



4th Quarter 2019

## Hub Club Officers

President: Lydia Gray

Vice President: Emily Berendt

Secretary: Krista Ziec

Treasurer: Sue West

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# Wheel To Wheel

## President's Perspective

1) Our next meeting is Saturday October 19th at noon at the Fox Valley Saddle Association during the lunch break of their "Day of Driving." Let me know you're coming by October 12th and what dish you're bringing to pass so that we don't have 5 people with deviled eggs.

2) This "Day of Driving" on October 19th is probably your last opportunity to do something fun yet low-key with your pony this year, so come to drive, come to help out, or come to watch, but COME!

3) I will be stepping down as president at the annual meeting in January so we're looking for someone to take the ribbons. A small group is in the process of updating the bylaws and we'll probably be adding officer term limits. This means that being president or vice president or sec-

retary or treasurer won't be a lifelong commitment anymore, but a short service and a sharing of talents to a club you belong to. Come to the meeting and nominate someone (or yourself!) or if you can't make it, contact me directly to nominate someone.

3.5) Part of the reason I need some more free time is that I bought a new horse! "Stan Lee" is a 2-year-old Dutch

Warmblood gelding that I found in Caledonia, near the site of the former Iron Horse CDE which I think is a sign from the universe. He's going to be a big boy when he grows up (already 16.2 hands at two years of age) so you're probably thinking: "You're going to need a bigger boat" (carriage).



## Upcoming Events

October 19th—12:00 Hub Club Meeting. FVSA in Hampshire

October 19th—FVSA Day of Driving. 10:00 AM.

Be on the lookout for another email around December that will give some updates including the big annual meeting in January of 2020!



***“I like to remind my non horsey friends that outside is where they keep the cold temperature.”***



## **End Of Year Stuff...by M. Chuman**

Well, for a lot of us, the driving season is winding down. I know there are some who drive throughout the winter, but as I like to remind my non horsey friends when they ask if I've gone slidin' in a one horse open sleigh, outside is where they keep the cold temperatures. So if you are getting ready to hang up the whip for the season, it's a great time to review a couple of things. First off is the Drive On! program. You've been tracking your driving hours right? Make sure you turn them in so we

can track your milestones...plus you get cool things when you hit the big numbers. Last year there were awesome bags that were given out and I know Kris scooped up some cool things as well. The forms and info are attached to the email that goes out with the newsletter, but drop me a line if you need another copy. Secondly, this is also the time of year to nominate someone for the Distinguished Service Award. There are lots of people who work behind

the scenes to keep the club running and function and helping to keep the driving community going. If you know of one of these people, take a moment to recognize her or him. It's always nice to get some thanks for what are sometimes thankless tasks. That form is also attached to the email that goes out.

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## **Day of Driving...by M. Chuman**

October 19<sup>th</sup> is the reschedule date for FVSA's Day of Driving. It was way too hot on the originally scheduled day, so it's now a fall day of driving. In the morning we are doing a driving derby which is a mix of obstacles and cones. It's super fun. After that, there will be the Hub Club meeting in the clubhouse over

the lunch hour. So even if you aren't going to drive, you should totally come to the meeting. The afternoon has two ring classes (a working and reinsmanship class) and then a cones course and a trace pace type cross country course. It's very beginner friendly and lots of fun and low stress. Plus...you don't

even need to dress up as it's being treated as a dirty harness type show. The derby starts at 10 AM with horses, then ponies and then VSEs and the afternoon classes will start no sooner than 1 PM. If you have any questions, please let me know. FarmAwe-someMike@gmail.com

## Hub Club ADT...by Kelly Chuman

Three years ago, we opted to try and have a different kind of show for us. Attendance at our annual dirty harness day had dwindled each year and we believed that the club was looking for something different. I suggested we try an Arena Driving Trial and give an option to add an extra dressage test to your day to give the drivers and opportunity to get feedback and try again, practice a test for an upcoming show, or even try out a test at the next level. To make the show friendlier for beginners we added a Novice division, which allowed readers in dressage, a shorter cones course, and even less pressure in the obstacles. We also offered to the Novice drivers a change to walk any or all of the courses with a more experienced driver.



While I am no stranger to the challenges that comes with running a show, I have found these last three shows to be all challenging in new and different ways. I wanted to reward the drivers who had also attended the spring clinic the two years that we had it, so I was sure to incorporate elements from Sterling Grayburn's cones lesson into the cones courses. Personally, knowing the challenge of navigating a sea of blue barrels I painted each portion of the obstacles in bright colors and found other ways to colorfully mark our barrels. The next year I wanted to find a way to make it easier to divide the 20-cone cones course into two sections, Novice and Training and up, so I found a convenient natural break in the Fox Valley cross country course. We also wanted to bring in an actual driving person to judge dressage, so we coordinated with our clinic so that Trish Demers would judge on Saturday and be our clinician on Sunday. This was a personally rewarding experience as I was also able to get feedback from her on my course designs. This last year I made efforts to reach new people to try and make the show sustainable, as we had lost money the previous year.

We held our third HUB Club ADT Plus at Fox Valley Saddle Association on July 14<sup>th</sup> on a very warm and sunny day. Despite moving the show to Sunday so that no one would need to take a day off of work to help me set up, I only had three people help set up on Saturday. I want to thank MaryAnn Carter, Lydia Gray, and Michael Chuman for helping me set up the entire dressage ring, cones and obstacles. Also special thanks to Lonnie Schuetz, Judy Dowling, and Kris Breyer for making a wonderful lunch for us on the day of the event and a dozen others who helped with the actual running of the show. Lastly, a big thank you to the people who loaded up their horses and came to the show. I know that many of you only came because you want to see driving continue in the area, even if this show wasn't exactly the kind of driving you were interested in. I appreciate you and what you did for these shows. Each show also came with several hugs from competitors who were looking for a friendly place to start and felt like this was exactly what they needed. Almost everyone who attended had fun and admitted to learning at least a few new things.

Regretfully, each year had fewer entries and more having to beg people to enter so that we would cover our expenses. For this reason, I will not be running another show in 2020. It is my opinion that while I love shows, most of our club does not, and we can spend our efforts in something that will benefit a larger portion of our membership. Again, thank you to everyone who did support us by either competing or volunteering, especially to the small handful of folks who helped both at set up and the day of the show.

Thank you,  
Kelly Chuman



*"I know that many of you only came because you want to see driving continue in the area, even if this show wasn't exactly the kind of driving you were interested in."*



## My New Ride at the ADT...by M. Chuman



I have been lucky enough to do the Hub Club ADT the past couple of years. Since Kelly runs that, I get to go play with a horse and have some fun. This year had been so wet and I had not had much of a chance to drive my horse so when the day came up for the ADT, Kelly asked if I wanted to drive her horse Bert instead of Sugar. While I have such fond memories of last year's dressage test when Sugar apparently became super afraid of pickup trucks and decided to stay as far away as horse-ally possible from it, not helping my dressage score one bit since there was a truck at C and the judge was sitting in it, I decided to take Kelly up on her offer and drove Bert.

While we've had Bert for awhile, I had only driven him once (for just long enough to turn him into a noodle in our cones area) prior to deciding to use him for the show. About a week before the show I drove him for the first time in years. It was a bit eye opening. I'm not sure if people are aware, but horses can actually turn. This was news to me. It was like going from a super tanker down to a large yacht. It took some getting used to for sure, plus Kelly and I have different driving styles...like she is good at driving, and I'm usually pretty funny and can play the guitar better than her. So we practiced dressage for several days while she gave me pointers on what Bert responds best too and how to use my hands and aids better and soon the day of the ADT was at hand.

The morning went pretty well. I was somewhat happy with my dressage test and really got him to do a nice free walk on one of the diagonals. Cones went well as I only got a teeny bit lost, then Kelly kicked me off the carriage and drove a dressage test as well. I beat her by like half a point, but only because he had already done dressage and cones and the old man was getting tired. The afternoon was a bit more of a struggle as I'm not used to being able to turn and may have gotten some white paint on the carriage.

At the end of the day, it was a neat experience to drive an unfamiliar horse. I had gotten used to the way one horse feels and moves and acts and having something new made me have to be a better driver. I had to think differently and drive differently. When I walked the cones or obstacles I had to think differently as he is slower in some ways than Sugar, but can turn better than she can so he is faster in other ways. It forced me to become a better driver and to rethink some of the things I do when I drive my horse; so if you get an opportunity to spend some time with a different horse, it may be worth your effort to try.

Also...thanks to the organizer and all the volunteers for the day so I could play.



## Soggy Driving Games Day...by M. Chuman

It was a soggy Saturday for Fox Valley Saddle Association's Driving Games Day. It was cold and rainy and windy, but luckily for us, right about the time I loaded my horse up to take him home, the rain stopped so that's a win. Or something. Sadly, because of the rain, the turn out wasn't great at all, but it was a lot of fun. Kelly Chuman organized several driving games in the morning, gave us a lunch break and had several more games in the afternoon. It was a lot of fun and I don't think I've ever really done any of the games she had set up before, so it was interesting.

We started the day off with orienteering. There were four letters hidden all around the grounds of FVSA (hmm...I wonder what four letters they might have been) and with a compass and some bearings we set off to find them. Cause I'm old and blind, I recruited a young man named Samuel Haviland to be my navigator. He's interested in driving and actually drove a dressage test at the Hub Club ADT last year and has driven at the county fair for several years. With his help we were able to find all the letters and went onto rainbow bingo cones. That's a course of colored cones set up and as you drive through one set, a color would be called out and you had to drive through that color and as you did that, another color was called and you had to drive through that color and so on. The random pulls couldn't have been worse as they kept me in tight turns. Even the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the last pull, where I only had two colors to pick from which were opposite turns, I picked one and started my turn and it was the wrong one because of course it was. Then we had obstacle course that made us open mailboxes, back the carriages, drive our wheels between two narrow beams and set up a knocked down cone with our carriage wheel. I set it up perfectly with the front wheel, just to knock it back down with the back wheel. Mad skills.



**My Navigator Samuel Haviland driving Amos at the Kane County Fair. Apparently it was too wet at the games day for anyone to take pictures.**

In the afternoon we did variant of a barrel pattern, but as you rounded the barrel you needed to take a fishing pole and fish out some "fish" that were in buckets on top. The more fish you caught, the lower your time would be. I made my navigator also be my fisherman and Samuel got three fish, which would have been more if I didn't drive like a crazy person. We also did a stop and go barrel pattern that had you weave through the barrels and stop and stand in a small box at the end. We also did a trivia town and country course that had us stop and answer questions throughout the drive. It was super fun. The questions were a mixed lot and included harness parts, what you should have in your spares kits, names of drivers at the WEG and we even had to name two Disney horses. It was super fun. I made Samuel answer most of the questions...mainly cause I was cold. We were also going to a wine in the glass game but somebody might have hit the barrel that the pitcher of "wine" was resting on with their carriage and spilled it all. Somebody might have done that. I'm going to blame my navigator on that one.

A big thank you needs to go out to Kelly Chuman, who planned and organized this event. She did all the set up herself...in the rain so the couple of drivers that showed up could have fun and play some games that we don't normally get to play. It was really a fun and low stress day. Even with the bad turnout—which we will blame on rain, FVSA will probably do it again next year, hopefully with better weather and better turnout, although the drivers that were there did have a good time. So a brave shout out to club members Linda Fidler, Lonnie and Reiner Schuetz, and Judy Dowling who all froze to the bone with me out there.

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Central Region Rep    Lynn West    [lynnwest@realtor.com](mailto:lynnwest@realtor.com)

### Some Useful Websites—Just click on them!

[www.hubclubdriving.com](http://www.hubclubdriving.com)

[www.facebook.com/HubClubDrivingClub](http://www.facebook.com/HubClubDrivingClub)

[www.dairylanddriving.com](http://www.dairylanddriving.com)

[www.facebook.com/Dairyland-Driving-Club-208530719222156/](http://www.facebook.com/Dairyland-Driving-Club-208530719222156/)

[www.facebook.com/Indiana-Whips-and-Wheels-191131624240376/](http://www.facebook.com/Indiana-Whips-and-Wheels-191131624240376/)

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

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

[www.americandrivingsociety.org](http://www.americandrivingsociety.org)

[www.carriageassociationofamerica.com](http://www.carriageassociationofamerica.com)

[www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org)

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We're on the web!  
[www.hubclubdriving.com](http://www.hubclubdriving.com)

# **‘Lil Bits** By M. Chuman

The year is winding down...hard to believe that most of the fun is done for the year.

I'm looking for pics and articles from anyone who went to the National Drive, the Indiana CDE or Villa Louis. I was sadly out of town and couldn't attend any of the super fun stuff, but I know some people did. Next quarter there's not tons of stuff to write about, so let us know of the fun you had. Send me stuff.

With Lydia stepping down (spoiler alert!) there will be changes in the club and in club leadership. It's also a new opportunity to use some of those sweet talents that you have and maybe think about doing something different this upcoming year. Maybe run an event or volunteer or chair a committee. The opportunities are endless.

If there was anything you liked this year, or didn't like or would like to see next year, reach out to the leadership team. The club should be enjoyable for all drivers and do things that benefit the club and its members.

## **From the Editor (FarmAwesomeMike@gmail.com)**

It's hard to believe it's already almost the end of the driving season. Most of the local things are done...although FVSA has a Day of Driving on the 19th...come out.

If you got to go to some of many fun things over the past few months like the National Drive or any competitions, I would love to write up. Share the awesome things you do with your horse with all your awesome horse buddies. I will tell you that I love hearing about all the new things people have done. Please shoot me over something to put in the next newsletter. Even if you want me to remind you to write

something in early December, I can totally do that.

Special thanks to Kelly Chuman for her article and for Lydia for the message. Thanks to Krista Z who's

pictures I stole...borrowed for the newsletter. She's a fantastic photographer and always lets me use her pics. That's so awesome. If there is anything you would like to see in the newsletter, drop me a line.

**I wish someone loved me as much as this horse loves broccoli**

