

TEJAS CARRIAGE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

The Runabout

www.TexasCarriageAssociation.org

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DECEMBER 2009

WISHING EVERYONE HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Twenty-six TCA members met Saturday, December 5th for our second annual club Christmas Party. This year's celebration took place at a very suitable church fellowship building in Greenville. Our thanks to the Pecan Grove Church for allowing us to use the facility with all its conveniences to accommodate our needs.

Members brought a dish to share, and many brought gifts to exchange expecting the larcenies that always occur with the traditional exchange that allows for swiping desirable gifts. There were the usual sighs of relief when something particularly attractive was stolen the requisite two times, before its owner could rest easy knowing it was theirs for the keeping.

While members visited at the beginning of the party, the 2009 Live Oak event DVD was being shown giving folks opportunities to watch advanced driver's dressage tests at one of the top events in the country. Everyone agrees the best part of such social events are the opportunities to visit with each other and share each others news and goals for the coming year.

If you were unable to attend we missed you and wish Happy Holidays to ALL our TCA members. We hope to see you throughout the New Year. It promises to be another great one!

Ruthie Graves

2010 BEGINNER TO WINNER DAY

Preparations are now underway for the TCA Beginner to Winner Day. A series of lectures will be held February 20th in Greenville, Texas.

This event will be free to all TCA members and while very beginner friendly, will offer information for the more advanced driver, as well. Up-to-date information for this event will be posted on the club website.



TCA CONTACTS

BOARD - WORKING COMMITTEE

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NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE

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PLUM CREEK DAY OF CONES RESCHEDULED

This Christmas Season has everyone trying to get everything done and running in circles to get it done. The weather is not helping (even though the rain is needed).

Chuck Leshikar of Plum Creek has decided to help out a little by Postponing the Day of Cones to Feb 14th, 2010. Chuck did not realize how many scheduling conflicts there would be with clubs and individuals. So a suggestion has been made to make the weekend in February, a true weekend of play.

Feb 13th, 2010 will be the Day of Dressage, as planned.

Feb 14th, 2010 will now have the Day of Cones.

Entry forms can be found at www.pccss.org. Please mail them to: Paula Long at P.O. Box 1186, Kennedale, Texas 76060. Paula can be contacted at 817-614-2986 or by e-mail at long.paula@rocketmail.com.

DRIVING TRAIL CHALLENGE BEGINS NEW YEAR

The second in a series of five Driving Trail Challenges will take place February 21st. Photos from the first event, held in November, can be viewed at <http://gallery.opticalharmonics.com/p350572338>. Several TCA members were in attendance.

New to this discipline, this series of events is the driving version of the Trail Challenge sanctioned by the National Competitive Trail Horse Association and is open to all drivers. Courses are laid out on natural terrain using natural obstacles and situations, that a driver might encounter. Competitors are divided into three categories; VSE, Pony and Horse, with points being accumulated toward year-end awards.

Feedback from the first event was very positive. Safety is first and foremost. Questions and concerns can be directed to Candy Bradford at texaspg@gmail.com. Additional information and entry forms can be found at www.texastrailchallenge.com/driving_social10.htm.

FALL EVENTS ARE WELL ATTENDED BY HELEN HOGAN

TCA members recently competed in two regional driving events; the Cowboy Country CDE in Stillwater, Oklahoma and the Haven Hill Fall Driving Challenge in Navasota, Texas. Weather was perfect for both events, though the temperature from Oklahoma to Texas was a contrast, shivering in October and warm in November. Drivers negotiated challenging courses and showed off dressage driving skills with calm horses.

Cowboy Country is a full-fledged CDE (Combined Driving Event) rated by American Driving Society. The dressage field on high ground held up well through the wet week preceding, so it was well packed and level for the drivers. The cones course also had fine drainage and Diana Best laid out a challenging, but smooth flowing course on a green field dotted with trees, a few saplings, and a very rare little pine tree that looks like it belongs in a Tolkien movie, "arms" and "legs" akimbo.

Section A consisted of a 4 or more kilometer course over rough terrain. Section D, the walk section, took advantage of a park like field with a slight slope to send drivers up and down in serpentine pattern to get the required one kilometer distance.



Hazards or obstacles in the Section E marathon phase offered many challenges. Several used oak groves to create the gates, making them a little difficult to distinguish. Obstacle Two lay on a slope beside the path and came up rather suddenly as we straightened out from a curve. Fort Obstacle, a traditional favorite in sight of the highway, this year lay beside a swamp. With four inches of rain the Wednesday before the competition, organizers scrambled to bring in some dirt, clear drainage, and scrape the main trails to keep the ground safe for horses. Officials moved the start of the Fort Obstacle and the finish as well as changed the route away from it to avoid an impromptu river which sprang up on the original exit route.

FALL EVENTS ARE WELL ATTENDED CONTINUED...

Those changes required re-measuring the end of the course, remarking it, and changing the time allowed. Everyone worked so diligently to help exhibitors have a successful and safe experience. Horses handled the course well for safety, but many came in exhausted from the extra work of pulling through mud and many incurred overtime penalties.

Tom O'Carroll's event at Haven Hill offered dressage and cones but no marathon; instead, two obstacles with each timed and the times added to the exhibitor's totals. Tom's obstacles are man-made for the two, he selected for the trials. The first obstacle had three concentric circles with openings to slip from level to level or ease around within the rings. The "fences" of telephone poles were solid, smooth and safe. Since all the openings looked alike, however, remembering a planned route posed problems for a few drivers.

Obstacle Two had a darling little well in the center with palisade fence panels around it and a couple of trees blocking a quick route around the outside. It sat on a slight slope, demanding a willing horse to leap up a couple of strides to find the smoothest flowing route and hug the fence to prevent a slide downhill.

Ruthie Graves, an ADS judge from North Texas, judged cones. Internationally known judge, trainer and competitor Bill Lower, judged dressage and gave a clinic.

Congratulations to all TCA members competing and thank you to those who chose to volunteer.

Cowboy Country CDE

		<u>Overall Placing</u>
<i>Training Level (Single Pony-CT)</i>	Caroline Gaus	1st
<i>Training Level (Single Pony)</i>	Jean Stuard	5th
	Tamara Woodcock	6th
<i>Training Level (Single Horse)</i>	Helen Hogan	4th
	Eileen Leek	1st
<i>Preliminary (Single Pony)</i>	Dwain Gaus	1st
	Denise Hinder	2nd
<i>Preliminary (Single Horse)</i>	Douwe Plantinga	4th
<i>Intermediate (Pair Pony)</i>	Linda Yutzy	1st
<i>Intermediate (Pair Horse)</i>	Lew Smith	1st

Haven Hill Fall Driving Challenge

		<u>Dressage</u>	<u>Cones</u>	<u>Obstacles</u>
<i>Training Level (Longears)</i>	Lee Fuermann	3rd	2nd	1st
<i>Training Level (Single VSE)</i>	June Bevens	6th	5th	5th
<i>Training Level (Single Pony)</i>	Cheryle Fisher	2nd	6th	1st
	Carol Muckleroy	3rd	7th	6th
	George Pederson	5th	1st	
	Camille Reed	1st	3rd	3rd
	Jean Stuard	7th	5th	5th
<i>Training (Single Horse)</i>	Helen Hogan	5th	2nd	5th
	Eileen Leek	1st	1st	3rd
	Jill Wilkison	2nd	5th	4th
<i>Preliminary (Single VSE)</i>	Barb Siebenhausen	1st	1st	1st
<i>Preliminary (Multiple VSE)</i>	Al Bulgawicz	1st	1st	1st
<i>Preliminary (Single Horse)</i>	Karen Garrett	3rd	2nd	3rd
	Douwe Plantinga	4th	4th	4th

BITS & TRACES

TCA member, Rosa Finsley was recently featured in a November *Dallas Morning News* article. As a nationally recognized landscape architect, this was not the first mention of her accomplished work. Rosa's designs have been featured on PBS and HGTV, as well as in a number of well-respected publications, including *Architectural Digest*, *Southern Living* and *House and Garden Magazine*.

For the last few years, Rosa has organized the pleasure drive at Montgomery Farm in Allen, Texas, where she is a part of the Development Team of this ecologically friendly development.

2010 DRIVING CALENDAR

The Tejas Carriage Association calendar is open to all driving related activities. **TCA activities are listed in red.** Please send calendar submissions to jennifer@tejasdrivingclubs.com or call 817-269-0632. For additional activities, see www.texasdrivingclubs.com, www.americandrivingsociety.org and www.caaonline.com.

JANUARY

16th - **HACA's 2nd Annual Scavenger Hunt.** Bonnie and Lee McMurty's Farm - Round Top, TX. More details to follow at www.houstonareacarriageassociation.org.

FEBRUARY

13th - 14th - **PCCSS Day of Dressage & Cones at Plum Creek.** Agarita Ranch - Lockhart, TX. Contact: Chuck Leshikar at 512-376-2602 or leshikar@aol.com. Also see, www.pccss.org.

20th - **TCA Beginner to Winner Day & General Membership Meeting.** Wiregrass Prairie - Greenville, TX. Contact: Ruthie Graves at 903-883-4638 or rufus1953@joimail.com. More information to follow on TCA website.

21st - **Driving Trail Challenge - "Rocky Road".** C-Bar Ranch - Valley Mills, TX. Contact: Kate Love at 817-202-5371 or kelove1958@gmail.com. Website: www.texastrailchallenge.com/driving.

APRIL

10th - **NTW 15th Annual Sunrise Ridge HDT.** Sunrise Ridge Ranch—Paradise, TX. ADS sanctioned. Contact: Kate Morgan at 817-523-4616 or katemorgan@gmail.com.

17th - 18th - **Plum Creek CDE.** Agarita Ranch - Lockhart, TX. See www.pccss.org for more information.

MAY

22nd - 23rd - **TCA Carriage Classic (ADS) and Continuous Day of Driving.** Mickie Bowen will judge both events. Contact: Alta Pederson at 817-447-8077 or gpederdum@aol.com. More information can be found at www.tejasdrivingclubs.com/carriageclassic.html.

16th - **NTW Wits End Drivathon.** Cross Country, Obstacles and Scurry Thru the Trees. Contact: Ree Salter at 940-374-3928 or witsend@wccs.net.

JUNE

12th - **NTW ADT.** Non-sanctioned event to be held in Jacksboro, TX. More information to follow.

19th - **TCA Recreational Drive at Cedar Creek Run.** Cedar Creek Run - Greenville, TX. Also see, www.cedarcreekrun.com.

JULY

TBA - **TCA ADT.** (Tentative) More information to follow.

AUGUST

21st - **Equestrian Market Day.** Sponsored by the Brazos Valley Driving and Riding Club. Brazos Expo Center - Bryan, TX. Contact: BVDRC at www.equinedriving.com.

29th - **Driving Trail Challenge - "West Side Story".** Parrie Haynes Ranch HTC - Killeen, TX. Contact: Kate Love at 817-202-5371 or kelove1958@gmail.com. Website: www.texastrailchallenge.com/driving.

SEPTEMBER

11th - **Driving Trail Challenge at Trace Trails.** Athens, TX. Contact: Kate Love at 817-202-5371 or kelove1958@gmail.com. Website: www.texastrailchallenge.com/driving.

NOVEMBER

13th - **Driving Trail Challenge - "Final Follies".** Tarrant Ranch - Tyler, TX. Contact: Kate Love at 817-202-5371 or kelove1958@gmail.com. Website: www.texastrailchallenge.com/driving.

CLASSIFIEDS

Classifieds are free to current TCA Members. Please send your information to jennifer@tejas carriageassociation.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.

CARRIAGES

New Frontier Easy Entry Pony and Mini Carts. In stock. The pony comes with metal or wood shafts, and the mini carts come with the expanded metal or wood flooring and dash in both A and B size. The pony starts at \$500.00 and the mini at \$450.00. Call Rex Ann at 903 845 6047.

Mini Cart. Call Karen Gorham at 512 793-2158 after 8PM.

HARNESS

Mini Harness. Call Karen Gorham at 512 793-2158 after 8PM.

Mini Synthetic Harness. Made by Tammy Rose a few years ago. Used by the Redman kids on "Scotty", but now missing bridle. A riding bridle is included. Tammy says with inflation, the harness is still worth \$200.00. Stephanie is in college and needs money for books. Email Helen Hogan at h.m.hogan@sbcglobal.net or call 817-478-0072.

HORSES

16 yr. old White Percheron Gelding. Snowman has worked in commercial carriage operations in DFW area. He did work at a therapeutic riding center. Reason for placement - he is not fond of indoor arenas. Best offer to good home. Please contact Riding Unlimited at 940-479-2016 or ridingunlimited@aol.com.

Free To Good Home. 9 yr. old Shetland pony. Oneka's Apple Cider Spider (Charley Brown) is looking for someone to spend time with. Charley Brown is a bay gelding that was started roadster, then restarted with Tom O'Carroll. He is green-broke to drive, but has not had the practice needed. He needs someone with time and experience to make him feel loved and wanted. Call Barbara Siebenhausen at 817-925-6641.

All Around Sporthorse Prospect. Exceptionally nice 2004 Connemara x Trakehner mare. 15.1hh. Dual registered with American Connemara Pony Society and American Trakehner Association. Wonderful mover and kind disposition. Started under saddle, but will need a tune up and finish. \$4,500.00. Photos and additional information can be seen at www.cloudwalksporthorses.com/forsale.html. Email Jennifer Ralls at jkralls@aol.com or call 817-269-0632.

2004 Second Premie Friesian Gelding for Sale. Magist is by the approved stallion Igram B (Lute) and is out of the Ster mare Lucky. He was orphaned at three days old, and as such has become quite a people horse. He is small at about 15 hands tall, but is put together perfectly. Extremely long mane and tail. Has been ridden and shot off of. Has also been put to a drag.

2007 First Premie and Site Champion 2 year-old Filly. Also by Igram B (Lute) and out of Epiphany (Provisional Ster). This filly is very tall and elegant. Beat a Model Mare to make site champion at her Keuring. This is a Stam 50 filly, which is hard to come by. Priced at \$7,500.00 apiece or \$14,000 for the pair. I hate to sell them, but I do need to do so. I own both the stallion and own both of their dams as well. Email Anita Sepko at anita.sepko@verizon.net or call 972-358-9286.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Horse Trailer. 1998 Aluminum two horse slant load Siesta Sundowner for sale. \$18,500.00 In great condition. Email Jo Starkweather at rustyspur1@hotmail.com or call 903-662-5569.

Vaught Western Leather-tooled Saddle. 15" rough out seat for sale. good condition and a very comfortable saddle. \$100.00. Email Jo Starkweather at rustyspur1@hotmail.com or call 903-662-5569.

Parelli Lunge Line. 50 foot. Never used. \$80.00. Email Jo Starkweather at rustyspur1@hotmail.com or call 903-662-5569.

TRAINING

Carriage Driving Training/Coaching. If you need eyes on the ground, or just a bit of help improving communication with your driving horse or with personal driving goals or motivation, I am offering carriage driving lessons and coaching at Cedar Creek near Greenville (see website, www.cedarcreekrun.com). Tuesdays, Thursdays and some Saturdays would be available subject to Cedar Creek schedule. \$40.00 per session with additional facility fee of \$10.00. Sessions run approx 45 min. - 60 min. depending on progress. If interested contact me, Ruthie Graves at rufus1953@joimail.com or call 903-883-4638.



Membership Application

Membership runs from January 1st to December 31st.

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 _____

Half-Year Membership (New Members Only-Runs from July 1st to December 31st):

_____ Individual (\$15) _____ Family (\$17.50) _____ Junior (\$5)-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:

Alta Pederson
305 Ryan Avenue
Burleson, Texas 76028

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: _____

www.TejasCarriageAssociation.org