



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 • JANUARY 2020



Reindeer's Révenge at the Holiday Toy Drive. Santa (played by Cody) is pulling three reindeer, Heidi Sibitz with Eva Tracy and Logan Smith



WHAT'S INSIDE

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Scenes from the ADS Annual Meeting • Metta Baxter

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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.*

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.

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.

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.

PAYMENT INFORMATION

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

Anna Crothers
treasurer@flawhips.org

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

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

Find us on 

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Need a trainer? Here's a list of trainers recommended by our Whips membership:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Elizabeth Keathley
(615) 849-5105 | Jean Thornton
(386) 985-2103 |
| Olof Larson
(352) 804-0284 | Boots Wright
(352) 812-8701 |
| Muffy Seaton
(540) 454-1092 | Sara Schmidt
(908) 303-1830 |
| Thoreston Zarembowics
(352) 857-9718 | Audrey Hartnett
(978) 290-1072 |
| Kacy Tipton-Fashik
(Grand Oaks Trainer)
(352) 409-1398 | Larry Poulin
(508) 574-0313 |
| David Saunders
(352) 229-3159 | Bob Giles
(352) 208-0476 |
| Gary Yeager
(352) 286-5365 | David Jay
(407) 783-6663 |

We Need To Hear From You!

Do you have some "human" technology (or anything, really) that you have found a great use for around the barn or while driving? If so, send in your ideas (and pics) for your "Human Hacks for Horses".

Ideas for future articles include your ideas for making homemade hazards or dressage arenas. Also what are your best driving "gymnastics" for a successful Marathon day?

But we are not limited to these topics, send in your ideas, articles and updates (and most of all, pictures!) to newsletter@flawhips.org!!

Florida Whips Calendar of Events *(updated as of 1/7/2020)*

Meeting	Competition	Recreational				Clinics/Lessons
CALENDAR of EVENTS 2019-2020 <i>(updated all season long, contact the newsletter editor with updates, etc.)</i>						
Date	Event	FL Whips	ADS	USEF	FEI	Contact
1/10 to 1/12/20	Nature Coast Driving Event (updated date!) at Black Prong Equestrian Village, Bronson, FL		X			ADS Omnibus
1/11 to 1/12/20	Meta Baxter Clinic at Canturbury Showplace, Newberry, FL	X				Karen Wolfsheimer
1/18 to 1/19/20	Lessons at Caloosa Park at Palm Beach Gardens, FL	X				Deb Bennett
1/29 to 2/2/20	CDE at Grand Oaks at Grand Oaks Resort, Lady Lake, FL		X	X		ADS Omnibus
02/07/20	Grand Oaks CT, Derby & Pleasure Show at Grand Oaks Resort, Lady Lake, FL		X			ADS Omnibus
02/12/20	Continuous Drive @ Steeplechase at Steeplechase	X				Dona Love
2/14 to 2/18/20	Florida Spring Fling CDE/HDT/CT at Florida Horse Park, Ocala, FL		X	X		ADS Omnibus
02/15/20	Small but Mighty HDT Chateau Log Farm Stud, Windsor, SC		X			ADS Omnibus
2/22 to 2/23/20	Not So Royal Windsor HDT Katydid Farm, Windsor, SC		X			ADS Omnibus
02/29/20	Inglis Island Trail Drive Inglis Lock Recreational Area, Crystal River, FL	X				Yvonne Harris
3/4 to 3/9/20	Live Oak International at Live Oak Farm, Ocala, FL		X	X	X	ADS Omnibus
03/11/20	Continuous Drive @ Steeplechase at Steeplechase	X				Dona Love
3/14 to 3/15/20	Lessons at Caloosa Park at Palm Beach Gardens, FL	X				Deb Bennett
3/20 to 3/23/20	Windsor Trace CT & CDE at Windsor Trace Greenfields Farm, Windsor, SC		X			ADS Omnibus
3/27 to 3/29/20	Black Prong HDT - CAC at Black Prong Equestrian Village, Bronson, FL		X			ADS Omnibus
04/04/20	Iron Horse HDT Iron Horse/Linda Jowers	X				Linda Jowers
4/9 to 04/12/20	Southern Pines Combined Driving Event Carolina Horse Park		X			ADS Omnibus
4/18 to 4/19/20	Lucky V Ranch HDT Lucky V Ranch	X				Paul Van Sickle
4/18 to 4/19/20	Lessons at Caloosa Park at Palm Beach Gardens, FL	X				Deb Bennett
4/22 to 04/26/20	Katydid @ Tryon Internationa Equestrian Center TIEC, Tryon, NC		X	X		ADS Omnibus
5/7 to 5/10/20	The Southern Drive at Grand Oaks Resort, Lady Lake, FL	X				FL Whips
05/08/20	Florida Whips Annual Membership Meeting at Grand Oaks Resort, Lady Lake, FL	X				FI Whips

PLEASE NOTE: Corrected date for Iron Horse HDT in April!!

In Memoriam

Sharyn L. Knecht, 72, of Waymart, died November 30th. Sharyn, and her husband, Bill, have been coming to Florida for winter for close to 20 years. She is survived by her husband of 55 years, Bill, 3 children, 6 grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

She drove her beautiful Gypsy Sport horse, Joy, in Combined Driving and Driven Dressage as well as her son's Gypsy stallion at The Grand Oaks Pleasure Driving Show. Recently, she enjoyed trail riding and camping with her horse and friends.

Sharyn shared her love of riding and driving with her friends in the Steeplechase neighborhood and at Black Prong and by volunteering at many shows and helping at clinics. She was a shining light in her community, always striving to make everyone feel welcome.

Her family asked that in keeping with Sharyn's love of people and her giving nature, in lieu of flowers, the family respectfully asked that you help an elderly neighbor in need of a visit, a helpful act, donation towards utility or grocery bills, Anything to brighten their day and help lighten their load. It's a lovely idea, and I'm sure Sharyn will be in our hearts and minds as we practice these acts of kindness.

MUSINGS FROM THE (putting the "pro" in procrastination) EDITOR

I apologize for the short newsletter. December is a case of not much going on (to write about, anyway) and a whole lot going on. Between traveling for Thanksgiving and Christmas, procrastinating about Christmas shopping in general, with the ADS meeting in between... AND getting a pony fit... Well, I'm a slacker this month in the newsletter department. But I have some good stuff planned for February, so stay tuned!

Denice & Xander



Scenes from the American Driving Society Meeting and Competition

Bettina's young horse turned in a beautiful dressage test and is really getting the hang of this CDE stuff



Bob's back in the game! He even survived a drone attack and fearlessly finished his dressage test! Seriously, ask him all about it...

Scenes from the American Driving Society Meeting and Competition, continued

(right) Possibly the best picture ever. Eloise Nelson and Lynn West, with their rendition of American Gothic... Florida Whips style (which involves a complete lack of midwestern fortitude and solemnity).

(below) Elizabeth Rieselmann's new Small Pony, Dawson, showing at Grand Oaks Combined Test, Preliminary Dressage (best prelim score for the show)



(below) The Thursday night champagne reception was fun... but COLD! (even for a Georgian)



ADS Pony Measuring Clinic



There's a Very Small Equine in this picture, really! Eloise's Scarlet was a test subject for the ADS Pony Measuring Clinic. She was an amazingly patient pony, and it has been confirmed she is indeed a VSE, like maybe 50 times...

Xander was recruited for some pony measurement practice



A great shot from above by Lynn West, the pony measuring clinic was very popular!

Volunteers at ADS



(left) Safari Drive Volunteers Lynn Parker, Mary Anne and Miller McCreadie and Beth Rieselman, also many thanks to Lynn West who bought her safari signs down with her all the way from Ohio!

(below) Lynn Parker, Mary Anne McCreadie, Beth Rieselman set up and ready to run the safari drive! Janet Carswell is helping while Chris is on course (Chris was the eventual winner of most animals and neatest form)



Maureen Grippa and her team of wheel measurerers at the driving event



Clockwise from top, ADS members at the annual meeting, the Van Sickles (and a wee bit of Janet Crumpton!) at the Champagne Reception. a beautiful view along the Safari Drive





Metta Baxter Driving Class

a Florida Whips tradition

Carriage Driving Course Slated for January 11-12, 2020

By Karen Wolfsheimer

The Florida Whips will again offer the “Metta Baxter Driving Class” , on the weekend of January 11-12, 2020. This year the class will be offered at a new venue....the Alachua County Agricultural & Equestrian Center. Alachua County purchased the facility in 2019 to be used as a public facility for equestrians from Alachua County and surrounding areas of Florida. It is located at the former site of Canterbury Equestrian Showplace in Newberry, Florida. Alachua County is making major renovations and improvements to the facility and the Florida Whips are excited to support this new facility. This popular course which teaches you how to train your horse to safely drive was first organized by the late Metta Baxter. It was Metta Baxter’s aim to share the knowledge and enthusiasm of the local driving community with newcomers interested in learning about the sport. The course has been offered for over 20 years and continues to grow in depth and volume of information for the new driver or those drivers just wanting to sharpen their skills.

The course is an intense two day event consisting of lectures, demonstrations and hands-on sessions. Day 1 will begin with lectures on safety, horse selection, harness, carriages and bits. Driving safety is a major aspect of the course to minimize risks to horse and driver. The afternoon sessions will consist of small groups of students to allow “hands-on” experiences. “Rein board simulators” will be available to learn the “feel of the reins” as well as begin to appreciate “contact” and whip handling. Harness assembly, carriage selection and carriage maintenance, will round out the group sessions. A demonstration on how to start a horse in harness with ground driving as a preparation for “hitching” the horse to a carriage or cart will complete the afternoon.

Day 2 continues with a demonstration on “Harnessing & Hitching” followed by a hands-on session where participants will practice harnessing a horse. Next participants will actually ground drive horses/ponies. After lunch, a demonstration on “Driving Gaits & Cones” will be given. Then students will have the opportunity to actually drive a variety of horses/ponies and carriages/carts. All harnesses, horses/ponies and carriages/carts are provided by members of The Florida Whips. All that the participant needs to bring is enthusiasm, a pair of riding/driving gloves, appropriate footwear and a helmet . Food and drink will be available for purchase onsite.

Registration for the course begins December 1, 2019. To register or if you have questions, contact the course coordinator at wacahootakj@gmail.com or 225-767-9615. Participants are limited to adults 18 years of age or older.

Course fee is \$75 per person.