



# 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 • OCTOBER 2018



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR NEXT YEARS EVENT  
MAY 9-12, 2019



*Groom Rachel Siller heads the VanSickle's team of Freisans at the start of the Safari Drive.*



*Playing follow-the-leader in the water obstacle.*



*Betsy Skinner is all smiles after successfully completing the derby course.*

See article on page 13.

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**Website:**  
[www.flawhips.org](http://www.flawhips.org)

**Inquiries about the Web:**  
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**Calendar requests:**  
[calendar@flawhips.org](mailto:calendar@flawhips.org)

**Florida Whips Board:**  
[board@flawhips.org](mailto:board@flawhips.org)

*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](https://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](http://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](http://www.flawhips.org)

**Event Calendar listings on website:** free link to organizer's event website. Email calendar information to [calendar@flawhips.org](mailto: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](mailto:newsletter@flawhips.org) and [webmaster@flawhips.org](mailto: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](mailto:treasurer@flawhips.org)

Credit card payments accepted online at [www.flawhips.org](http://www.flawhips.org) or via Paypal to [treasurer@flawhips.org](mailto:treasurer@flawhips.org).

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

*From El Presidente',*

We are rapidly approaching the beginning of our Florida Whips driving season next weekend with Olof's "Drive a Test" on 6-7 October followed by the ever popular Camp Black Prong 18-21 October. These events are geared toward any level driver from beginner to FEI. The program Connie and Linda have developed this year promises to bring us all closer together, give us opportunities to learn from each other and gain invaluable training from the best instructors in the business.



As Florida Whips we have a variety of resources available to us from our fantastic Florida based trainers to informal literature. One of my favorites resources are driving magazines. I find "The Whip" and "Driving Digest" to be valuable sources of information geared to assist any driving discipline and level of competitor. The articles are written in a "how to" format by world class trainers, judges and grass roots competitors. One of my favorite is a series of articles authored by Hardy Zantke. His most recent entitled "Training Level Test 1: Finish with a Flourish" is a great example of a back to basics article meant to help us do better, understand the mechanics and communicate effectively with our horses. Another series is written by Andy Marcoux, his most recent entitled "Stretching Down" hits the mark for training our horses (and driver) the extended walk in your dressage test or simple relaxed walk.

This is just one example of a resource which will help us get better and understand the complexities of driving our horses. Whether you enjoy driving trails or CDE's I encourage you to please share your training resources with one another. Driving is a team sport, horse(s), driver, grooms, can't do it alone — made easier if we take advantage of the many resources we have available.

Drive On,  
Paul

## NORTHERN REGION REPORT

Weather is still hot and humid, but the diehard drivers are still meeting every Tuesday at Lynda Jower's. Olof Larson has been coming every other week or so for lessons so everyone who is wanting to show or improve are gearing up.

Sunday, Oct. 7, is the Drive a Test sponsored by the Whips, and it is full with a waiting list. Camp BlackProng is starting Oct. 18. I believe it is now full and is the biggest one ever organized by Linda Evans and Connie Thorsen. The last STRIDE show of the year is Oct. 28.

Lynda Jowers is having her yearly Iron Horse HDT Nov. 11, with an Olof clinic the day before. She will need volunteers. If you are not showing, you might consider helping out.

Dona Love,  
Northern Region Director

## SECRETARY REPORT

Just a quick report to let the membership know that we have insurance for all our events during our 2018-19 fiscal year. Please note that our insurance requires all individuals attending an event (including participants, volunteers, spectators...) sign a waiver. I have sent all the organizers a single waiver and a multiple waiver form plus waivers can be found on our website. Also, our insurance does not allow us to serve alcohol during our events. I have sent certificate of insurance forms to all organizers. If you add an event to the calendar, please notify me asap so I can acquire insurance for the event.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at [secretary@flawhips.org](mailto:secretary@flawhips.org).



**The Driving Radio Show is an online  
radio show (podcast) dedicated to  
the thrill of carriage driving.**



## UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

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
4/7/2019	Fla Whips N Reigon	Iron Horse HDT	Iron Horse HDT 308 SW Spirit Ave Fort White FL 32038	Lynda Jowers 386-454-3225 jowersl@aol.com
4/20/2018	Fla Whips SE Reigon	Despooking Clinic	TBA	Barbara Brooke-Reese 772-532-7086 brookereese@gmail.com
4/28/2018	Fla Whips N Reigon	Iron Horse Cones Day	Iron Horse 308 SW Spirit Ave Fort White FL 32038	Lynda Jowers 386-454-3225 jowersl@aol.com

### 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](http://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](mailto: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](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.** 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

### Camp Black Prong Registration 2018 October 18<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>

#### 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 162<sup>nd</sup> Ct, Morriston, FL 32668. Current Coggins test required with registration. For more information, contact Connie Thoreson at 352-528-5646, [cthoreson1@aol.com](mailto:cthoreson1@aol.com) or Linda Evans at 352-486-3197, [levans0277@aol.com](mailto: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 18<sup>th</sup>**

Noon check in  
Drive at will. Schedule private lessons.  
7:00 PM Welcome reception

##### **Friday, Oct 19<sup>th</sup>**

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 20<sup>th</sup>**

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 21<sup>st</sup>**

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



## Volunteering at WEG 2018

by Linda Evans

Oh my gosh where do I start? Up until the day we were supposed to leave, it was uncertain whether or not the driving event at WEG would even take place. The endurance event and freestyle dressage had already been canceled due to the weather. Needless to say, it was hot and humid which took its toll on the Endurance horses. Then, hurricane Florence reared her ugly head and hit the Carolinas. She stopped WEG in its tracks with torrential rain for a day. When it was announced by the Department of Transportation that I-95 was opened back up, we were determined to keep our commitment to volunteer.



*Linda Evans with the German judge during Dressage.*

I traveled to North Carolina with Janet & Chris Carswell who were also volunteering. We arrived on Thursday afternoon to pick up our credentials. Our job assignments were to start Friday morning. I was a dressage scribe for the German judge at S. I had a bird's eye view of each dressage test. Skilled drivers, polished carriages, and glistening horses entered the ring, one by one to perform their dressage tests to be judged by 5 judges. Nine countries were represented Australia, Germany, France, Belgium, Poland, Switzerland, the Czech Republic, Netherlands and the USA. The Americans, Chester Weber, Misdee Wrigley and Jimmy Fairclough all drove excellent tests but the best test by far was driven by Boyd Exell from Australia. I got the goosies watching his flawless test with his beautiful black Dutch horses. Boyd won the individual gold medal for dressage with an amazing score of 31.68%.

The marathon phase started at 10:30 on Friday. We always had to report for our posts hours in advance so the day started at 7:30 for the volunteers. I was assigned as a obstacle observer (hazard judge) in obstacle 7. The marathon course ran over a former golf course so the footing had excellent drainage and was not effected by the rain earlier in the week. The course and hazards were beautifully decorated. One by one the drivers raced into my hazard and drove smoothly through the twists and tight turns to make their gates A – F. There were no errors of course or mishaps in my hazard however that was not the case in some of the other hazards. Isbrand Chardon & Bram Chardon, father & son respectively, from the Netherlands both had an error of course which dropped them out of contention for team gold. Christoph Sandmann from Germany suffered a



*Obstacle 7*

devastating elimination when one of his wheelers got his legs over a trace and had his legs pulled out from under him when the traces tightened in a turn. In the end the gold medal went to the winner of the marathon, Koos De Ronde from the Netherlands.

The final phase of the driving event was the cones competition. It was a scary tight, technical course. The maximum time allowed was 200 seconds. The drivers entered the ring in reverse order of the placings after the marathon to vie for a perfect double clean round. Jimmy Fairclough had 2 balls down, Misdee Wrigley had 3 balls down and both had time penalties. Chester Weber and Boyd Exell drove a clean round with no balls down but again, both had time penalties. Bram Chardon from the Netherlands drove the only double clean course to become the individual gold medal winner for cones. The crowd went crazy!



*Bob Giles, Linda Evans, and Maryanne Boyden.*

The awards ceremony followed with the USA claiming Team Gold and Boyd Exell winning the individual Gold Medal. I got teary eyed when our national anthem was played. I was so proud of my country, proud of our team and proud of the volunteers who worked tirelessly to help make the games happen and might I add that not one person kneeled during the playing of the national anthem. I feel blessed to have been a part of the WEG 2018. I will have the memories of these games with me for life!





**Boyd Exell**



**Misdee Wrigley**



**Chester Weber**

## WEG 2018

*By Bob Giles*

In a scene out of “Dante’s Descent into Hell” the scuttlebutt coming out of Tryon, NC was a nightmare for contractors, competitors, organizers, and volunteers. The 2018 WEG event indeed fulfilled the above forecast. The 100 mile Endurance ride was a disaster. Add to the mix, hurricane Florence.

Linda Evans, Chris and Janet Carswell and I checked in for our credentials, job assignments and uniforms. This went smoothly as we anticipated great driving from the best in the world.

I was the ring steward for dressage and had requested to wear a suit and bowler hat. I was told we had to wear the “uniform” Linda Evans was a scribe for dressage and was also told to only wear the uniform, a blue pullover with logos covering it and khaki pants. I have seen scribes at hundreds of driving shows dressed in elegant outfits. I believe Linda & I could have added some class out of respect for the caliber of drivers and the image of being the host country. In contrast, they allowed a man in a red jeweled suit and an ugly top hat to strut around the ring during award ceremonies. His image was one of a ring master at a big top circus. If he was some sort of mascot, why do they make the drivers wear a white shirt and tie and polish their harnesses?

At the end of dressage Chester Weber and Misdee Wrigley were near the top of the leader board. Boyd Exell of Australia was in 1st place with a stellar performance.

The marathon’s unparalleled driving was demanding and technical with a demand to win every letter in every hazard to stay in the race. Koos De Ronde of Holland won the marathon, winning 5 out of 8 hazards. The sad part of this event was the horses being forced to climb a very steep hill on their way to hazard 8 on a very hot and humid day. For a blue ribbon we put our horses through this? As a footnote, I was the only driver out of 5 volunteers in my hazard. No hazard had more than 2 drivers. Shame on you my readers! We met volunteers from Hawaii, Alaska, Europe and every state.

The cones course was like a rubic’s cube with 3 serpentines, 4 roll backs, and 2 sets of oxers in a ring that was too small. We saw Chester Weber drive clean but had time penalties. Good enough for individual Silver medal, Boyd Exell wins individual Gold.

I found the US drivers too focused to speak with us but the European drivers were glad to stop to chat and give advice on becoming a better driver.

Overall the volunteers were positive and excited to be there. America did very well winning the 1st ever Gold in jumping, reining, & driving.

Anytime I can be near the trendsetters and winners in my business, carriage driving, I will be there. The information I garnished will help how many horses and drivers? Hundreds!

## World Equestrian Games 2018 – Tryon, NC

By Chris and Janet Carswell



We had both volunteered at the WEG Driving Test Event earlier this year. We had the best time and overall experience. Our experience at the Test Event made us excited about volunteering at the actual event.

We were worried that the hurricane was going to make our trip to WEG impossible. We packed and prayed as we waited for updates from the South Carolina and the North Carolina Department of Transportation on road

closures. With just days before our departure...we could do nothing but wait. Thankfully, the hurricane spared our planned driving route and we were off!

The trip was great and we safely arrived at the Volunteer Headquarters. We received our credentials and our shirts. We headed to the WEG grounds to visit before our shifts started the next day. There was so much to see and do! There were plenty of equestrian venues to choose from and plenty of vendors to shop! We were officially at WEG! Bonus, we were at WEG with our friends: Linda Evans, Bob Giles and Maryanne Boyden!

### Day one – driven dressage

We had to be at the volunteer check in hours before the event would begin, so it was an early morning. We had the driven dressage warm up arenas – there was an arena for multiple drivers and then a private arena for 10 minutes of private practice. We worked with two FEI Stewards from France and they were a blast to spend the day with! It was very hot and we did not have shade, but our FEI Stewards made it fun! Bonus, we were able to meet all of the teams! We had time to talk with the teams, hear stories, told some good jokes and received rare driving pins from the teams!



### Day two – marathon

As with driven dressage, we had to be at check in hours before the marathon would begin. A bit of hurry up and wait was happening. We were split up on marathon – my Mom worked obstacle #1 as the entry person/radio person. I worked obstacle #5 as the ball watcher for the knock downs. My Mom and I both had great teams to work with. My Mom's obstacle was uneventful, but my obstacle - #5 – had the horse fall and I was filming it when it happened! It was very scary to see firsthand, but everyone handled it very professionally. All horses walked away from the accident, but the team was eliminated from marathon.

### Day three – cones

Since the cones competition wasn't starting until after 2 in the afternoon, well, guess what? We had the chance to sleep in and I took advantage of it! We arrived at check in and realized there were more volunteers than positions, so we waited to find out whether we were working or just getting to watch. As it turned out we got to work! My Mom started by carrying drinks to the drivers as they were walking the course because boy oh boy – was it HOT! Delivering drinks was fun because she had the opportunity to meet all of the drivers again! When competition started my Mom was one of the gate volunteers at the entrance to the arena. I was the scribe for the wheel measurements. Both jobs allowed us to meet and talk to the teams – it was great!

When the day was over we were witness to amazing driving and the USA's history making Gold Medal! It was a moment we will both remember forever – to stand, hand over our hearts, see our USA flag raised and the anthem played! It made us proud to be a part of it – it made us proud to be American!

Best souvenir – my Mom got Boyd Exell's autograph for me! PLUS Boyd Exell's Navigator, Hugh Scott-Barrett, gave my Mom a super rare Australian driving pin for me! Boyd and his team are amazing! I am so glad I had the chance to witness his drives!



Volunteering at WEG was an experience of a life time!



## Third Annual Southern Drive

by Judi Tintera

The third annual Southern Drive at the Grand Oaks Resort took place on May 10-13. Unlike last year's rainy weather, the sun shone through most of the weekend and the participants enjoyed the planned activities including a Safari Drive, Poker Drive, Team Derby Challenge, Carriage Maintenance Clinic, plus a croquet welcome reception on Thursday, a Friday night pizza party and the Saturday night awards dinner—with the funny money auction. Combine these events with the option to book a private lesson with clinicians Bob Giles, Gary Yeager and Muffy Seaton (who also judged the derby) and have the freedom to drive around the beautiful oak shaded grounds at their leisure, it made for a full four days of driving pleasure.

Sincere thanks to all who helped make this event a success! Generous donors of gift certificates and items for prizes and/or the funny money auction:

The Grand Oaks Resort  
American Driving Society  
The Florida Whips  
The Carriage Association  
of America  
US Equestrian  
Driving Digest  
The Carriage House  
Yonies  
Sparr Building & Farm Supply  
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Country Carriages  
Driving Essentials  
Gloria Austin  
Winter Hill Training Center  
Francine Arrington  
Jacqueline Musler  
Eloise Nelson  
Anna and Howie Crothers  
Kathie Beeson  
Jane Murphy  
Deb and John Bennett



*Diane Adams-Simmons and Dona Love.*



*The funny money auction had almost 50 items to bid on, including new ADS logo swag.*



*Volunteers for the Poker Drive and Team Derby: clockwise from front: Su-Zi, Susan Thomas, Chuck Tintera, Shirlee and Tim Callahan, Howard and Anna Crothers, Eloise Nelson, Stephanie Van den Hurk. (Volunteers not pictured: Carol Bendle and Max Zieman, who sold tickets for the funny money auction).*



*Volunteers for the Safari Drive: front row (L-R) Susan Thomas and Jane Murphy, back row (L-R): Chet Pratte, Kathie Beeson, Laughlin Waldoch and Jerry Caudill.*



*Mark Navratil gave his popular carriage maintenance clinic again this year.*



*The Run for the Roses themed decor for the awards dinner was the work of Kathie Beeson and Jane Murphy.*





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September 2018 - August 2019

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All memberships renew each September 1

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Name	Email	If junior, Date of Birth

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If you have an article and photos of a recent show or event, a recent accomplishment, or anything equine related that you'd like to share with your fellow Whips members, please send it to Sioux at: [newsletter@flwhips.org](mailto:newsletter@flwhips.org)

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