



The Florida Whips

October 2022 Newsletter

www.flawhips.org

www.facebook.com/groups/Floridawhips

Notes From The Prez

Have you ever wondered what prompts acts of courage? Does courage have a shape, a color? Can you feel it or touch it? Is it light or is it heavy? Can you buy it? Is it big or is it small? I am convinced that we all possess it given the right stimuli.

As a Marine in Viet Nam, KHE Sanh-'68, I got to witness acts of courage and valor. They were committed by people not on your radar, not fitting the image of Rambo or John Wayne. Ordinary people doing extraordinary acts of courage to save the lives of the person on their left or right, knowing those people would do the same for you. I have met several Medal of Honor recipients; none were braggers and a lot of them said that they went in the wrong direction and found themselves in a fight or die situation. It is a lot easier to be brave in a jungle boots, flak jacket, helmet, and armed with a K-bar Knife, a 45 pistol, a rifle or machine gun and a claymore mine (explosives). So, what if you have none of the above and your opportunity is ten times bigger?

So, the Medal of Honor winner with TWO Purple Hearts is a four-year-old Silkie rooster weighing in at 5 pounds named Caesar and owned by a beautiful little girl named Madeline Giles, my grandniece.

Caesar was part of a flock of 55 chickens, and he was one of the smallest. One night a large (30 pound) racoon came to raid the chicken house for supper. NOT on Caesar's watch! He fought him off valiantly, losing his right wing in



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the attack. Madeline and her Mom, Sue, nursed him back to health.

The protective gene was so great in Caesar, that one night in a freezing rainstorm while guarding the chicken house, Caesar's feet froze to the ground and his feet had to be amputated. Again, Madeline and her Mom restored life to our brave hero. Because of the pecking order of chickens Caesar has his own house – he can waddle backwards and has the run of the farm. Caesar loves to be the center of attention and he will fall asleep if you scratch behind his head.

So next time you see Chrissy Aitken driving Prince Charming, think of this story. Think of how defenseless Chrissy was as a small child in the battle with



fire. Think of how courageous she was to overcome being trapped. Think of how hard she fought back to be the GREAT carriage driver that she is today! If you look up the word “courage” in the dictionary – it says Chrissy Aitken! But let me warn you, if you try to scratch her behind the head, she will not be falling asleep!

Bob

Tickety Boo Farm CT & Pace Drive
12 November 2022
ADS Season Opener
Training to Advanced Level Event
Only Accepting 15 Entries



Judge: Boots Wright

TD: Jim Thomas

Secretary: Ellen Ettenger

Organizer: Paul Van Sickle

\$50 Entry Fee

Questions? Call Paul at 386-847-4642



We are The Florida Whips!

FaceBook@Florida Whips Carriage

Driving Club

www.flwhips.org



Full Page Event Ads:
Florida Whips Events- Free
Non-Whips Events - \$20

General:

Full Page Business Ads - \$40 per issue; \$300 annual rate

½ Page Business Ads - \$25 per issue; \$200 annual rate

¼ Page Business Ads - \$20 per issue; \$100 annual rate

Annual Business Card Ad - \$50 annual rate

Classified Ads:

Up to 100 words, and one photo to run for 3 months:

Florida Whips Members - free

Non-Whips members - \$15

Ad Rules

Ads should be sent to the newsletter editor no later than the 20th day of the month for inclusion in the following month's newsletter.

If layout assistance is needed, please send the ad with instructions, no later than the 15th day of the month for inclusion in the following month's newsletter. Please use the following email address.

smokinccminis@gmail.com

Classified Ads



HDT

At The

Florida Horse Park

November 26th & 27th

The show will be a two day format and stalls will be \$25 per night. Entry fee will be \$100.

Fundraiser for the driving obstacles improvements.

Volunteers will be needed.

Contact Lynda Jowers (352)562-6976
308 SW Spirit Ave.
Fort White, FL 32038

EQUINOX EQUESTRIAN CENTER

FALL SHOW

SATURDAY OCTOBER 15, 2022

Welcome to EEC's fall show! Come join us on the second Saturday of October.

We are offering a one-day format: dressage times at 9am going directly to cones, with marathon in the afternoon. Divisions are Training, Preliminary, and Intermediate. Advanced division will be offered if there are enough interested. Classes will include VSE/Small Pony, Pony and Horse. Turnouts to include single, pair and team.

EEC wishes to encourage youth and will comp all show fees for youth exhibitors.

Entry Price: \$75

Overnight: \$25 – Temporary stalls available; trailer parking and camping-no hookups yet.

Food truck/vendors will be on site.

Forms and other information, please contact **Joy Howland** –
equinoxequestriancenter@gmail.com

Phone: (954)295-7410

Entry forms due by **Oct 10th**.

All equines must have proof of vaccination and a negative coggins. **Helmets** are required for cones and marathon.



**Grand Oaks Resort
Best Training Facility in Florida!**

GRAND OAKS RESORT

As the summer comes to an end, Grand Oaks Resort is getting ready for our Winter guests! Our summer has kept us very busy with horse shows. Now, we have a few weeks to clean up before our next season arrives. Our returning guests can now take a breath, as of April 7, 2022 Grand Oaks Resort was taken off the market and is no longer for sale!

Now under new direction of General Manager, Kacy Tipton-Fashik, many renovations have been done. Our focus is to have a fresh look when our winter guests arrive. Our winter show season will be here before you know it. We know everyone is anticipating what will happen at Grand Oaks this season.



2022-2023 Schedule of Events at Grand Oaks

December
3-4 USEF Short Format
January
6-8 USEF Developing Driver Clinic
9-12 Lynn Palm Clinic
13-15 Orlando Dressage
21-22 Grand Oaks Horse Trials
27-29 Grand Oaks CDE
February
3-5 Grand Oaks Classic, CT & Derby
11 Paso Fino Horse Show
13-16 Lynn Palm Clinic
16-19 USEF Developing Driver Clinic
18-19 Appaloosa Horse Show
25-26 Hunt Country Horse Show
March
3-5 Western Dressage Clinic & Show
8-11 USEF Developing Driver Clinic
10-12 NorAust K9 Dog Agility
10 Combined Test at Grand Oaks
13-16 Lynn Palm Clinic
18 Arabian Horse Show
April
1-2 Driving Event at Grand Oaks
And this is just the start of the 2023 Show season!

Many exciting things are happening at the Resort:

- Grand Oaks Resort has leased out the restaurant "The Bistro" to new management and will reopen September 3.
- The roof has been replaced on many of the Main buildings at the Resort.
- Many trees have been lifted to make it easier for large trailers and RVs to maneuver around the property.
- Paddocks have been spit to accommodate more horses this winter season.
- The Oak Room is now open as banquet room for parties.
- The Resort Office has moved locations from the Administration building to the foyer of the Oak Room.
- The Administration building is now available for rent.
- We now have a new banquet area adjacent to the Oak Room.
- Some roads have been repaired.
- Redecorating of cottages.
- Adding new driving areas.
- And many more...

Grand Oaks is really excited to see everyone this winter! We can't wait for you to see what we have done for you!

**3000 Marion County Rd, Weirsdale, Florida
www.TheGrandOaks.com 352.750.5500**

Preventative Health

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure". Preventative veterinary care is a 'win-win' effort for horses and owners. For the horse, proactive wellness care maximizes quality of life through prevention and early treatment of disease. An owner has a healthier, more active animal ready to share time together at their intended discipline or activities—plus minimized costs for veterinary care. In short, wellness care works! It results in a healthier, longer life for the horse at a predictable and manageable cost for the owner.

An equine wellness exam is a basic assessment of the horse. It can be used to detect a wide range of different health problems that could potentially affect your animal.

These include, but are not limited to:

- Obesity, which is a leading cause of other chronic health problems
- Equine Cushing's Disease/Equine Metabolic Syndrome
- Gastric ulcers

Preventative Health cont.

- Heart murmurs
- Eye problems
- Cancerous growths
- Hydration status
- Excessive thirst and/or urination
- Degenerative joint disease
- Osteoarthritis
- Subtle bouts of laminitis
- Hoof angles and condition

When doing a wellness exam your vet will check things such as:

- Body condition scoring, topline evaluation, and cresty neck score
- Temperature
- Heart
- Lungs
- Coat condition
- Teeth
- Digital pulses
- Legs, feet, and gait

As well as anything else they may feel the need to perform further examinations based on their preliminary findings. It is also a great opportunity to review other important aspects of your horse's health such as their feeding program, vaccination schedule, shoeing/trimming, and deworming schedule.



More often than not, your horse's wellness exam pays for itself by preventing medical issues in the future. That is why wellness exams are such a great value for your pocket book.

Almost...



ENCOUNTERS

Whether you drive your equine competitively or recreationally, there will be times when you have what are simply encounters. Driving around any road or track, drivers will often halt just to have a friendly chat with people they meet. During the halt, expectations are that the equine will stand quietly and patiently until asked to proceed. However, I've witnessed too many chat sessions where the pony will toss his head, stamp his hooves, snatch at grass or generally misbehave without any correction by the driver. Being properly trained, friendly encounters can be most rewarding for the pony and driver.

What really needs to be discussed are the unfriendly encounters. For this article, focus is on loose dogs. If your driving partner is not trained to accept a dog in his presence, the tail wagging, friendly loose dog can be a frightening experience. More frightening, and challenging, is the unfriendly loose dog.

My Morgan pony is simply unflappable about dogs. He doesn't pay them any attention and listens to me when in harness. I cannot assume the same behavior from my Welsh pony. The most recent unfriendly encounter occurred while [thankfully] driving my Morgan. Two Airedale Terriers, a large dog bred to hunt bear, were contained on their property as I approached down the road at a strong trot. I watched as the first dog hit the electronic gate in an aggressive manner enough so that the gate opened slightly. Knowing that my speed might encourage the dog, I slowed to a walk. That is when things went bad. The two dogs engaged in a skirmish between themselves as they continued to jump at, dig, and tumble at the gate. I wasn't but about 20 yards past their drive when I heard one dog snarling as it ran toward us.

I spoke loud and firmly "Go Home!" to the dog as I turned in my seat waiting. The Airedale had not yet reached the backstep when I managed a well-placed and hard lash across the dog's face. It was enough to stun the dog, she turned and went to the side of the road, peed, and then lunged after us again. I had turned my pony to face, and possibly chase, the dog. I thought better of this plan and turned again to put me and the carriage between dog and pony. Maybe we had traveled just far enough from the dog's home and without her companion the urge to attack dissipated. Maybe the threat of the banshee screaming human with big stick was a deterrent. Either way, the dog stopped her charge and stood in the middle of the road as we continued on our way home.

The commentary and thought for everyone here should be “what to do in this circumstance?” I was alone so carrying wasp or bear spray on a windy day could be counterproductive. The whip is clearly my first choice of deterrent. Being accurate is ever so important. Practice your whip handling for more than advising your pony to move over. If you can accurately flick a fly off your horse, without touching your horse, then you probably have a good plan of action.

p.s. The dog’s owners were horrified to hear of this incident and took immediate measures to better secure their gate, along with some other actions. Not all dog owners will be as responsible.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR 2023

January 18, 2023
February 15, 2023
For more information,
text to: 352-433-9665

The Steeplechase
Farms Continuous
Drive(s) return in 2023!
There will be advance
registration and

announcement for
participant time of go.
There will be
competitor packets.
There will be awards.

Volunteers are very
welcome.
Details coming soon!
Questions? Contact
Candy Smith.



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**Wear your beach shirts and enjoy
a day of cones at Black Prong!**

Channel you inner Jimmy Buffet for some fun!

1. Margaritaville (Crazy Cones)
2. Flip Flops (Reverse Psychology Obstacles)
3. Fins (Timed Obstacles)
4. It's 5 o'clock Somewhere (Fault & Out Obstacles)

\$25.00 per class or all four for \$85.00

\$10 office fee

January, 20th, 2023

In the Box Seat . . . *with Candy Smith*

JUNIORS GALORE!

When Karen Cherry said she would take on the role of Florida Whips Junior Director in May, it made me smile because Karen exudes that youthful enthusiasm and energy that would appeal to Juniors. In passing, I offered assistance should she need it and left matters at that.

Fast forward and Karen wasted no time in connecting with the Tuscawilla Pony Club, Girls Scouts, FHP, and others to organize the first Juniors Clinic on September 10 th. Sponsored by both The Florida Whips and the United States Pony Club, the turnout was amazing! In all, there were just under 40 Juniors plus the attendant adults that came to see what driving was all about. Not only did the attendance surpass expectations, but Barbara Hooper brought her daughter and Ocala 's very own Horse Capital Television for filming and interviews.

The Clinic: At registration, each Junior was assigned to a group. The clinic was kicked off when Karen gave an introductory talk to the crowd (and, I do mean crowd). They were quickly turned over to my trailer location to learn about carriages, the different types of driving, and an overview on the harness. A volunteer from Pony Club helped me demonstrate Carolyn Gaedtke's perfectly balanced 2-wheel cart (can you hear the crowd going 'wow' when I balanced the shafts with one pinky finger?).

Following this, the groups were then dispersed to rotate to the other volunteers.



Beth Reiselman had set up 2 reinboard stations and the kids were actively learning how to hold reins and whip while the cut-out horse heads tossed about. Next in line, Tracy Ferrell-Roberts was demonstrating harnesses adjacent to where Mary Phelps had her team of Gangsters (always eye catching small for little people) getting ready to demonstrate what they do best. My station turned into a hands-on harnessing on/off demo with my small Welsh pony. Most popular of the static clinic activities involved Karen and her helpers setting about to get pairs of Juniors practicing “blind man driving”. The giggles and laughs were spreading as the “driver” holding reins tried to convince their “blind horse” to trust, go forward, and turn.

Driving Demo: After an hour of clinic rotation activities, the volunteers from Florida Whips who had brought their ponies (USPC generally defines all equines as ‘pony’) harnessed and the real contagion of smiles took hold. Mary Phelps and the Gangsters wowed spectators and some Juniors on the back-stand by flying through the water obstacle. RoBerta Greeno had her dun Shetlands speeding around the cones course with Geir Kanstad on the stand. Juniors riding along wore helmets and vests and really got to experience being in the box seat. For my part, Oberon was a saint and kids held the reins as we maneuvered our way around the busy cones course. Of course, Carolyn’s wonderful pony and Lynn Schneider’s horse made the rounds making sure that each Junior got an opportunity to ride on a carriage.



Kids and Ponies!

Conclusion: Food was absolutely plentiful for our après drive lunch. The trays of sliders were donated by Publix and the Tuscowilla Pony Club; and, were very much appreciated. Planning is already underway for two more clinics and Karen assures us the clinics will be well advertised in advance. Barbara Hooper has already released the broadcast on the clinic and you can watch it here:

<https://player.lightcast.com/ogzM1gzM>

Most photos by Dan Smith.



Florida Winter Carriage Driving Festival



Photo by
Erin Gilmore
Photography

2022 - 2023 Schedule of Events

Stride Dressage Show	Florida Horse Park,.....Ocala, FL	Sept 18, 2022
FW Iron Horse Continuous Drive	Iron Horse Farm,.....Ft. White, FL	Sept 24, 2022
FW Camp Black Prong	Black Prong Eq. Village,.....Bronson, FL	Oct 6-9, 2022
FL Horse Park Training Day	Florida Horse Park,.....Ocala, FL	Oct 10, 2022
FW Equinox Eq. HDT/CT	Equinox Eq. Ctr.,.....LeCrosse, FL	Oct 15, 2022
Stride Dressage Show	Florida Horse Park,.....Ocala, FL	Oct 23, 2022
USEF Ocala Intern. Horse Show	World Eq. Center,.....Ocala, FL	Oct 25-29, 2022
FW Trail Drive, CT & Derby	Jacksonville Eq. Ctr.,.....JAX, FL	Oct 28-30, 2022
FL Horse Park Training Day	Florida Horse Park,.....Ocala, FL	Oct 31, 2022
ADS Ticket Boo CT & Pace	Ticket Boo Farm,.....Melrose, FL	Nov 12, 2022
ADS Black Prong CT & Derby 1	Black Prong Eq. Village,.....Bronson, FL	Nov 16-17, 2022
FW E. Keathley Navigator Clinic	Crane Wood Farm,.....Ocala, FL	Nov 19, 2022
FW Cones Course Practice	Good Earth Farm,.....Loxahatchee, FL	Nov 19, 2022
ADS Tandem Pair & Multi CT	Ticket Boo Farm,.....Melrose, FL	Nov 20, 2022
FW Iron Horse HDT	Florida Horse Park,.....Ocala, FL	Nov 26-27, 2022
FW Elizabeth Keathley Clinic	Caloosa Horse Pk.,.....Palm Beach Co, FL	Dec 3-4, 2022
ADS Grand Oaks HDT	Grand Oaks Resort,.....Weirsdale, FL	Dec 3-4, 2022
ADS BP CT 2 & Derby 2	Black Prong Eq. Village,.....Bronson, FL	Dec 7-8, 2022
FW Holiday Trail Drive	Wellington Envir. Prsve, Wellington, FL	Dec 18, 2022
ADS BP CT 3 & Derby 3	Black Prong Eq. Village,.....Bronson, FL	Dec 28-29, 2022
New Year's Eve Drive	Ticket Boo Farm,.....Melrose, FL	Dec 31, 2022
FW Sara Schmitt Clinic	Good Earth Farm,.....Loxahatchee, FL	Jan 8, 2023
FL Horse Park Training Day	Florida Horse Park,.....Ocala, FL	Jan 9, 2023
ADS Nature Coast CDE & CT 4	Black Prong Eq. Ctr.,.....Bronson, FL	Jan 12-15, 2023
FW Continuous Drive	Steeplechase,.....Morrison, FL	Jan 18, 2023
Stride Dressage Show	Florida Horse Park,.....Ocala, FL	Jan 22, 2023
FL Horse Park Training Day	Florida Horse Park,.....Ocala, FL	Jan 23, 2023
USEF Grand Oaks Classic CDE	Grand Oaks Resort,.....Weirsdale, FL	Jan 26-29, 2023
FW Fun Derby	Caloosa Horse Pk.,.....Palm Beach Co, FL	Jan 28-29, 2023
ADS Derby #4	Black Prong Eq. Ctr.,.....Bronson, FL	Feb 1, 2023
ADS Grand Oaks Classic	Grand Oaks Resort,.....Weirsdale, FL	Feb 3-5, 2023
FW Dressage Clinic	Good Earth Farm,.....Loxahatchee, FL	Feb 6, 2023
ADS Dressage Festival	Black Prong Eq. Village,.....Bronson, FL	Feb 10-12, 2023
FW Continuous Drive	Steeplechase,.....Morrison, FL	Feb 15, 2023
USEF Spring Fling	Florida Horse Park,.....Ocala, FL	Feb 23-26, 2023
FW Lessons w/ Gary Yeager	Caloosa Horse Park,.....Palm Beach Co, FL	Feb 25-26, 2023
Stride Dressage Show	Florida Horse Park,.....Ocala, FL	Feb 26, 2023
USEF Combined Test	Black Prong,.....Bronson, FL	Mar 1, 2023
ADS Driving Derby #5	Black Prong,.....Bronson, FL	Mar 2, 2023
ADS BP Pleasure Show	Black Prong,.....Bronson, FL	Mar 4-5, 2023
USEF Live Oak Intl. CDE	Live Oak Stud,.....Ocala, FL	Mar 15-19, 2023
ADS Black Prong CDE & CT #5	Black Prong,.....Bronson, FL	Mar 23-26, 2023
Stride Dressage Show	Florida Horse Park,.....Ocala, FL	Mar 26, 2023
ADS Driving Derby Finals	Black Prong,.....Bronson, FL	Mar 29, 2023
FW Metta Baxter Clinic	Black Prong,.....Bronson, FL	April 1-2, 2023
FW Scott Monroe Clinic	Iron Horse Farm,.....Ft. White, FL	April 15-16, 2023
The Southern Drive	Grand Oaks Resort,.....Weirsdale, FL	May, 2023



Inaugural



904-255-4228

**OCTOBER
28TH, 29TH &
30TH**

LOCATED AT THE
JACKSONVILLE EQUESTRIAN
CENTER
13611 NORMANDY BLVD.
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32221

FALL CHARITY TRAIL RIDE BENEFITTING H.O.R.S.E. THERAPIES

**WE NEED YOUR HELP TO CONTINUE HELPING
OTHERS**

FRIDAY:

PARTY ON THE PAVILLION
LIVE MUSIC
FOOD
TRICK OR TREAT TRAIL DRIVE
SILENT AUCTION

SATURDAY:

TRAIL RIDES
TRICK OR TREAT TRAIL RIDE
COSTUME CONTEST
FOOD & VENDORS
DRIVING: DRESSAGE, CONES & DERBY
AWARDS CEREMONY
CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

SUNDAY:

DRIVING OPEN SCHOOLING
EXHIBITION DRIVING DERBY

CORNHOLE - TRAIL RIDE - DRIVING

H.O.R.S.E. THERAPIES IS A 501(C)3 NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT ACCEPTS CHARITABLE DONATIONS.





March 4-5, 2023

Join us for the inaugural

Black Prong Equestrian Village *Classic Under the Oaks*



ADS Carriage Show

Black Prong's Classic Under the Oaks is an American Driving Society recognized competition and will be held in accordance with the ADS rules. We recommend that all competitors familiarize themselves with the current ADS rule book.

Photos by Pics of You



FLORIDA WHIPS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

September 2022 – August 2023

flawhips.org

All memberships expire each August 31

☐ New Application

☐ Renewal

Member Name:	<input type="text"/>		
Business/Farm/Organization Name:	<input type="text"/>		
Mailing Address:	<input type="text"/>		
	City	State	ZIP
Email Address:	<input type="text"/>		
Primary Phone:	<input type="text"/>		
	Mobile	<input type="checkbox"/> Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Home <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Alternate Phone:	<input type="text"/>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Mobile	<input type="checkbox"/> Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Home <input type="checkbox"/> Other

Membership Type	Annual Dues	Notes
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership	\$ 45.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership	\$ 50.00	Please list names of family members in the space provided
<input type="checkbox"/> Business/Farm/Organization	\$100.00	Includes annual business card ad
<input type="checkbox"/> Reciprocal Driving Club	\$ 00.00	Please list names of family members in the space provided

For family memberships, please list family member information (all must be living in same household)

Name	Email	If Junior, Date of Birth
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

SAFETY RULES OF THE FLORIDA WHIPS, INC.

- Vehicle and harness must be serviceable and in good repair
- Vehicles must be unhitched prior to removing reins and bridles
- Driver must have a whip and carry it while in motion
- Horses must have bridles on with reins attached prior to hitching to a vehicle
- Horses may not be tied or left unattended when hitched to a vehicle
- Never pass another carriage at a fast trot and never drive too close to another carriage

☐ By checking this box and signing below, I acknowledge that I and all family members listed as part of this membership have read and understand the safety rules listed above, as part of this membership. I further understand that under Florida law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for injury to, or death of, a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risk of equine activities. This document is meant to be a full and complete release from any and all liability that may arise from participating in Florida Whips, Inc. equine activities. This release is given freely and voluntarily by the participating members and remains in existence throughout the duration of membership.

NAME

DATE