

Whips & Wheels Driving Club

www.whipsandwheelsdrivingclub.org

January 2011

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Welcome New Member

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Don't forget to renew YOUR membership for 2011.



President's Letter

I hope everyone is looking forward to the New Year and getting back into the Driving groove. It was nice to see everyone who attended the Membership meeting last week. We had several great ideas for future activities and we will be working out the details in the near future. It was also suggested that if anyone has any ideas for new driving locations to let the Board know.

Don't forget our 1st driving event will be the Valentine Drive on Saturday, February 19th in Salisbury. Faith is planning the event and will have some interesting challenges for us.

March 29th will be the St. Patrick's Day Drive at TLC Farm with Trish serving as the coordinator.

See you on the 19th.

PennyG

Message from Jean Parker

My weekend at Little Everglades Ranch last weekend.

Florida Whips Fun Show and Little Everglades Ranch Fun Drive - A Super Weekend

Jan 8th and 9th I took my Morgan pony, Ruby, to two events held at the Little Everglades Ranch in Dade City, Fl. On Saturday, the Florida Whips driving club sponsored a fun pleasure driving show, judged by Fred Merriam.

There were turnout, working, cones, reinsmanship, and super reinsmanship classes for novice, vse,

pony, and horse. The show was really fun to drive, with Ruby's ribbons (three blues—including one in the largest class in the show—, two seconds, and high point championship!) being icing on the cake. I certainly learned some interesting tidbits that will be helpful to me in the future. Now I just need to practice, practice, practice.

My favorite competitor (driver) was a little 8 year old girl, driving one of the VSEs. She won first in one of her classes, and ribbons in all the others, and received a special trophy for being the youngest driver in the show.

January 9th was the day of the Little Everglades Ranch Fun in the Country Drive- This drive on Sunday was a blast. Believe me this drive was almost too much fun. It reminded me of some of the Whips and Wheels fun events I have attended. The cool early morning was replaced by warmth and sunshine as the drivers got started on the drive. Drivers and their horses, ponies, vse, mules, and donkeys were ready to begin at the start line that was located on the Steeplechase track allowing a beautiful drive on the track past the fountains and then out into the countryside of the more than two thousand acre ranch. Upon encountering the first obstacle, a giant ninja panda in the midst of a cones course, the drivers could "bribe" the volunteer judges for extra points! Extra points were also gained by donating to Soldiers Angels. Among the other obstacles were spelling words out in the dressage arena, a hazard of gates made of absolutely hilarious hay bales that were painted and made up into cows, pigs, horses, and ducks; driving onto the cattle weigh scales and guessing the weight of your rig,----I guessed 1436, and my rig was 1450!—; a blindly driven cones course; a nautilus spiral made of ribbons fluttering in the wind; and a washer pitch, where I was penalized twice for stopping, when Ruby insisted on checking to see if any food was inside the target buckets hanging on the fence! Points were given for correctly completing the obstacles and for the time on course compared to a secret completion time! Many drivers also gained extra points for their creative spares kits! Believe me, it was a blast—about as much fun as one could ever have on a drive! Plus lovely scenery and getting to really flat trot out coming into the finish on the huge gorgeous steeplechase track turf. It was an absolutely GLORIOUS day!

I fell in love with a little VSE size mule at this drive. She looks pure white---, although she does have tiny spots on the backs of her ears and on one eyelid---with beautiful brown eyes, and wow can she trot! Her name is Angel and she was a rescue! She is absolutely adorable. She had about the best score on the drive. Cannot believe I fell for a mule.

I think my pony enjoyed seeing the sights as much as I did. Which was great.

I love my Morgan pony. She is not too easy, but NOT SPOOKY. She is just right for me to start driving. I am so fortunate to have found her. This entire weekend really gave my confidence a boost.

I am looking forward to attending and sometimes participating in a number of upcoming events in Florida during this wintertime, but sorry I will miss the Whips and Wheels fun drives until late Spring.

The Florida Carriage Museum and Resort - Home for my horses this winter!

I am gratefully fortunate to be spending another winter in Florida, staying in The Villages until March, when I will move about five miles away into one of the residences at Gloria Austin's Florida Carriage Museum and Resort in Weirsdale, Florida, where some of my horses are being boarded this winter. The other ones are just a few miles down the road at Double K Stables, owned by Audrey and Mike Kitchens.

Let me tell you again about the Florida Carriage Museum and Resort. Founded in 1995 by horsewoman and driver, entrepreneur and philanthropist, Gloria Austin, the Florida Carriage Museum & Resort is a carriage museum, driving, riding, and education center, equine resort and home to the not-for-profit 501(c)(3) Equine Heritage Institute, Inc. The Florida Carriage Museum & Resort and the Equine Heritage Institute, Inc. are dedicated to a common mission: To educate, celebrate and preserve the history of the horse and its role in shaping world civilizations and changing lives. Many retirees living in The Villages retirement community nearby enjoy serving as volunteers and docents at FCMR.

The Florida Carriage Museum & Resort encompasses over 400 lovely acres in Central Florida's horse country. The Museum houses one of the largest, privately owned collections of carriages in the world. The impressive collection,

which is open to the public, I am told is also one of the finest to be seen anywhere and includes more than 160 meticulously restored carriages, one of which is the magnificent 1840's Dress Chariot formerly owned by Emperor Franz Joseph of Austria. If you are interested in carriages, and/or in history, and ever are in the area, I highly recommend a tour through this museum.

Visitors to the Museum re-live history as they go through. They can also take a carriage ride (by prior appointment) on the winding roads through tall oaks draped in Spanish Moss, around the Qin Dynasty Gardens and past the exotic Japanese Koi Pond. Horses abound: a rare Poitou donkey named "Nicolette" and her best friend, a Miniature Horse named "Gracie", welcome visitors and look for a scratch on the head. And of course there are the beautiful black Friesians that Gloria has driven in competitions all over the world.

The Resort features several residences and barns that serve as an equine "Bed & Barn." Some guests bring their horses to train for the winter months, a weekend, or just for the day. Others come without horses to enjoy the farm and miles of walking/carriage trails and can often be spotted picnicking under the shady oak trees when the weather is warm enough.

During winter, a potluck supper and bonfire is held for residents and boarders every Sunday night and a breakfast is held once a week for people to meet and mingle.

There is a lecture series with talks being given every other Monday. This week I attended a presentation at FCMR facilitated by Gloria Austin, with driving competitors of the 2010 WEG (World Equestrian Games held in Kentucky)—followed by a demonstration by Canadian Daryl Billings driving his 4-in-hand team.

A moonlight rides are held every month during the full moon and includes a hayride.

When I first arrived in November, a huge Veterans' Day celebration was going on at FCMR with many different activities including reenactments of local Civil War battles as well as battles from other wars.

During the first three weeks of December, the FCMR produced a celebration of Christmas Past two evenings a week among the carriage displays in the museum. Period-dressed tour guides and

interpreters led groups of about 30 visitors through wonderfully decorated galleries and display settings for delightful re-enactments of past Christmas traditions. Afterwards, guests were served holiday deserts, hot chocolate and cider while being entertained by caroling. I missed this event last year because it was sold out, but I remembered it would be happening again this holiday season, and bought tickets early.

Also in December, the Florida Whips driving club sponsored a Christmas parade, which was hosted by the Florida Carriage Museum and Resort. I drove my Morgan pony, Ruby, in this parade. The parade began in the main arena in front of the museum, with each carriage being introduced to the large crowd, before parading around the grounds on an approximately one hour drive, coming back for another round in the arena. Awards were given in several divisions for best-decorated equine and most festive turnout. And, believe me, there were some very fancy and highly decorated turnouts. Quite a sight to behold. I was proud of Ruby and myself as well for staying cool through all the sights and sounds.

The day following the Christmas parade, December 19th, a dressage and cones competition was held at the FCMR. The judge was Australian, Gavin Robson, one of the drivers who competed in the 2010 WEG in Kentucky. I drove Ruby in the training level dressage and cones. I was very pleased to be awarded fifth place when the two scores were combined. The following week I scheduled a lesson with Gavin so he could give me pointers on how to improve my scores next time. I then scheduled a couple of lessons with Kacy Tipton-Fashik, equine manager at FCMR.

On January 8, FCMR sponsored a Florida Horse Festival event, which I missed, but was told was a spectacular series of equine performances and demonstrations—everything from dressage, four-in-hand team driving, parade of breeds, and gypsy driving, to police training, drill teams, and a matador demonstration, among many others.

In February, the Florida Carriage Museum is hosting, for its 13th year, an American Driving Society approved, annual carriage pleasure driving competition event.

These are just some of the many happenings at FCMR in addition to the day-to-day driving, riding, and training going on this winter.

Jean Parker

General Meeting Jan 23, 2011

Ryan's Steakhouse

20 members attended the general meeting at Ryan's in Salisbury. Penny called the meeting to order about 2:30pm.

Pat Granzky passed out the treasurer's report (see below). Penny mentioned the upcoming events and the need for the Board to meet to decide on more events for the year. The Board will meet at MAD Ceramics Friday Feb 4th 6:30pm. Suggestions for events were as follows: Polly Hixson and other HDT, Faith new places to drive. Pat Granzky suggested Jim Burnett's Leyland Farm and another person asked about the Yadkin Valley Hounds. Faith talked about Southern Pines and the Moore County Club. She has a friend and we might be able to put on a ride down there or in conjunction with the Moore county club or at the Moss Foundation. Faith also suggested an event where we swap TRAINED horses and get a chance to drive someone else's horse & carriage (In a fenced in area!) Someone asked if Barbie Black could arrange another ride at her friends tree farm in Morganton.

Penny Brandon still has a few WWDC calendars available. Polly would like someone to help by working some of her horses. Jay Moore (Vet) talked about a vaccination clinic in Woodleaf the first or second weekend in Feb, and the possibility of also doing one at Paradox farm.

Penny G had a sample of a cute t-shirt from Dana's Doodles, and she also had some headbands.

Don't forget your memberships are due!

Faith presented the Volunteer of the year award to Penny Brandon. Congratulations Penny.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00.

Tricia

Whips and Wheels Driving Club

Finances 01/01/10 thru 12/31/10

12/31/09 Bank Balance

REVENUE

Valentine's Drive	\$	150.00
TTC Donation for Volunteers	\$	150.00
Easter Drive	\$	167.00
Paradox Drive	\$	45.00
S. McCrimmon Clinic	\$	90.00
Halloween/Paradox Drive	\$	155.00
Turkey Trot	\$	40.00
TTC-HDT Income	\$	345.00
2010 Memberships	\$	664.50
Silent Auction	\$	95.50
Christmas Dinner	\$	270.00
TOTAL	\$	2,172.00

EXPENSES

Board of Directors Refreshments	\$	21.00
Cost of Website	\$	34.96
Office Supplies, Stamps, etc.	\$	67.46
Liability Signs	\$	32.30
Insurance	\$	706.00
Bereavement Flowers	\$	40.95
Protectors/Cones	\$	10.62
Porta John/Luau	\$	70.94
Meat for Luau	\$	34.75
S. McCrimmon Clinic Expense	\$	197.03
TTC for HDT	\$	345.00
Turkey Trot Expense	\$	44.68
Megan Moore refund	\$	10.00
Tucker's/Christmas Dinner	\$	290.00
TOTAL	\$	1,905.69

**BEG. BALANCE+REVENUE-
EXPENSES TOTAL \$1898.01**

**December 31, 2010 Balance
\$1898.01**

Is anyone interested in just riding on days the club has no scheduled activities?

We are starting a list of people to call. So far we have:

Barbie Black 864-921-0131

Faith Bradshaw 704-213-7076 faith@salisburyblueprints.com

Tricia Hardy 336-751-0786 tjhardy2@yadtel.net

SCHEDULE FOR 2010:

*Regardless of the event riders, visitors and spectators are ALWAYS welcome. Please come and check us out! *

January 23rd General Meeting, 1:30

Ryan's Steakhouse
Jake Alexander Blvd. Salisbury, NC 28144
(704) 639-1811

February 19th Valentine drive, Faith Bradshaw to host

March 19th St Patty day drive, Tricia Hardy to host at TLC Farm

***BYOL= Bring Your Own Lunch!**

CLASSIFIEDS:

NOTE: Ads are FREE to PAID members and will run for 2 months then be deleted unless you request them to be run for another 2 months. Must be horse related, i.e. no washers dryers etc.

11/02 Full size light oak Meadowbrook cart with wood fenders. Great condition. Always stored in garage of private home. This cart is large and is currently being used by a 16.2 horse and is suitable for parade or show. Asking \$1800. Email for pictures and measurements.

Liz Patten 334-414-8526 lpatten@herffjones.com

Whips & Wheels Driving Club

www.whipsandwheelsdrivingclub.org

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Deadline for articles is
the 25th of each month
with a publish date of the 30th.

All mistakes in this publikshun are
their for the benufit of those
whom look for them!



Think you

Editor: Tricia Hardy

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Name: _____



Address: _____



City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Phone:(____) _____ (Home)

E-Mail: _____

If you want your business listed in our Directory

Business: _____

BRIEF description of Business/Web Address:

Discount to Members? YES NO

(____) _____ (Work Phone)

Office Use, Date Received: _____

Check all that apply: New Family New Single New after June 30th Renewal

NEW & Renewing current Memberships **AFTER November 1st** will run through the next year:

Family Membership (2 or more people) \$25.00 Single Membership (1 person) \$15.00

Total Enclosed \$ _____

NOTE: Membership will run from January 1st through December 31st. NEW Memberships joining **AFTER June 30th** will be prorated at \$12.00 (Family) & \$7.50 (Single) for the remainder of the year and any one joining or renewing a current membership after November 1st is good for the following year.

Make checks payable to: **Whips & Wheels Driving Club**

Send Form & Check to: **Pat Granzky 6988 Lanvale Court Clemmons, NC 27012**