

The Runabout

www.tejascarriageassociation.org

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DECEMBER 2008

2008 CAA CONFERENCE

Sitting here with the temperatures hovering around freezing and with an icy mist coating nearly every surface with a crystalline glaze, it's hard to believe that just 5 short months ago several members of the Tejas Carriage Association set off for the CAA Conference in Lexington KY, all of them with horses and ponies in tow to enjoy the wonderful driving at the Kentucky Horse Park, and to attend the informative programs the CAA offers attendees.

There were also two competitions offered to participants who chose to bring their equines; a Pleasure Show with Turnout, Pleasure to Drive, and Reinsmanship classes, and a Traditional Day of Driving where competitor's Turnout scores were combined with an obstacles score and a score in the cross country drive to determine overall placings in the Traditional Day.

All the TCA members who competed fared very well! Jennifer and Kelly Ralls, in the Single Pony Division with the Haflinger gelding Rocky, owned by Cheryle Fisher, were 4th place overall in the Traditional Day, 2nd in Pleasure to Drive, 6th in Reinsmanship, and 3rd in Turnout.

Cheryle Fisher competed with the VSE, Toby, owned by Elizabeth Sterling. Cheryle and Toby were 5th over all in the Traditional Day, 4th in Pleasure to Drive 5th in Obstacles, and 5th in Reinsmanship.

Ruth and Paul Graves brought their Haflinger cross mare Babe, and placed 3rd overall in the Traditional Day, 3rd in Pleasure to Drive, 3rd in Obstacles, 3rd in Reinsmanship and 5th in Turnout.

Eileen and Stephen Leek competed in the Single Horse Division with their mare Sammi. They were 4th overall in the Traditional Day, 2nd in Pleasure to Drive, 3rd in Obstacles, 3rd in Reinsmanship.

Two other Texans joined this expedition, Rosa and Chuck Finsley, brought their lovely pair of Sec. A Welsh ponies to enjoy the various drives around the Horse Park. The couple had a very special thrill at the CAA banquet where they purchased, at the Silent Auction, a coaching trip to Bavaria! Rosa and Chuck attended that trip in September and I'm hoping they'll share their experiences with us at one of our monthly get togethers.

All of the Texans agreed the CAA conference experience was wonderful fun, an outstanding opportunity to observe some of the most gorgeous turnouts in the country and, the Park is a lovely place to drive.

I would like to encourage all TCA members to join the Carriage Association of America, the benefits are many! To entice those who haven't taken the opportunity to join, the CAA is extending a very generous invitation...As a new member you may sign up now and pay only half the usual membership fee! All you need to do is indicate you are a member of the new Tejas Carriage Association on the membership application.

In years to come, perhaps we can organize another jaunt to a CAA event together.

Ruthie Graves



The Single Pony Division Lineup



Chuck and Rosa Finsley with Stephen and Eileen Leek enjoying the CAA Banquet.



The Ladies Coaching Club passing through on the way to their luncheon.



CAA Headquarters

MONTHLY PROGRAM FOR JANUARY

January 24, 2009 will be the first of our monthly educational programs. Each month will concentrate on one aspect of driving.

On the 24th, we will meet at the home of Paul and Michelle Grundmann to watch the video, "Bending the Driving Horse with Muffy Seaton". We will also have rein boards and a horse or two to practice what we learn.

In her tape, Muffy covers all the essential elements of creating a balanced, forward moving and safe driving horse. This video covers the basic steps from preparing to long-line to achieving a balanced change of direction.

Muffy is a nationally known driver of singles, pairs, and fours. She has a large "R" in judging for both Pleasure and Combined Driving with the American Driving Society.

We will start at 10am. We will finish with the video before lunch. Bring a lunch and we will practice on rein boards and with a horse after we eat.

If you want to do a map search, the address is 1056 County Road 3504, Quinlan, TX 75474. Call the home number if you need additional directions, 903-883-0797. Please use Michelle's cell number on the day of the event if you need help, 214-536-4779.

TCA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tejas Carriage Association meeting held December 6, 2008.

Present: Michelle Grundmann, Ruthie Graves, Carol Muckleroy, Alta and George Pederson, Betty Lowe, Jennifer Ralls and Cathie Golas.

Alta will be the Chairman of the Board, Michelle the Treasurer and Cathie will take minutes.

The horse head logo was approved unanimously.

We have 21 members and \$635 in the account.

Voted to start the insurance 5 days before the first activity. It will cost about \$600.

We will set up a fund for adopt a cone cause. It will cost \$25 for each cone.

We voted to bring a clinician for Beginner to Winner Day. To come to this day, one must be a TCA member and the fee for the day to be determined. Subtitle to the day may be "What you don't know can hurt you". We will have a clinic on Friday and Sunday to defray clinician's costs.

We set the following calendar: (Locations after March are tentative)

January 24th at Grundmann's at 10 AM. View Muffy's video and practice on a reinboard. February 21st at Grundmann's. Time TBA . Beginner to Winner learning day with clinic on February 20th and 22nd at about \$65 per lesson. March 14th at Golas'. time TBA . Overview of CDE Rules. April 11th location and time TBA, Pleasure Show Prep (with horses). May 16th Location and time TBA. Schooling Dressage Show with May 15th and 17th tentative clinics. September 19th location and time TBA, ADS Pleasure show. September 20th, more driving with Judge.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathie Golas

HELPFUL HINTS

For everyday protection and shipping, try using foam covers on your shafts. They can be found at your local pool supply or home improvement store. They are easy to trim for fit and can be secured with electrical tape, if needed.

DeAnn Haggard

We would like to include something new each month. Send your helpful ideas.

CONE MEASURING STICKS NEEDED

Calling all you out there with design and inventive skills. We need cone measuring sticks for our events. The cost of the DriveOn Production sticks is \$50 per stick. I know organizations that use these and they do work but are prone to break and can be persnickety. But so far they have been the only choice.

Anyone talented enough to come up with our own design? Something that is easy for the complete novice to operate and also be accurate. You know how those drivers can be if they feel they have lost a centimeter of clearance.

The sticks also need to store easily.

The large stick from DriveOn measures from 119cm to 221cm and a small stick measures from 88cm to 160cm. I don't know if just one stick can be produced that measures 88cm to 221cm. I am sure the design engineers out there will let us know. We do need that full range, though.

So who will have a go at this?

Michelle Grundmann

TIS THE SEASON

Our first annual TCA Holiday Party was a great success. Thank you to George and Alta Pederson for warmly opening their home to everyone. Here are a few photos sent in by Carol Muckleroy from the festivities.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Ruthie Graves. Her ADS judge's status has changed. She is now a registered "r" judge for Pleasure Driving. She is also a "L" judge for Dressage and plans to complete a couple of more learner jobs outside of our region, before applying for her registered status. Kudos for her hard work and travel.

CLASSIFIEDS

Classifieds are free to current TCA Members. Please send your information to info@tejascarriageassociation.org or call 817-269-0632 by the 10th of each month. Your advertisement will be included in the newsletter and on the website. The Tejas Carriage Association is not responsible for advertisement content or accuracy.

FOR SALE

Chloefau—Belgian/Quarter Horse Cross gelding. 14 yrs. old, 16.1hh. Extensively shown up to Intermediate CDE level in a pair and single. Also driven 4-in-hand, tandem, and used in training young harness horses. Very safe and dependable. Stands immobile for tacking and hitching, perfect gentleman for farrier and vet. Conditions easily for CDEs and Driving Trials. Photos available. \$4000.

New condition full horse Zilco GZB harness for sale (some parts still have tags on, never used). \$1000

New Zilco Empathy collar. Never used. \$175. Contact Carol Muckleroy (903) 759-8104 or CMcarriagedriver@aol.com

2009 CALENDAR

The Tejas Carriage Association calendar is open to all driving related activities. TCA activities are listed in red. Please send calendar submissions to info@tejascarriageassociation.org or call 817-269-0632. Additional events can be found at www.americandrivingsociety.org.

JANUARY

24th—**TCA Monthly Program**. Video and Discussion: "*Bending the Driving Horse*". Reinboards will be available for practice. 10 AM. Acappella Farm - 1056 CR 3504, Quinlan, TX 75474. Contact: Michelle Grundmann at 903-883-0797 or acappella@topher.net.

29th-1/2—Equine Affaire. Equine Exposition. Pomona, California. www.equineaffaire.com.

29th-30th—CAA Learning Weekend. Florida Carriage Museum & Resort. Weirsdale, Florida. www.caaonline.com.

FEBRUARY

20th & 22th—**TCA Clinic**. Clinician TBD

21st—"*From Beginner to Winner - What You Don't Know Can Hurt You*" A day of lectures and demonstrations with special guest Speaker/Clinician to be announced. Acappella Farm - 1056 CR 3504, Quinlan, TX 75474. Contact: Michelle Grundmann at 903-883-0797 or acappella@topher.net.

MARCH

14th—**TCA Monthly Program**. Discussion: Rules for Driving Trials and CDEs. Golas Farm - 6708 Estados Drive, Parker, Texas 75002. Contact: Cathie Golas at 972-442-3420 or jgol@airmail.net.

28th-29th—NTW Sunrise Ridge HDT & Driving Weekend. Paradise, Texas. Contact: Kate Morgan at 817-523-4616, 817-688-9580 (call first please) or katermorgan@gmail.com.

APRIL

2nd-5th—Equine Affaire. Equine Exposition. Columbus, Ohio. www.equineaffaire.com.

11th—**TCA Monthly Program**. Discussion (with horses): Preparing for a Pleasure Driving Event. Contact: Ruthie Graves at 903-883-4638 or rufus1953@joimail.com.

24th-25th—Martin's Auction. New Holland, PA. 38th Annual Spring Auction of Coaches, Carriages, Sleighs and more. www.martinsauctioneers.com.

25th-26th—Plum Creek CDE & Combined Test, Agarita Ranch, Lockhart, Texas. Contact: Sharon Gorry at 913-728-2197, 512-585-5450 or swgorry@sunflower.com

MAY

16th - **TCA Driven Dressage Schooling Show**. More information to come. Contact: Michelle Grundmann at 903-883-0797 or acappella@topher.net.

SEPTEMBER

19th & 20th - **TCA Pleasure Driving Event and Clinic**. More information to come. Contact: Ruthie Graves at 903-883-4638 or rufus1953@joimail.com.



THE HEART OF A HORSE

With the hustle and bustle of the holidays upon us, club member Mary Favaron thought we might enjoy the following poem. Wishing you all Happy Holidays and a wonderful New Year!

When your days seem out of balance and so many things go wrong....
When people fight around you and the day drags on too long....
When the grown-ups act like children and you're off your spiritual course
Go out into the pasture and wrap your arms around your horse.

His gentle breath enfolds you, and he watches with those eyes....
He may not have a Ph.D., but he is, oh so wise!

His head rests on your shoulder.
You embrace and feel his might.
He puts your world in balance, and he makes it seem alright.

Your tears they soon stop flowing
The tension is now eased
The garbage has been lifted and you're quiet and at peace.

So when you need the balance from circumstances in your day
The best therapy that you can seek is out there eating hay.

— Author Unknown

ADS OFFERS SPECIAL DISCOUNT

Susie Koos Acker, Executive Director of the American Driving Society, has presented the Tejas Carriage Association with a special membership offer. TCA members who would like to join the ADS for the first time, will now receive a discount on an Individual or Family membership. Enclosed in this newsletter, you will find an application with a list of the many benefits that accompany an ADS membership. It is a wonderful opportunity to join the ADS at a reduced fee.

ADOPT A CONE TODAY

For only \$25, you too can help a cone have a much wanted family. The cones need your support. Millions feel unworthy and unloved. They long for the days they can sit in the fields and watch the carriages drive past, oh so close. They love to feel the wind whipping at their faces. And what fun it is to watch the balls drop.

It is thought that 50 make a great extended family.

Please help those 50 cones join the Tejas Carriage Association. They want to come to Texas and be a part of our community. They need us and we really do need them.

To get the process started, simply complete the Adopt A Cone form found in this newsletter and mail it in with the adoption fee. Your name will be permanently (or until the environment fades it off) inscribed on your cone, so that you can locate it when you visit. Then...be sure to come out and watch your cone's progress at TCA events. Your support is greatly appreciated.



www.tejascarriageassociation.org

Membership Application

Membership runs from December 1st to November 30th.

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Additional Family Members: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____ Website: _____

Membership Level: _____ Individual (\$30) _____ Family (\$35) _____ Junior (\$10)-Birthdate _____

ADS Member _____ Yes _____ No Membership Number _____

CAA Member _____ Yes _____ No Membership information is required for ADS & CAA affiliation purposes only.

I am interested in (check all that apply):

_____ Recreational Driving _____ Pleasure Driving Shows _____ Clinics & Educational Events

_____ Endurance Driving _____ CDEs, HDTs & ADTs _____ Volunteering

Please make checks payable to **Tejas Carriage Association** and mail with application to:

Michelle Grundmann
1056 Rancho Road
Quinlan, Texas 75474

I hereby release the Tejas Carriage Association, its board and members from any liability and all claims of every kind (including costs, expenses, or attorney fees) that might result from damages, injuries or losses to my person or property during, or in connection with, any show, clinic, event or functions, whether or not such damages, injuries, losses result directly from the negligent act of omissions of the board or members of the Tejas Carriage Association. I understand that under Texas Law (Chapter 87, Civil Practice and Remedies Code), an equine professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities.

Signature(s): _____

If Junior, signature of Parent or legal Guardian: _____

The American Driving Society

Membership **Special** for the **Tejas Carriage Driving Club**

NEW MEMBER ONE YEAR MEMBERSHIP OFFER

◆ Mr. ◆ Mrs. ◆ Ms. ◆ Dr.

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Club or Company Tejas Carriage Association

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____

E-mail _____

family membership includes (Names): _____

Membership Expires December 31

Driving Interest (check all that apply)

Recreational: ◆ Non-competitive

Competitive: ◆ Pleasure Shows
◆ Combined Driving

Other: ◆ _____

Member Type (circle one)

- ◆ Life - \$1000.00
- ◆ *Commercial - \$100.00
- ◆ Individual - ~~\$75.00~~ **\$55.00**
- ◆ Family - ~~\$95.00~~ **\$75.00**
- ◆ Junior (under 18) - \$40.00

Method of Payment:

◆ Check or Money Order ◆ Visa ◆ Mastercard

Credit Card #: _____

Exp. Date: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

ADS Members Receive:

The ADS Rulebook

Containing rules for competition, guidelines for turnout, and information on the governance of the society. Free download or \$10 for hard copy.

◆
The Wheelhorse Newsletter
Monthly

◆
The Whip Magazine
Quarterly

◆
The Omnibus
Bi-Annual Directory of Competitions

◆
The Buyers Guide
Annual

◆
Invitation to Educational Clinics and Seminars

◆
Access to Members only section of Web Site

◆
Membership Decal and much more

*Bonus Benefit!

In the annual ADS Carriage Driving Buyer's Guide, ADS Members may promote their business in two categories for FREE. List your carriage, horses, or other driving related items for sale. Business size color ads are just \$49.00!

americandrivingsociety.org/buyersguide.asp
for more details.



Please return this form to:

The American Driving Society

P.O. Box 278 • Cross Plains, WI 53528

Phone: (608) 237-7382 • Fax: (608) 237-6468

E-mail: info@americandrivingsociety.org

This offer is for club members who have never been members of the ADS. Membership will begin the day you join and be active for one year.



www.tejascarriageassociation.org

Adopt A Cone

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Name to be inscribed on Cone(s): _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Number of Cones to be Adopted: _____ X \$25 Adoption Fee Per Cone Total: _____

Please make checks payable to **Tejas Carriage Association** and mail with completed form to:

Michelle Grundmann
Attn: Adopt A Cone
1056 Rancho Road
Quinlan, Texas 75474

Thank you for your support!