

TEJAS CARRIAGE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

The Runabout

www.TexasCarriageAssociation.org

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2009

TCA CHRISTMAS PARTY



December 5th, 2009

1 P.M.

Pecan Grove Church

1306 FM 1570 (Jack Finney Blvd.)

Greenville, Texas 75403

Please join us, as we celebrate with friends. This party will be potluck, so bring your favorite foods to share. The club will provide tea and soft drinks. Additional beverages are welcome and BYOB.

There will be a gift exchange with a maximum \$15-\$20 expense. Equestrian gifts are encouraged, as we all love something "horsey".

RSVPs requested by November 23rd to Ruthie at 903-883-4638 or rufus1953@joimail.com.

Driving Directions: (From Dallas) Take I-30 E to Greenville. Exit right onto FM 1570. Follow FM 1570 to US Hwy. 34. Continue on FM 1570 across Hwy. 34 (.6) miles and turn left into the Pecan Grove Church entrance, just before the Southward Christian Church.

(From Sulphur Springs) Take I-30 E to Greenville. Exit south (left) at US Hwy. 34. Follow Hwy. 34 (1.4) miles to FM 1570. Turn left onto FM 1570 and go (.6) miles and turn left into the Pecan Grove Church entrance, just before the Southward Christian Church.

Additional directions can be found on the Pecan Grove website at: www.pecangrovechurch.com.

TCA CONTACTS

BOARD - WORKING COMMITTEE

Chairperson

Ruthie Graves
903-883-4638 rufus1953@joimail.com

Treasurer

George Pederson
817-447-8077 gpederdrum@aol.com

Secretary

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Alta Pederson

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Jennifer Ralls

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Alta Pederson

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NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE

Jennifer Ralls

817-269-0632 jennifer@tejascarriageassociation.org



TCA BOARD (WORKING COMMITTEE) MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Alta Pederson at 3:15PM on October 31st, 2009. Those in attendance, included: Cheryle Fisher, Cathie Golas, John Golas, Paul Graves, Ruth Graves, Betty Lowe, Carol Muckleroy, Jimmie Muckleroy, Alta Pederson, George Pederson, Jennifer Ralls and Kelly Ralls.

Alta began the meeting by reading a letter from Michelle Grundmann. She and Paul Grundmann have officially resigned from the Working Committee and as a Member-at-Large. The Working Committee would like to express their gratitude and appreciation for all the hard work and efforts Michelle and Paul have provided the Club.

Paula Long has volunteered to take Michelle's place on the Working Committee, as well as to oversee the responsibilities of Secretary for the club. A motion was made by Ruth to accept Paula for this position. It was seconded by Cathie and approved by the Committee.

Eileen Leek has volunteered to replace Paul as a Member-at-Large. A motion was made by George to accept Eileen. It was seconded by Ruth and approved by the Committee.

George has agreed to take over Michelle's responsibilities as Club Treasurer. A motion was made by Ruth to accept this transition. It was seconded by Carol and approved by the Committee. George stated that Michelle has forward all information and materials related to the Treasury, including details of each event hosted and he presented an official audit for the year. Everything in the transition is in order. The current checking account balance is \$1,687.51. The club will have no problem covering the upcoming annual insurance and ADS fees.

With George now accepting the Treasurer's position, Alta can no longer act as the Working Committee Chairperson, as it would present a conflict of interest. Alta will step down as Chairperson and take over Michelle's duties as Membership Coordinator. Ruth was presented as the potential new Chairperson. A motion to accept this changeover was presented by Cheryle, seconded by Carol and approved by the Committee.

Membership was discussed. We will now offer a full membership to new members who join in the middle of the year at half price. The year end for membership will also be adjusted. The calendar year will now run from January 1st to December 31st. Membership applications will be edited to note this new opportunity and date change.

Events for 2010 were presented and discussed:

2009 Christmas Party - The party will be held December 5th at the Pecan Grove Church in Greenville, beginning at 1PM. This event will be potluck with a \$15-\$20 maximum gift exchange. Equestrian gifts will be encouraged and RSVPs should be sent to Ruth, so the club will have an idea of how many are attending. Soft drinks and tea will be provided by the club.

Beginner to Winner Day – The event for 2010 will be held at the Graves' carriage house in Greenville on February 20th. Attendance is free for all TCA members. A general club meeting will also be held that day. Ideas for lectures are welcome and suggestions should be sent to Ruth or Alta. The format is to be adjusted with more information to come, as the event approaches.

TCA Spring Show – Alta has agreed to organize the Spring Show with assistance from Ruth. Paula Long will oversee the duties of Event Secretary. This event will replace the Carriage Classic that was postponed due to inclement weather in October 2009. With this in mind, ribbons, courses, the program, etc. will be utilized from the Carriage Classic. Ruth will call Mickie Bowen and confirm her availability. A tentative date is set for either May 1st or 15th. Location will also need to be confirmed.

USEF Open Carriage Class Show – In September 2010, the Texas Rose Horse Park will hold an USEF show. Ruth has been in contact with Kim Brunson. They have discussed potential sponsorship or assistance from the TCA in encouraging open carriage driving classes to be held during this event. The Working Committee agreed this is a wonderful opportunity and asked Ruth to proceed in her discussions.

TCA BOARD (WORKING COMMITTEE) MINUTES CONTINUED...

The newsletter and website were then discussed. The newsletter archives will now be made available to everyone who visits the website. Previously, there had been a password required, but this will be deleted. The website calendar will continue to include only TCA events. A general calendar for all area driving events will be included in the monthly newsletter. For future reference purposes, we will use the .org domain address only. No outside advertising will be accepted at this time. Ads in the newsletter and website will continue to be free to all members. Newsletters will be distributed through email only.

The following Standing Rules were proposed:

1. Offer half year membership dues for new members only from July 1st thru December 31st.
2. Require a release from non-member passengers that are on the carriage of a current member.
3. Drivers of any turnout must be TCA members.
4. All members are encouraged to volunteer at one club sponsored function each year.

A motion to accept these Standing Rules was presented by Ruth. It was seconded by Cheryle and approved by the Committee.

A Club Mission Statement was then presented: Encourage good relations between all equine related organizations. Promote and coordinate educational programs, driving events and other activities related to driving. Promote and encourage an interest in driving and driving equines of any breed.

A motion to accept this statement was presented by Ruth. It was seconded by George and approved by the Committee. The meeting was then adjourned.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Ralls*

2010 EVENTS SCHEDULED

Two TCA activities will once again return to the event calendar for 2010. The Beginner to Winner Day will be held February 20th at Wiregrass Prairie in Greenville. Paul and Ruthie Graves will open up their carriage house and host the series of lectures.

If you have an idea for a lecture, please send your information to Ruthie at rufus1953@joimail.com or contact Alta Pederson at gpederdrum@aol.com. This event will be free to all TCA members and while very beginner friendly, will offer information for the more advanced driver, as well.

The Carriage Classic was unfortunately postponed last October due to inclement weather, but will return next May. A date and location are still to be confirmed, but mark your calendars and consider competing or volunteering for this great event.

Cedar Creek Run will host a new recreational drive in June. This will give everyone a chance to enjoy a day of driving, especially our members who prefer the non-competitive activities. Other events are in the works, so be sure to check the TCA website for regular updates.

TCA MISSION STATEMENT

Encourage good relations between all equine related organizations. Promote and coordinate educational programs, driving events and other activities related to driving. Promote and encourage an interest in driving and driving equines of any breed.

PLUM CREEK SWAP DRIVE: A GREAT SUCCESS FOR VSE COMPETITORS

WHAT??? Does the title of this article create more questions than answers? Maybe the following will help.

What is a VSE? A VSE is a Very Small Equine: a horse that measures 39" or under at the withers. Registration in a registry is not required.

What is a Swap Drive? A Swap Drive is an informal day of cart and carriage driving. Competitors perform a patterned dressage course, then zip through twenty pairs of cones in the correct numerical order, and finally navigate a short marathon course over the pastures and through the woods. Half of the competitors drive in the morning while the other half act as volunteer timekeepers and spotters. In the afternoon, the morning volunteers drive while the morning drivers volunteer. Everyone gets to drive and everyone volunteers.

Do little horses compete against big horses? No. Horses are divided by height: VSE, small pony, large pony, and horse. Within height, horses are grouped by number of horses driven: single, pair, team of three or four. Within those groups, drivers compete at appropriate experience levels: training, preliminary, and intermediate. Example, single VSE competing at the training level.

What is Plum Creek? Plum Creek is a wonderful, not too rustic facility in the deep thicket of Lockhart, Texas. Owners Chuck and Nancy Leshikar have developed a unique equine haven that is used by the Plum Creek Shooting Society for standing and mounted shooting competitions and historical reenactments, and the Plum Creek Carriage Society for a variety of equine driving activities. The heart of the facility is a western town, complete with hotel, general store, two livery stables, a jail and a chapel. A large covered pavilion is a natural meeting place for meals and event information meetings. Many miles of trails and permanent obstacles such as the Schoolhouse, the Chapel and the Old Water Hazard offer challenges to the novice and most experienced drivers alike. Hotel accommodations in Lockhart, and ample onsite bathrooms and RV hook ups make Plum Creek an ideal location for an equine weekend.

Who were the VSE competitors at the October 17th Plum Creek Swap Drive? Reggie "I never want to take off this AMHA World Championship jacket" Glover and his safety rider, Sally Smith, drove Tie. Veteran competitor Kaycie Tims and her safety rider and mom, Carolyn Tims, drove Hughie. First time competitor Debbie Price drove newly trained Spinner, who decided he would do dressage next time, but did successfully compete in the cones and marathon. Paula Grower, also a first time competitor, drove a little rescue VSE, Sonny. Both were a bit tentative, but completed all events and had a great time. Susan Bulgawicz and her beautiful golden palomino, Fannie, had the fastest time in the cones of all competitors in the morning group. Al Bulgawicz and his team of two greys (Star and Cowboy) and two blacks (Holiday and Cid) were truly exciting to watch.

Mark your calendars and JOIN US to Drive or Volunteer

Day of Cones: At Plum Creek on December 12th, 2009 (Entries are now being accepted.)

Day of Dressage: At Plum Creek on February 13th, 2010

Plum Creek CDE: At Plum Creek on April 17th-18th, 2010

Contact: Paula Long, 817-614-2986

by Susan Bulgawicz
Willow Crest Farm

2009-2010 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@tejasdrivingclub.org or call 817-269-0632. For additional activities, see www.texasdrivingclubs.com, www.americandrivingclub.org and www.caaonline.com.

NOVEMBER

14th - **Haven Hill Fall Driving Challenge.** Navasota, TX. Good Hands Training Center. Event will consist of Dressage, Cones & Timed Obstacles. Private lessons will be available with judge, Bill Lower. Contact: Haven Hill or Good Hands Training Center at www.tocarroll.com for flier and entry form.

14th - **All Breeds Horse Show with Driving Classes.** Wills Point, TX. NFCC He Reigns Arena - 24385 I-20 at the Turner-Hayden exit. Pleasure Driving, Reinsmanship, Progressive Cones & Gambler's Choice. Contact: Carrie Woolverton at 214-418-1328 or triplecrossranches@yahoo.com.

15th - **Driving Trail Challenge.** C-Bar Ranch - Valley Mills, TX. Contact: Kate Love at 817-202-5371 or klove1958@gmail.com. Also see www.texastrailchallenge.com/DTC-index.htm.

22nd - **NTW Denise Hinder Carriage Driving Clinic.** Contact: Denise Hinder at 559-350-2753 or teambomber@hotmail.com.

DECEMBER

5th - **TCA Christmas Party.** Pecan Grove Church - Greenville, TX. 1PM. Contact: Ruthie Graves at 903-883-4638 or rufus1953@joimail.com. Additional information included in this newsletter.

12th - **PCCSS Day of Cones at Plum Creek.** Agarita Ranch - Lockhart, TX. Contact: Chuck Leshikar at 512-376-2602 or leshikar@aol.com. Also see www.pccss.org.

13th - **NTW Denise Hinder Carriage Driving Clinic.** Contact: Denise Hinder at 559-350-2753 or teambomber@hotmail.com.

JANUARY

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

FEBRUARY

13th - **PCCSS Day of Dressage 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.

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

1st or 15th - **TCA Carriage Classic.** Contact: Alta Pederson at 817-447-8077 or gpederdum@aol.com. More information to follow.

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.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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

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 bay with hind socks. Dual registered with the American Connemara Pony Society and American Trakehner Association. Wonderful mover and kind disposition. Started under saddle, but will need a tune up and finish. Not able to finish her out with new baby on the way...very sadly for sale! \$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: _____