last element she discussed was Water: "The Organizer" who is intelligent and flexible, soft, yet wield great power. They are often the lowest in the herd, fearful, and cautious. When unbalanced these horses may present as indecisive, and can "check out" or bolt. These horses have a long memory of both the good and bad that has been done to them. These horses are best trained with natural horsemanship, lots of nurturing, and they need security. These horses are best as wheelers.

Thank you Dr. Wendy Ying for a wonderful and very educational talk.

My Winter with Bob Giles

by Chris Carswell

My name is Chris Carswell and I am nineteen years old. I have a very rare genetic condition called Loeys-Dietz Syndrome 4. I have suffered many medical challenges in my lifetime – including strokes and brain surgeries. I am physically disabled and legally-blind, but this does not stop me from pursuing my dream of becoming an International para-driver for the USA.



2017-18 was my first full year driving in competitions. Not to say that it was my first year driving, I have driven since I was about 5 years old. With that being said - the show season was a wonderful experience because of my coach, mentor and friend, Bob Giles!

Bob Giles has gone above and beyond to make sure my pony and I were ready to compete. You see, my Nana, had terminal cancer and was already on Hospice Care when Bob came back to Florida for the winter. I wanted to stay home and spend time with my Nana, but I also knew that my pony needed to be worked and trained to be ready for the show season. Bob picked up my pony, all of her equipment and took her to his farm in Morriston, FL. He trained her and drove her to prepare her for the show season - always calling me at home to update me on her progress. His kindness allowed me to stay with my Nana until she passed on November 5, 2017.

His kindness did not end there for my pony and me! I cannot drive a car because of my vision loss. I needed to get to Bob's for practice and my Mom needed to be at home in Georgia to take care of my Nana's estate and our little farm - problem. Problem solved, Bob let me move into his house with him! Now I could train full-time and my Mom didn't have to worry - blessing!



I learned a lot from and about Bob while living with him over the winter. Not only did I learn more about driving, ponies, horses, training, care, rules and regulations than money could have ever purchased, but I learned about "heart" and "true passion". I learned firsthand from a "master" of both and I am not just talking about driving! I watched as Bob fielded every phone call and visit - he helped everyone that asked for his help. If the person could not come to him, well, he went to them. He took on the horses and



ponies that had hurt or scared their owners and transformed them into confident driving horses and ponies. He gave the owners back their sense of safety and confidence in their animal. He gave others "joy"!

I watched Bob as an instructor, a clinician, a student, a driver, and a friend. He is a "well of knowledge" in so many areas, but as far as driving, well, I guess I think he is amazing! One thing that I will remember for the rest of my life, whether I am driving or not, is what Bob said to me every time we drove and especially after competing at a show - "How Lucky Are We?" Those words are forever etched in my soul because living this life and enjoying something we are passionate about, YES BOB! How lucky are we?

Thank You for being there for me!
I love you – Chris Carswell



Loeys-Dietz Syndrome and the Yellow Arm Band

by Chris Carswell

Suffering from this rare genetic condition, I have survived 2 strokes, 4 brain surgeries, 6 reconstructive arm surgeries, and years of seizures. I suffer from constant joint subluxations and dislocations, so you will see me wearing lots of braces. I am legally blind after the strokes took away my brain's ability to recognize the right half of the world. My brain only shows me the left half of the world, so anything that would be in the right half is not visible to me at all.



I would like to share a little something with my extended driving family. Many of you have asked "why" I wear a yellow band on my arm or on the shoulder of my protective vest. It is to tell everyone around me that I cannot see you if you are on my right side. It is to help me stay safe while driving by letting everyone know of the vision loss. I am hoping this article will reach more drivers and those drivers will tell other drivers. I want to keep safe and keep everyone else safe too!

This year I will be driving single horse with my Friesian Sport Horse, Kianti.

Thank you for always supporting my driving!

Chris



Chris & Kianti

Climbing the Ladder

by Bob Giles

Part of qualifying for the USA Para-Driving Team headed to the Netherlands in 2018 for the World Championships is demonstrating that you can drive at the Intermediate Level. Live Oak International would be my first Intermediate show!

Well, after paying my \$600 in fees to get to drive at Live Oak International I was a little less than happy with my performance in dressage – scoring an 86, leaving me 30 points behind the leader. We finished dressage in 12th place (last).



My partner, Rose, an eight year old palomino Morgan mare (who had been the leader in a four-in-hand for the last three years) gave me everything I could have asked for. Her heart needs to be hauled around in a ten ton truck behind her – her work ethics are off the scale! A more loving horse has never been born!

After the marathon we had moved up into 9th place in the overall standings. Our biggest problem in the marathon was Rose's plastic shoes causing her to slip on the wet grass and slowed me down from the speed I wanted to run. We lost some of the hazards by 2 or 3 seconds. Our best hazard was 2nd and our worst was 8th with an average time in the hazards in the mid-40s! The owners of Rose, Ken and Carol Kenyon of Alachua, were thrilled!

I had the widest carriage going into the cones course with approximately a one inch clearance on either side. Rose and I went clear with only time faults! Again, we were sliding on the fabric surface, not Rose's fault, as she ran a straight course – the fabric surface just slowed us down.

In summation, don't ever give up! If your horse doesn't give up then neither should you! The horse doesn't know our placing in the show – the horse only knows I am happy with her! Which I was – we moved up from 12th place to finish in 6th place!

So next time with a little better dressage score, a little better traction on marathon and cones – I believe our scores and finish will improve. What can't be improved is my horse's attitude – she tried her very best, gave me everything she had and I am positive she will do the same next time we show.

Drive On!



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NEWS & PHOTOS

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