



3rd Quarter 2019

Hub Club Officers

President: Lydia Gray

Vice President: Emily Berendt

Secretary: Krista Ziec

Treasurer: Sue West

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President's Perspective

Now that summer is upon us, our newsletter is chock full of write-ups from local driving events. Whether it's the HUB Club Annual Spring Clinic with Trish Demers, the Navigator Clinic with Carrie Ostrowski at Jennifer Thompson's, or the Midwest Carriage Festival (all events I personally participated in, attended, or volunteered at, respectively), there's plenty for carriage driving enthusiasts to see and do. Kelly Chuman even obtained her Carriage Association of America (CAA) Level 1 Driver Proficiency Certification while Trish was here and now she, Grace, and I (the Three Musketeers) are studying up for Level 2!

As I write this, I just sent out an email blast to all the members to see if anyone wants to carpool with me to the Carriage Barn Tour that Dairyland Driving Club is putting on. For the admission price of a side dish at the potluck lunch, attendees are invited to join a walking tour of two private carriage collections near Madison, Wisconsin! I'll be driving up to the same area again next weekend to volunteer at Mary Ruth Mark's recognized Notara Farm HDT. And I just submitted my entry form for the HUB Club's ADT on Sunday July 14th where I have the privilege of driving Cathy Brock's pair of minis: Bilbo (Billy) and



Pippen. Boy, for retiring my horse I sure have a full schedule! Hope yours is too.

Calendar and Upcoming Events...more info on last page

JULY

4—DDC Old World Wisconsin Drive

14—**HUB CLUB ADT**

20—Day of Driving at Fox Valley Saddle Asso.

6—Notara Farm HDT

14—DDC Sauk Prairie Drive

28—DDC Day of Fun Driving Games

AUGUST

3-4—Eastern Iowa Carriage Glow

17-18—Wade House Carriage Days

28-Sept1—The Kentucky Classic CDE

11—DDC Menomonee Park Drive

25—DDC Single Horse Rec Clinic

SEPTEMBER

3—DDC Old World Wisconsin Drive

15—DDC Donald Park Drive

6-8—Villa Louis Carriage Classic

20-22—Indiana CDE



'Lil Bits

By M. Chuman

*“Experience is not what happens to you; it’s what you do with what happens to you.”—
Aldous Huxley*



- Summer is finally here. It seems like it went from 45 to 90 in a day. Hope you are out having fun with your animals.
- The year is half over, which means that next year is right around the corner. Think about what your talents may be and consider doing something for Hub Club next year. Maybe run an event, be in charge of the clinic, or even run for being one of the officers. Something to think about as we move along during the year. Talk to the leadership team with any ideas or questions.
- Dairyland is hosting a clinic for new, or almost new drivers interested in learning about driving. It will be held at Black Hawk Ridge in Mazomanie on August 25th. For info on this check with Diane at diane@maderlaw.com or call Sharon at 414-630-2796. More info can also be found on their website.
- The driving year is in full swing. If you have done something cool with your horse or were at an awesome show and you would like to share your experience, I’m sure that the club would love to hear about it. Thanks to those who sent over articles for this newsletter on some of the cool things they’ve done.
- The Hub Club ADT is coming in just a couple of weeks. Get those entries in. If you aren’t driving, make some time to volunteer. Check out the article later in the newsletter. Contact Kelly Chuman for info on showing or helping. The entry form will be emailed with the newsletter.
- Other than the Hub Club, lots of shows do need help. If you like CDEs, consider volunteering at one of the many pleasure shows and if you like pleasure driving, consider working at a CDE. When we give back, it just makes the community better and you will learn new things and make new friends.

- On the last page of the newsletter are links to the shows and activities that are going on over the next three months or so. All you have to do is click on them and they should take you right to the website or Facebook page for the event. If you need more info, drop me an email.

Trish Times Two: Double the Driving Fun with Demers...by Lydia Gray

What's more fun than one day of lessons with Trish Demers? Two days of lessons, that's what! The HUB Club of northern Illinois/southern Wisconsin invited Patricia "Trish" Demers from Prescott Valley, AZ back to the Chicagoland area for a carriage driving clinic the weekend of May 18 and 19. Despite the weather – which ranged from 40 to 80 degrees and from bright and sunny to dark and stormy – drivers, auditors, and horses of all levels delighted in her natural horsemanship methods-approach to driving.



Photo by Krista Ziec

With Chet Thompson and Dafne, a 5-year-old brown dun Norwegian Fjord mare just getting started in her driving career, Trish shared her famous train analogy. As some of us heard last year, think of the driving turnout as a train. The first car is the horse's head and neck, the second car is the shoulders and withers, next is the barrel or ribcage, followed by the hindquarters, with the carriage as the caboose. The driver's job is to keep all the cars (ie parts of the horse) in alignment otherwise they jam up, bulge out, or even jump the tracks. In combination with the reins, drivers use the whip like riders use their legs to ask their horses to yield their bodies and maintain straightness or bend.

Trish uses analogies, catchy phrases, and simple memory devices to help drivers understand and remember the concepts she is trying to get across. For example, when Kelly Chuman driving her own Bert, a 19-year-old black Percheron/QH gelding, was having trouble keeping his head down during walk-trot transitions, Trish used the bucket-in-the-well analogy. She explained: the head coming up is like a bucket in a well on a rope so before you ask for the trot from the walk, get the head where you want it using your "rope" by giving a tiny bit in the fingers to lower it.



Photo by Krista Ziec



Photo by Tammy Carlo

When Krista Ziec drove the 5-year-old black Morgan gelding "Bucksnort's Special Dark" owned by Tammy Carlo, she was instructed to stroke his inside hind and barrel to ask him to yield, soften his body, and shift his barrel to the outside in the corners. "Hershey," as he is known, can also be quite forward especially at the beginning of a drive, and to encourage him to relax and settle in to the work Trish suggested Krista "sing a little song in the rhythm" such as the A,B, C's; Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star; or Row, Row, Row Your Boat.



Photo by Krista Ziec

The lovely tandem pair of “Starline Rhianna” and “Starline Rhona,” two 6-year-old UK Shetland Pony mares, needed no music with a bell on their harness and a bell on the cart for trail driving. Driven by the experienced whip Grace Frejlach-Grubb, the “girls” had only been hitched in this configuration for a week before the clinic. The focus of this lesson was in keeping the wheeler (Rhona) opposed to the leader (Rihanna). This meant having the wheeler’s head to the leader’s outside hip on turns, circles, and corners. Also as part of this lesson, we were treated to an excellent description and demonstration of the correct use of the whip by Trish when driving tandem.

After the “girls” came the “boys,” a pair of 14-year-old mini geldings named Pippen (the roan) and Bilbo (the chestnut) owned by Cathy Brock that she graciously allowed me to borrow for the clinic. Because I had never driven a pair before, I spent the weeks up to the clinic getting to know the boys by grooming, ground driving, and driving singly. However, I wanted to wait and have Trish walk me through pair harnessing, hitching, and starting off so my lesson was the first time that I actually drove a multiple!

The “Linda’s” rounded out the weekend:

- Linda Fidler with “Northern Lights Reign,” an 11-year-old black warmblood mare, was encouraged to “shallow the corners” by not going so deep into them, which many drivers do
- Linda Sweeney practiced single rein handling with her 13-year-old bay Arab/Hanoverian/Welsh mare
- Linda Holzrichter used her time to have Trish help her start her 2-year-old bay TB cross gelding in long lines using the facility’s round pen



Photo by Linda Fidler



Sue and Kahua hiding from the rain. Photo by Krista Ziec

Finally, Kelly Chuman took a second lesson with her husband Mike’s 17-year-old chestnut Belgian cross mare “Sugar” while Sue West brushed up on her Intermediate Level dressage before the Metamora CT and CDE in June with “Kahlua,” her 18-year-old bay Morgan mare.

Take a breath and roll your shoulders” was a phrase heard often during the two days of the 2019 Trish Demers clinic and one that hopefully many drivers will be reminding themselves of throughout the year!

My CAA Experience...by Kelly Chuman

Safety has always been something important to me when dealing with horses. Horses are giant, powerful, prey animals that could easily hurt me as they run away from the deadly plastic bag. As a child and teenager my mom made me wear my helmet every time, I rode the horse (even when my non-eventer friends called me broccoli head for it). I joined Pony Club where safety was paramount, and 4-H where I participated in Horse Bowl and Hippology to learn as much as I could about these wonderful animals. Then I started driving a carriage, where we take a claustrophobic, thousand plus pound flight animal and surround them with shafts and attach them to a vehicle that will chase them. This adds a whole extra level of complexity to safety and horses.



A year ago, I was challenged to look at a carriage driving association a little differently. With their Friday videos about some odd piece of historic carriage equipment and plethora of books about what is the historically accurate and appropriate shaped lamps to use with which of your carriages I had viewed the Carriage Association of America (CAA) as the keepers of the legacy of driving, and an organization that didn't have a place for my biothane harness and marathon

vehicle. I couldn't have been more wrong. CAA sponsored one of my favorite driving events, the National Drive. At their Spring Fling a representative described the organization as "The Pony Club of Carriage Driving."

She continued by telling me that they are the home of the Driver Proficiency Program, a leveled program geared towards increasing awareness and knowledge of driving and how to do it safely and correctly. I purchased the syllabus for the Level 1 and Road Driving Syllabus and set a goal to do my evaluation in a year.





Studying for my Level 1 and Road Driving Evaluation was a unique experience. The syllabus is divided into four units, Prepare to Drive, Practical Driving, Horse Knowledge and Horse Care, and Road Driving. In those units the syllabus will tell you things like know all the parts of a single harness, or describe how to clean a leather harness (you cannot just use saddle soap). I found that the little hook on the top of the saddle of the harness has THREE different names (Top Hook, Check Rein Hook, or Water Hook)!! I started putting together a

binder with things like best practices for storing harness, how to maintain different types of carriages, where to check harness to wear and damage, the rules of the road regarding horses in my state, and poisonous plants in my area. Every time I harnessed Bert I would recite to Mike what each part was named, what it does, and why I am hooking it up in this order. I was ready.

On May 19th, at the end of the HUB Club Clinic I completed my evaluation with Patricia “Trish” Demmers. The evaluation itself is designed to feel more like a conversation than a test. Together we talked about how I take care of Bert, my harness, and my carriage. We had a conversation about why I hook my traces before my tiebacks, why trace holders are important, and how I know my harness is properly fitted. She watched me as I went threw the processes I have been doing for years. She showed me a better way to tie the same safety release knot. I passed with flying colors.

While I had already known most of the stuff from Level 1, I am now more confident that I am doing it safely and feel better about trusting myself with the safety of my friends when they ride in my carriage. The Level 2 Syllabus has replaced the Level 1 on my desk corner. I am now reviewing how best to hook a pair and barn security. In addition, for level 2 I need to collect proof of my volunteer and competition experiences and drive an unfamiliar horse for the evaluation. I have set the goal that by 2021 I will be able to report to you that I have completed my Level 2 evaluation.

You can learn more about the Carriage Association of America and the Driving Proficiency Program at www.carriageassociationofamerica.com



All photos by Krista Ziec

My Time at the Midwest Carriage Festival...by Tammy Carlo

The weekend of June 15th and 16th started out windy and bright. I gave Hershey "Bucksnot's Special Dark" a quick bath and tried a new braiding technique for long manes (loved it, by the way). In the trailer by 2pm on Friday and we were off for our first ever ADS pleasure show, the newly christened Midwest Carriage Festival, formerly the Columbus Carriage Classic. Moving from Columbus, WI to the Walworth County Fairgrounds in Elkhorn, WI made this show much more accessible for me and I figured we would give it a shot.

After doing some research and speaking with the organizer, the ever helpful and dedicated Michelle Harn, I opted to register for the Novice Driver classes. Criteria for Novice Driver is a driver who has not won three blue ribbons at three separate ADS shows—done! On Saturday we competed in Turnout, Obstacles (Cones), Working and Pick Your Route. We placed first in Turnout which got us invited back to the Concourse de Elegance to compete against the other divisions first place Turnout competitors. On Sunday, we competed in Reinsmanship and Fault Obstacles. Overall, we had an excellent weekend. We placed first in Turnout, Obstacles, Pick Your Route, Reinsmanship, second in Fault Obstacles and Third in Working. Overall, we were Novice Driver Grand Champion.

I can't say enough about how helpful the staff, organizers, volunteers, Judges and TD, and fellow competitors were. It was a lovely weekend, icky weather and all. The venue was well laid out and no one seemed to be cramped. Aside from a few growing pains, which the organizers noted they would consider for next year, the show was well run, fun and definitely a venue to return to.

Hershey had a few baby horse moments, but I am very proud of how well he handled the new environment and stresses of a larger show. I highly recommend members consider supporting the Midwest Carriage Festival in the future, either as a competitor, volunteer or sponsor. I'll see you there!



How To Be Smart Ballast...by Mike Chuman



On a lovely day in May, which was exceedingly rare that month, Dr Jennifer Thompson opened up her farm and hosted a navigator clinic with Carrie Ostrowski as the clinician. It was a full morning of presentations on combined driving, carriages, and everything you need to know about being a navigator. Then in the afternoon, they hitched a carriage up to an ATV and let the participants get some hands on experience on navigating at the speed you might see a high level horse and driver work an obstacle. It was amazing to watch and participants came away with a better understanding of what you need to do in the back.

The morning started with a recap of what combined driving is, a general history of the sport, and where it is today. Jennifer had a fantastic slide presentation and along with Chad Rhinehart (who happens to be Jennifer's navigator) she went over the basics of the sport to really plant a foundation for Carrie's presentation. I know that there were several people at the clinic who had never driven at all before and at least two who had only navigated. It was a great way to give those people a better overview and a better understanding of the role of navigator.

After a quick break, Carrie Ostrowski, who in one facet of her work is basically a navigator for hire, started her presentation on what it means to be a navigator. This is simpler said than done as every driver has their own version of what the perfect navigator is, but there are some basics that every navigator should know:

- You are the ballast and you need to understand physics. You are the thing that helps keep the carriage on four wheels. It's your responsibility to make sure the weight is distributed in the right places at all time. You need to be aware of where your feet are on the back and you need to make sure that your body is in the correct place so when the carriage turns hard, you are leaned into that turn as momentum wants the carriage to go the other way. This leads perfectly into the second point.
- Know your course. It's your responsibility to know the obstacle as well as the driver does, if not better. Walk it with your driver and make plans. Talk it out with them. Talk about a backup plan so when they fly past the B gate you can not only help the driver navigate back to the correct route, but make sure you understand what turn they might make so you can be in the proper position in the carriage to keep the wheels on the ground.

Jennifer and Chad racing through the obstacle.



Carrie Ostrowski talking to the group.





Navigators learning the route.

- Know your driver. Different drivers want different things. When I drive, I talk the whole time with my gator and as soon as we leave one obstacle we'll talk about the next one. We also talk a lot about Jurassic Park, so be aware if you navigate for me. My wife wants a quiet navigator and only wants to hear times and if she's about to do something wrong. At that point, you better make sure she knows before she does it or you will likely get hit. The term used a lot at the clinic was a "rolling domestic." Take some time and make sure you and your driver are on the same page. You'll develop a specific kind of communication that is just for you two. It's the only time I get to tell my wife she is correct instead of that she is right—as I don't want her to turn right.
- You are the keeper of all the times. You need to have at least two stopwatches but three is better and that is in addition to whatever the driver has...as they will most likely have 2 as well. You need to tell the driver if they are fast or if they are slow and by how much. All this prep work needs to be done before the start of marathon.
- Remember that you will more likely have a better overall view than the driver does. When things go bad, most of the times, the driver's focus is going to be on the horse or horses, and you need to make sure you can see the bigger picture. You can look to the left, right and behind you way better than the person driving. Use that knowledge to help the driver if needed.

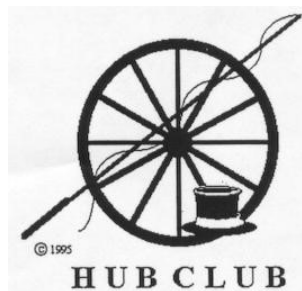


Pretty sure Chad is eating a sandwich as he drives.

There's so much more that goes into navigating that just these few things. If you've never done it before, you totally should as it's a whole new perspective on driving. It's also a great gateway drug as it's the perfect way to get non drivers (or even non horse people) interested in the sport. Many drivers would jump at the chance to find someone who will willingly navigate, so being prepared, knowledgeable and ready will make the time on the back of the carriage so much more meaningful and fun. Develop that rapport with the driver.



Many, many thanks should go out to Jennifer Thompson, Chad and Myrna Rhinehart and their company, IVC Carriages, along with The Hub Club for all coming together to put on this great event and give us such a fun opportunity to make new friends while learning new things.



Hub Club ADT!!! By Kelly Chuman

The HUB Club ADT is less than 2 weeks away!!

If you have been thinking about starting to show, or moving up a level, this is the opportunity for you. Our Novice division is perfect for new drivers and/or new horses. In this level, you can have your navigator read your dressage test to you and enjoy a shorter cones course. Not sure what you are looking for when walking a course? Email kellychuman@gmail.com and I will make sure that an experienced driver walks the course with you. This is a perfect place to start.

If you are getting ready for a bigger show and want a chance to practice your dressage test then sign up for a Percentage Drive and let us know what test you want to practice in our 40-meter by 80-meter dressage ring! You can also drive the same test twice, getting some feedback after your ADT drive to see if you can improve your second drive.

No show can happen without wonderful volunteers, like you. I have MANY roles to fill, so contact me as soon as possible if you are interested in helping. While there are a few roles where I need some-

one with some previous experience, most of the roles I have open require no previous knowledge of the sport. Some of the roles that are still open include safety check (2), dressage scribe, ring steward, cone setters (3), score runner, obstacle judge and timers (2 to 3). If you are not ready to start showing this is a great way to learn the sport better.

For more information, contact Kelly Chuman at kellychuman@gmail.com or call or text 630-712-9397.

I can't wait to see everyone there!!.

Days of Driving at FVSA...by M. Chuman

July 20th is going to be the only Day of Driving at Fox Valley Saddle Association this year. In the morning we will do a driving derby, which is basically a cones course mixed in with 2 portable CDE obstacles. You get 2 runs and the fastest time wins. There is a walk/trot division as well as an open division for the speedsters out there. In the afternoon we will do more of a pleasure show. There will be 2 ring classes along with a cones course and a



cross country/trace pace type drive. It's always a lot of fun, so come on out, plus it's a dirty harness type show, so you don't have to get all dressed up in the afternoon. Clean and neat attire is acceptable, along with a whip and gloves (required) and a helmet is always a good choice.

While the show is fun for everyone, we try to be a very beginner friendly show. If you've not been to

a show before, this would be a good one to go to as it's very low key and not very stressful. All safe vehicles are welcome although if you have a large pony or horse you will need a navigator for the derby. If you have any questions at all, please reach out to me at FarmAwesomeMike@gmail.com or call or text me at 630-723-7648. The flyer with the classes and more info can be found at www.fvsa.org.

Contact List

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ADS Representatives:

Midwest Region Rep	Katy Rhinehart	641-485-7821	katy.rhinehart@lennoxinc.com
Central Region Rep	Lynn West		lynnwest@realtor.com

Some Useful Websites—Just click on them!

www.hubclubdriving.com

www.facebook.com/HubClubDrivingClub

www.dairylanddriving.com

www.facebook.com/Dairyland-Driving-Club-208530719222156/

www.facebook.com/Indiana-Whips-and-Wheels-191131624240376/

<https://www.facebook.com/carriagedrivingfestival/>

<https://www.facebook.com/carriageclassic/>

www.americandrivingsociety.org

www.carriageassociationofamerica.com

www.usef.org

HUB Club Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

President Lydia Gray called meeting to order at 18:00.

Secretary's Report

The minutes from the January 26th, 2019 meeting were printed in the 2nd quarterly newsletter sent in April. Mary Thompson moved that we accept the minutes as printed. Sue West seconded the motion. No discussion, no amendments. Motion carried at 18:02.

Treasurer's Report

Sue West reported that as of May 18th, 2019 (not including the Trish Demers clinic):

+ \$1873.40

- \$450.00 Show sponsorships to Fox Valley Saddle Association, Midwest Carriage Festival, Notara Farm and Villa Louis.

- \$591.00 for 2019 insurance.

- \$162.50 for website work.

Current Balance: \$4,141.48 (not including income/expenses for 2019 Trish Demers Clinic)

Linda Fidler moved that we accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Leslye Sandberg seconded the motion. No discussion, no amendments. Motion carried at 18:03.

Business

Website

Difficult to manage. Webmaster now outsourced to Mary Jo Dowden (Spelling?)

Also manages FSVA & IDCTA websites/Paid by the hour.

Request for a member to assist Mary Jo Dowden with updating calendar and sending email blasts.

Krista Ziec volunteered. Kelly Chuman to get current schedules to the webmaster. Krista Ziec will update webmaster after. Krista Ziec to talk to Mike Chuman for email blast assistance.

Lynn West sharing/counter sharing Hub Club information.

Kris Breyer leaving posts open to share. Getting increased traffic. Kelly and Mike Chuman tagging people and inviting individually to like our page. Post reach is 14,000% in 28 days!

Increasing the views of our posts is increasing new member traffic. Discussion had RE: Where can new members see upcoming events?

Corron Farms Fall Festival September 21st, 2019

Linda Fidler requesting volunteers for harness/hitching/cones course.

Request different location than last year. Away from tractors and larger area. TBD. Email will be sent. Contact Linda Fidler for information. Lfids5407@att.net

Carriages on Lake County Horse Trails

Much discussion had.

Carriages not accepted by trail riders but the Lake County Ordinance does not state carriages not allowed. Leslye Sandberg sent a proposal for approving carriages on trails as well as signage.

Leslye Sandberg requesting drivers attendance at board meetings to support sharing of the trails. Suggested the local Lake County HUB Club members have speeches prepared.

Leslye Sandberg to write short summary as well as call to action and get it to Mike Chuman so it can be added to the July newsletter.

Discussion of upcoming events

FSVA Fun Night July 13th

Hub Club ADT July 14th

Hub Club meeting July 14th @ noon

FSVA Day of Driving July 20TH

FSVA Driving Games Day Sept 28th

Adjournment

Leslye Sandberg moved to adjourn the meeting. Mary Thompson seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 18:40.

HUB CLUB

Email:
farmawesomemike@gmail.com

We're on the web!
www.hubclubdriving.com

The Hub Club: Education and Camaraderie.

Links to Websites, Facebook or entry forms—Just click on them and you'll go right there.

[Dairyland Driving](#)—All sorts of fun dates. Check it out.

[Notara Farm](#) HDT—July 5th

[FVSA](#)—Day of Driving. July 20th.

[Eastern Iowa Carriage Glow](#)—August 3-4

[Wade House Carriage Days](#)—August 17-18

[The Kentucky Classic CDE](#)—August 28-September 1

[Villa Louis Carriage Classic](#)—September 6-8

[Indiana CDE](#)—September 22-24

From The Editor (FarmAwesomeMike@gmail.com)

Hi Everyone. First of all, a big thank you to everyone who reached out to me with dates, ideas and all that great stuff. I want to say thanks especially to Lydia Gray, Tammy Carlo, and Kelly Chuman for contributing articles for the newsletter. Thanks to Linda Fidler and Krista Ziec for all the awesome photos. I can't tell you enough how much I appreciate it. It's always super awesome to have other points of view and ideas in the newsletter.

Remember friends, this is your newsletter and while



you might not think that the people in the club want to hear about what you are doing with your horse, you would be wrong. We love to hear about it. Have you

been to a clinic or competition lately? Share it with your Hub Club family. Have you learned something new? Share it. You can always send me pictures, articles or even ideas for the newsletter. If you don't like writing, that's fine, shoot me an idea and I would be more than happy to write it. The more we are involved the better everything is.

Again thanks to all of those who helped and contributed to this. Please keep it in mind when you play with your equine friend over the next three months.