

Wheel to Wheel **APRIL** 2018

Newsletter for the HUB Club

<http://www.facebook.com/hubclubdrivingclub>

<http://www.hubclubdriving.com>

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The HUB Club:
Education &
Camaraderie



From the Editor As your editor, I ask that you send me photos and anything else that you would like to see in the newsletter. I am more than happy to use anything you want in the newsletter, as it is **YOUR newsletter**. If you want to continue to have an informative newsletter, I need material from the membership. You can send them to me directly at briarpatcheast@aol.com by the 20th of each month. Kris Breyer

From the Webmaster: Please submit items for web page. Include pictures of all our members. Please send names of driver, passengers, horse(s), and description of what you are doing, and where.



PREZ Message: Alrighty folks, so far

we have 8 people coming to the April meeting at Larry and Carolyn Sluiter's in FREEPORT, Illinois so check those schedules and RSVP to me at email lydiagraydvm@email.com, text 630-701-5903, or call 630-557-0241. We had a meeting there a few years ago and it was one of the best

meetings **EVER**: great food, excellent topics, easy parking, wonderful carriage barn, super hackney horses. A little bird told me there will be a talk on collars so good opportunity to learn more about harnesses and fitting. The Sluiters will be making Italian beef and a hot potato casserole and are inviting guests to bring the dish of their choice to complement the meal (salad, other warm sides, appetizers, bread, and dessert). They will also provide drinks but you're welcome to bring your own. Tables and chairs will

be set up. Yours Truly, **Dr. Lydia Gray**



2018 Driving

Mar 24 DDC mini workshop — Backing the trailer + trailer safety (*Hartford WI*)
lorengettelman@att.net

April 3-6 Waverly Horse & vehicle auction (*Waverly IA*) waverlysales.com

Apr 5 - 7 · Indiana Spring Classic Morgan Horse Show, The Michiana Event Center, Shipshewana, IN four Open Carriage Pleasure classes <https://www.facebook.com/Indianamorganclassic/>

April 7 Meeting will be at Carolyn and Larry Sluiter's farm in Freeport, IL at noon. This will be a potluck meeting.

Greetings,

We are happy to host the club. The last time that you were here, we provided Italian Beef, and a hot potato casserole. If others would like to bring items to complete the meal that is great. We know the challenge of traveling this distance and maintaining a warm dish, is a challenge in itself.

Our address is [4053 S. Springfield Rd, Freeport, IL](#). Phone [815-238-3905](tel:815-238-3905). Take Route 20 West of Rockford. Exit on Business Route 20 heading into Freeport. After you negotiate the exit, the first intersection is Springfield Rd, which is on the West side of Titan Tire Plant. Turn left and travel 2 miles. Our home is on the left side with a large oval barn, two story house and some white rail fence.

You are more than welcome to check out the oval barn, and Larry's collection of carriages and lamps. Larry was thinking about giving a little information on the different type of collars. Let us know what you would like to accomplish and we will try to help.

Stay safe and warm,
Carolyn and Larry

Apr 20-22 MidwestHorseFair (*Madison, WI*) midwesthorsefair.com

Apr 27-28 Martin Auction (*Lebanon PA*) [*whatever the website is*]

May 5-6 DDC Clinic with Melissa Boyd (*Boots & Saddle Arena Club, Beaver Dam WI*)
Roger ruffy@gmail.com

May 5-6 HOW driving & riding Clinic (*Middleton WI*) Haflinger Owners of Wisconsin Ingrid krause@itis.com.

May 5-6 MDDA Distance drive 12 & 6 mile. (*Northern Kettle Moraine*) Midwest Distance Driving Assoc.

Ray or Alice rayalhubert@hotmail.com

May 12-13 MDDA Distance drive 12 & 25 miles (*Southern Kettle Moraine*) Ray or Alice
rayalhubert@hotmail.com

May ?? Hickory Knoll clinic (*Fitchburg WI*) frei@chorus.net

May 20 DDC drive at Blackhawk Ridge (*Sauk City WI*) schuttewl@gmail.com

May 24-27 Spring fling National Drive (*Hoosier Horse Park, Edinburgh IN*) nationaldrive.com

May 28 DDC Historical drive at Old World Wisconsin (*Eagle WI*) Marge
horseandcarriagefarm@gmail.com

Jun 1 Prairie State Classic, THREE Carriage Pleasure classes, Beyond Stable Farm, Woodstock, IL briarpatcheast@aol.com

Jun 2 Driving in the park (HUB Club, IL) Location Muirhead Springs FPD, 9AM – 3PM

Jun 9-10 MDDA Distance drive 16 mile (*Southern Kettle Moraine*)
 June 16-17 Columbus Carriage Festival (Columbus WI)
 June 21-24 Lexington Carriage Classic Pleasure Driving Show, Kentucky Horse Park
 June 22-24 Metamora Combined Driving Event, 4295 Barber Rd, Metamora, MI 48455

 Jul 4 DDC Historical Drive at Old World Wisconsin (Eagle)
 July 7 Notara Farm HDT (Verona WI)
 Jul 14 Day of Driving (Derby & Pleasure) (FVSA, *Hampshire IL*)
 Jul 20-22 ADS North American Preliminary Level Championships & Hickory Knoll CDE (*Fitchburg WI*)
frei@chorus.net
 Jul 29 MDDA Distance drive 12 miles (*Southern Kettle Moraine*) rayalhubert@hotmail.com

 Aug 4-5 Eastern Iowa Carriage Glow (*Manchester IA*) easterniowacarriageglow.com
Aug 11 HUB Club ADT (Hampshire, IL)
Aug 12 HUB Club Clinic (Hampshire, IL)
 Aug 11-12 MDDA Distance drive 12 & 25 miles (*Arkdale*) rayalhubert@hotmail.com
 Aug 18 Day of Driving (Derby & pleasure) FVSA, Hampshire, IL
 Aug 18-19 Wade House show (*Greenbush, WI*)

Sep 3 DDC Historical drive at Old World Wisconsin (Eagle WI) Marge
horseandcarriagefarm@gmail.com
 Sep 7-9 Villa Louis Carriage Classic (*Prairie du Chien WI*) www.carriageclassic.com
 Sep 14 Indiana CDE (*Hoosier Horse Park, Edinburg, IN*)
 Sep 15-16 Jericho Morab open show (Sun afternoon games) (*Walworth Fair Grounds, Elkhorn WI*)
 Sep 15-16 MDDA Distance drive 25 mile (*Northern Kettle Moraine*)
 Sep 21-23 World Equestrian Games (*Tryon, Mill Spring NC*) www.tryon2018.com
Sep 29 Fall Recreational Drive at Corron Farm is September 29, 9AM – 3PM

 Oct 2-7 Fall Drive National Drive (*Hoosier Horse Park, Edinburg, IN*)
 Oct 5-7 HOW open drive at Spur of the Moment (*Mountain, WI*)
 Oct 5-7 MDDA Distance drive 12 mile (*Southern Kettle Moraine, WI*)
 Oct 6 Day of Driving (Derby & pleasure) FVSA, Hampshire, IL
 Oct ?? Hickory Hub Octoberfest (*Fitchburg, WI*)
 Oct 13- Iron Oak Distance Drive MDDA Distance drive 6 & 15 miles Arkdale, WI)
Oct 21 or 28 Driving in the Park HUB Club, IL) Location tba

Items in **bold** are Dairyland Driving Club events.
 Items in **BOLD RED** are HUB Club

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/8lfgll4bvew5hk7/AAA8ifNmtvsMhrLkkoYDLdgqa?dl=0>



This is the link to the Hub Club Library – out on Dropbox. For those unfamiliar, Dropbox is a free computer app. that allows files to be shared on the internet. This link to a Dropbox HUB Club folder, contains a number of ADS forms, event packing lists, scans of the articles that were copied as pages in the library, etc. I don't know if we plan to put the articles onto the website or the packing list or other forms. CDE entry form, cones scoring forms, etc. Anything else anyone things should go into this folder and we can share with members and they can read the heavier articles direct from the link without having to save or download to print.



HUB Club Spring Recreational Drive

Muirhead Springs Forest
Preserve off Bahr Road,
Hampshire, IL

June 2, 9AM to 3PM

Mark your calendars and come enjoy driving the trails along the prairie on June 2 at Muirhead Springs Forest Preserve. Please bring a dish to pass at pot-luck lunch at Shelter I. Trailer parking available along the driveway entrance.



HUB Club

Fall Recreational Drive

at Historic Corron Farm

7N761 Corron Rd, St Charles, IL 60175

September 29, 2018 9AM to 3PM

Come drive the wide trails at Historic Corron Farm, a mix of challenging terrain with moderate to steep hills. Wind through tall oak savannas and enjoy the prairie lands full of fall flowers and grasses. Check out the refurbished farm house and other outbuildings.

Photos from WEBSITE :
<http://www.corronfarm.org>



Fox Valley Saddle Association's 2018

July 14th

August 18th

October 6th

Day of Driving Show

Location: 44W300 Rohrsen Road, Hampshire IL
(Corner of Rohrsen and Tower Rd)
Location is north of Route 64, south of Route 20.



Classes:

Morning Driving Derby	Afternoon Pleasure Classes	
1. Horse Trot Only Driving Derby 2. Horse Open Driving Derby 3. Pony Trot Only Driving Derby 4. Pony Open Driving Derby 5. VSE Trot Only Driving Derby 6. VSE Open Driving Derby <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiples can request to be run in their own division or can compete with their size group. 	7. Horse Pleasure Driving 8. Pony Pleasure Driving 9. VSE Pleasure Driving 10. Horse Reinsmanship 11. Pony Reinsmanship 12. VSE Reinsmanship 13. Horse Organizer's Choice 14. Pony Organizer's Choice	15. VSE Organizer's Choice 16. Horse Cones 17. Pony Cones 18. VSE Cones 19. Horse Town and Country 20. Pony Town and Country 21. VSE Town and Country

Show Schedule:

8:00 – Grounds Open
 9:00 – Secretary's Stand Opens
 9:45 – Secretary's Stand Closes until the conclusion of the Driving Derby
 10:00 – Driving Derby Begins
 12:00 – Secretary's Stand Re-Opens & Lunch is available
 12:45 – Secretary's Stand Closes for the day
 1:00 – Pleasure Classes Begin (classes will not start before 1PM)
 30 minutes after last round – Awards Ceremony

- Cone width - 175 cm standard.
- Driving Derby - Navigator required for large pony (ponies over 120 cm), horses, and multiples (navigators can go around multiple times).
- Placements in Classes 18, 19, and 20 will be based on optimum time
- Organizer's Choice Class will be announced on the FVSA Facebook Page the week of the show.
- Ribbons up to 6th place!
- Lunch will be available to order during a limited time only

Contact: Questions please call or email Mike Chuman: FarmAwesomeMike@email.com or (630) 723-7648

Fees:

\$25 – Derby Entry per horse/driver team	\$25 per stall for non-FVSA members
\$40 – all five Afternoon Pleasure classes per horse/driver team	\$15 per stall for FVSA members
\$10 – a la cart Afternoon Pleasure classes	\$15 – Electric Camper Hookup

**FVSA reserves the right to require stall rental if weather conditions preclude parking on grass

Attire: All safe vehicle types are welcome. Driving Derby - ASTM/SEI helmet, whip, and gloves are required. Safety vest is strongly encouraged. Afternoon Pleasure Classes – Gloves, Whip and Apron are required. Helmets are recommended.

WARNING: Under the Equine Activity Liability Act, each participant who engages in an equine activity expressly assumes the risks of engaging in and legal responsibility for injury, loss, or damage to person or property resulting from the risk of equine activities.

GENERAL RULES: No entry fees refunded. Judges decision is final. All stallions must have an adult handler. FVSA is not responsible for any theft, accident or bodily injury. No alcoholic beverages on the grounds. All dogs must be on a leash. Children must be under adult supervision. The show committee reserves the right to combine, split, or cancel any class based entries. ADS Rules will be followed where applicable. Announcements made the day of the show take precedence over written show bill. State of Illinois proof of negative Coggins Law abided by. NSF FEE: \$20 for returned checks

Wisconsin Driver Wins Big at Live Oak

Lodi veterinarian Dr. Jennifer Thompson won top honors in Ocala during the USEF National Intermediate Single Horse CDE championship held at the Weber family's Live Oak Plantation, home to the Live Oak International CDE and Jumping competition. Thompson drove her KWPN gelding Funnominial CG, affectionately known as Lucas, to an impressive dressage score of 53.8 in the first phase on Friday, March 16th. "You have to pay to play," Thompson said as she hustled home afterward to her veterinary practice. Truth is she put in many hours of dedicated training most of the winter before heading to Florida to continue conditioning. Her mother Marilyn Thompson was a well appointed groom for dressage and cones competition while Terry Shaw of St Paul, MN kept Team Lucas in the hunt during marathon. Rumor has it Shaw has a few battle bruises from his time in obstacle one! With no balls down in the cones competition and only a 0.21 seconds time penalty, Thompson easily bested a very strong group of competitors. Lucas was also awarded with the KWPN-NA Best Score award at the show.



Also in Florida was Cathy Thomas with her KWPN gelding JD's Fario, known as Tino. Her husband Peter groomed all three phases in this her first intermediate competition. Thomas made a confident entry into this next level of competition and looks forward to returning home to Wisconsin to continue training. She credits Thorsten Zarembowicz with encouraging her to move up a level.



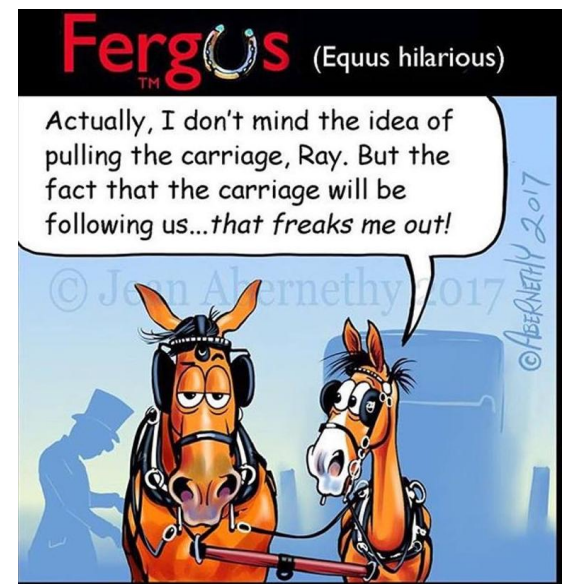
In the team competition was Mary Ruth Marks with her homebred Arabian warmblood crosses. Though this was her first time competing a team at LOI, she had previously competed her horse Adeszko there. Supporting her were 6 people from Wisconsin, one from Illinois and one local trainer. Marks had taken the team to Florida in February for a clinic with Boyd Excell and kept them there to continue conditioning. The horses were very fit after section A of marathon, which Marks attributes their Arabian blood. Though the scores weren't what she had hoped for, Team Marks enjoyed the warm weather and hospitality of the event.

Brook Ledge Horse Transportation generously provided breakfast and lunch for competitors and their staff everyday and Charles Owen sponsored a BBQ welcome dinner Thursday night. Some the Wisconsin crew may have been seen closing down the festivities on Thursday evening! Professional photos were done by Pics of You.

The grounds, stalling, main ring seating, vendors, and food were world class. The new main ring footing, put in after the devastating hurricane last fall, was well liked by drivers and jumpers. The LOI organizers put on an event that should be on every horse persons bucket list!

Full results and photos can be found at <https://liveoakinternational.com>.

I spent a week in Ocala with Mary Ruth Marks hanging on her marathon vehicle for an invitational clinic for elite drivers at the Florida Horse Park. Supported by Misdee Miller, the clinician was Boyd Excell. He was tough on all but incredible knowledge. He focused on getting everyone back to basics and adjusted everyone's harness and horse positions. Attendees at the clinic were all well respected drivers with single/pair/teams. In case you haven't seen him in action here is a link to his recent indoor driving championship event on facebook...



<https://www.facebook.com/BoydExell/videos/vb.367116840666/10155666790775667/?type=2&theater>

Lesley Sandberg

Our very own Dr. Lydia Gray gave a terrific presentation at the recent PATH International State Meeting held at MainStay Therapeutic Riding Center in Richmond. IL. Her discussion on Senior Horse Strategies was full of excellent advice that anyone with an aging equine can use. I attach my summary/notes here if anyone wants to see them. **Leslye Sandberg**

Senior Horse Strategies Chronologically 18-20 years of age

Based on blood volume in the body the horse will:

lose thermoregulatory ability

Also, older horses: lose muscle mass and topline, lose teeth, develop a lower body condition score

Metabolic disorders - Cushing's/ppid

Lameness - arthritis, laminitis, abscess

Digestive disorders - dental, colic, diarrhea, choke

Immune disorders - repeat infections, poor healing

Adjusting the Diet

hay - grass versus alfalfa, hay cubes or pellets

beet pulp, complete feed

Pyramid of Supplementing

Supplement Amount

Vitamins & Minerals a few ounces/small scoop

C, E, B, Antioxidants

Ration Balance 1-2 lbs

supplements plus protein & amino acids

Fortified Grain 5 lbs

ration balance + grain calories, like oats or corn

Complete Feed 20 lbs has all of the above plus forage with fortified grain Senior Feeds

NOTE: If you are feeding less than these amounts your horse is probably not getting adequate amounts of something

Supplements: there are many out there. If you are trying for the right mix - just try one change at a time.

You need 2-4 weeks to see a change - don't throw it all in at once or you won't know what worked.

Vitamins, antioxidants, probiotics, yeast, enzymes, amino acids, healthy fats, digestive support, inflammation and comfort supplements, joint supplements

Lysine - you need lysine to build with any other amino acid - This is what to have above all else

Vitamin C - especially for respiratory issues - older horses can't make enough Vitamin C

Vitamin E - the vet is a fan of this

Beet Pulp, alfalfa, fats, yeast - all good. Yeast increases the efficiency of absorption in the gut

Yeast brands yeasacc or diamond V

Preventative Care - recommending 2x/year

Physical Exam

Vaccines

Parasite Control

Dental

Hoof Care

Turnout and Exercise

Controlled exercise

longer warmup and cool down

daily exercise better than random

best is daily light work

Blinders or Not?

March 14, 2018

Andy Marcoux



It only takes a quick search on the internet to find all kinds of misguided theories on why driving horses wear blinkers. The most common reason given is that they are used to keep the horse from being distracted.

Speaking of distractions, the search will no doubt soon lead to a path that will have you reading about how blinkers are one of human kind's great cruelties to horses. These posts will no doubt be countered by those with equal vitriol that no horse should ever be driven without blinkers.

To cut through all of the noise and clutter of emotional responses to a practical consideration, let's take a look at why blinkers came into use in the first place.

Why We Use Blinkers

A horse's eye, specifically the retina (the part that turns light into images), is built very different than ours. Rather than using the whole retina to view objects near and far, the horse's retina has segmented areas, one for near, and one for far vision.

The eye is positioned on the horse's head such that when the horse is grazing, the far-sighted portion of the eye is higher on the horse's head. That's perfect for scanning the

horizon for potential threats. Think of it as a motion detector, keeping guard against lions, tigers, and scariest of all... blowing plastic bags! This part of the eye is hard-wired into the horse's flight response zone.



When the horse's head is held in a typical stance position, such as when we are working, that far-sighted portion of the eye gets tipped up and back. So the motion detector is primarily pointed behind the horse. Pretty much exactly where the carriage is hitched to him. Of course, that part of his vision is designed for spotting far-off objects, so chances are the carriage is too close to be in focus.

Let's add to this formula by considering that most successful predators would attack a horse from behind, rather than the side or front. Watch the Discovery Channel sometime, and you'll see this over and over again. That means the carriage, which he has a hard time seeing clearly, occupies the horse's mortal threat zone. Wait! There's more!

Once hitched to the horse, the carriage mimics the horse's every movement, just as a stalking predator would.



With all of this in mind, it's no surprise that most horses are more comfortable being driven in a bridle with blinkers. It saves them the trouble of having to outthink their evolutionary instincts.

So Why Drive With An Open Bridle?

Everything that I just told you makes a pretty convincing argument for using blinkers on driving horses. So why would you chance going in an open bridle?

I'll never forget the first horse that I decided to use an open bridle on for driving. He was a fancy Trakehner with a heart of gold and beautiful movement. He had grown up as a ridden dressage horse and had the

movement to prove it. His person rightfully thought that combination would be brilliant in a carriage, so we taught him to drive.



He was a good boy for all of his training and took to the carriage fairly well. That said, his attitude and movement in the carriage just weren't the same as when he was under saddle. He just wasn't the same horse.

In trying to understand what to attribute the big change to, I did a fair amount of long lining. I was able to observe that on the long lines in an open bridle, he was the same reliable, fancy pony we knew under saddle. The change came when we put the driving bridle on. Despite years of professional advice that I'd been given about never driving a horse in an open bridle, we decided to drive him in his riding bridle. He loved it!

The fact was, that this horse had experienced his entire life without blinders. So he was used to seeing the whole world around him all of the time. He could hear a noise, look at the source, and discount as a non-threatening.

In the decades since that experience, I've found this to be the case with many horses who come to driving as a second career. But it's not just the second career horses that prefer to see the world around them.



I owned an American Saddlebred who was hotter than the sweatband in a fireman's helmet. Since he had only ever been a driving horse, he never had an open bridle on until I started him under saddle. Still, I used a regular driving bridle for his work in harness. However, his previous owner always insisted that she felt he'd be more comfortable in an open bridle for his driving. Honestly, I thought she was nuts.

One day while tacking him up, a friend put the reins on the harness in the moment just after I had put his driving bridle on. He reacted by throwing his head straight up, and when it return, it landed on the top of my head. When I recovered, I decided it was time to give the open bridle a try.

The open bridle made a huge difference for his comfort and confidence. Sure, he was still a firecracker of a horse, but that was just because he thought that anything he could do would be more fun if he did it faster. However, in the open bridle, he was more relaxed and open to communication. He was just happier. We went on to many years of successful competitive

and recreational driving with him wearing the open bridle.

Blinders in Competitive Driving

Many people mistakenly believe that a bridle with blinders is required for competition. However, that is not true! The only mention of blinders in the American Driving Society rulebook is in reference to certain types of harness being the most appropriate harness for certain types of carriages. This is all a matter of presentation, not a matter of requirements. In fact, the only other reference to blinders is that they not be too tight to impair the horse's forward vision or irritate the eye. Even in that sentence, there is the caveat "if used."

Of course, those driving in pleasure shows should be aware that the judging can be fairly subjective. Judges tend to prefer the most traditional looking turnout possible, which indicates that blinders would complete the turnout.

Starting New Driving Horses

One of the biggest problems with horses being driven in a bridle with blinders is what happens when a bridle is unseated while the horse is hitched. The bridle doesn't have to come all the way off to create a problem. A simple head shake or rub can displace the bridle enough for the blinder to be moved out of the horse's vision. For many horses, this is their first sighting of the horror that has been going on behind them for years. Everything described in the first section of this article drills right into the horse's flight instinct, and you're off to the races.

Once my eyes were opened to the possibility of driving horses without blinders, I began to change how I introduce horses to carriage driving. As the horse progresses through the stages of ground driving, dragging tires, and wear false shafts, he does

so in an open bridle. In many cases, the horse makes it all the way to the carriage and can be driven comfortably in an open bridle.

All of that said, most horses eventually need blinders. It takes a lot of mental energy to ignore the signals they are getting from their nervous system that there is an object in their predator threat zone. The blinders allow the horse to ignore those instincts and relax as a driving horse. However, if that bridle does become unseated, they are not seeing the carriage as it's hitched to them for the first time, so their reaction is usually quite reasonable.

Should You Try an Open Bridle?

No... Yes... Maybe

You might make the mistake of reading this article as an advocacy for driving all horses without blinders. That is not what this is at all. It's simply stating that some horses are more comfortable with blinders while others are not. There's no hard and fast rule that horses are willing to follow on this matter. It has to be evaluated on a horse by horse basis.

There are a few indicators that a horse may go better in an open bridle. The most obvious sign is that the horse goes from Steady Eddy to Freaky Frank as soon as the driving bridle goes on. If the horse spends excessive time shying from noise and trying to swing his head in the direction any noise, he may just be trying to see the noise and eliminate it as a threat.

WARNING; TRED CAREFULLY!

It's one thing to take a horse that has never been driven and go through the steps of starting to drive without blinders. In that scenario, one simply can introduce the horse to each step of the process in an open bridle, and many horses will never question your wisdom. They have no reference point to see this as "not normal."

However, if you were to go out to the barn today and explain to your long time carriage horse "Andy says you might go better in an open bridle," you might be in for an unpleasant surprise. Taking the blinders away from a horse who hasn't learned the sport without blinders can be far more exciting than you bargained for. This could be a source for a horrific runaway that won't end until the horse gets stuck or completely removes all evidence of a carriage having been attached to him.

If you do have an idea that your horse may go well in an open bridle, you'll be better served to take careful incremental steps. The simplest step is pushing the blinders as wide as possible. If there is an improvement there, I would move on to using a half blinder. Sometimes that's all it takes for a horse to feel a little more relaxed. If there seems to be motivation to continue on the project to drive in an open bridle, it's time to have a full re-boot as a driving horse.

In my practice, I approach this project as if I were teaching the horse how to drive all over again, only this time with an open bridle. I'll take it down to the most fundamental steps. I will ground drive the horse completely harnessed, however in an open bridle. If that goes well I'll move on to dragging a tire, using false shafts, and pulling the carriage around behind the horse without hitching it. I frequently drive the horse as a leader in a tandem, to gauge his reaction.

Only when the horse has proven himself to be comfortable with all of those tests in an open bridle would I consider actually hitching to the carriage while the horse is in an open bridle. This isn't something that I do in an afternoon! It takes many sessions to move through all of the phases of this project safely.

If you choose to go down the open bridle path, keep a close eye on your horse's reactions through every step of the process. If you see tension building, don't push your luck. There's no reward in having a broken horse just because you wanted him to go in an open bridle.

Do What's Right For Your Horse

In my experience, most horses are more comfortable driving with blinders of some sort. They allow the horse to focus on the job at hand without having to worry about the carriage moving around in their predator warning vision. However, a smaller number of horses just want all of the information they can have about what's going on in the world around them.

Each of these horses will work more confidently and comfortably with the equipment scenario they prefer. It's your job to understand your horse's comfort level. If your horse is going in an open bridle, don't do a lot of hand-wringing about getting blinders on him. If your horse is more comfortable with blinders or half blinders, let him be comfortable. As always, make it safe and make it fun for both you and your horse.



Sales Barn

KEMAH'S ANIMAL CARE SERVICE

Specializing in horse care, but also experienced in the care of dogs, cats, birds, as well as many farm animals. Services including, but not limited to, cleaning, feeding, exercising, grooming, administering meds if needed. Short term to permanent care available. Over fifteen years experience. Great references. Reasonable rates. Call Kemah: 815-451-3967.



**Show
Gig for
Sale**

Built by Todd Frey of Frey Carriage, Columbus, Wisconsin. Gig is about 15 years old, lightly used. I have used it at a few shows and it is very well balanced and smooth riding. It has a beautiful dark green paint finish. It has new shaft covers and includes a full canvas cover. It is in very good condition. **\$3,800** Contact Sandra Nowicki, 262-889-4802 or sannowicki@aol.com

FOR SALE: Angel, white Percheron mare, 20



yrs old, 17 hh. Very sweet, easy going. Has been driven in many parades and 3 weddings. Rides Western, English and bareback on trail or in arena. Very smooth and will neck rein, jogs and lopes. Takes at least an intermediate rider/driver, as she will test you. Trailers, bathes, clips, ties, etc. UTD on shots, coggins, etc. Comes with western saddle, bridle, work harness with stand and forecart. Good forever home a must! \$1800 (the carriage and fancy harness are also



for sale separately) **Linda Lanzer Richmond, IL 815-546-7995**

FOR SALE: Neat oak hunting cart made in Pennsylvania; maroon seats for 4 humans with room for dogs below. Needs a better home than I can provide. Driven with 14 h 2 pony. In need of a little TLC \$3,500 negotiable. Call Nancy Baker 608-329-6711 or nakabak7@gmail.com





Country Carriages Road Cart for sale. Includes custom fabric cover for storage, Cart stand, cart jack, rain seat and rain seat back cover. Used with 15hh horse. 49.5" diameter wheels, 76" shafts. Show ready! Asking \$2000
Contact Cathy Thomas 608/332-8361, cathytho@gmail.com.
Located in Verona, WI.

FOR SALE: 5-acre Horse Property, with 4-stall barn, 350 bale loft, 4 fenced paddocks, 2.5 acre equine seeded pasture, lighted sand arena, close to trail system, 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, 16x40 in-ground pool, Barrington schools. **See dronography on YouTube at "21670 N Countryside Lane, Barrington"**. Listed with Lynn Fairfield, ReMax, (847) 373-3311, listing active 1-28-17, Owners Robert & Janet Molzahn (847) 381-7347. **Selling price \$587k.**



For sale:

Pony presentation vehicle that was used in the World Pairs. We are selling our presentation vehicle as we have replaced it with an antique that we can use for our four as well as our pair. The vehicle is suitable for 13 HH to 14-2 HH ponies. It also has single shafts and thus can be converted to a single. It has both single trees and roller bolts. Currently it has brass hardware, but we have a full set of stainless as well. Rear wheel stainless disk brakes, two side and one rear light can be included. We have used this for pleasure shows as well as CDEs. Condition is

very good. Many photos are available. **With three lamps, pole, shafts and all hardware \$5900. Without lights \$5450. John & Betsy Freiburger frei@chorus.net**

Poj Kon M171 (Tiger) for sale. Suitable for horse, warm blood or smaller draft. I used it five years with Molly: 1660 pounds and 17HH. Since then it has been in storage in KY, occasionally being pulled by Frisians. Deb shipped it back to me to sell for her. It has two sets of wheels, Bosch brakes and quick change hubs and is in good general condition and comes with spare brake pads. It weighs 529 with the shafts on, so safe for a strong horse, but Molly could really run with it. **Great stability for going fast. \$4700**



For sale:

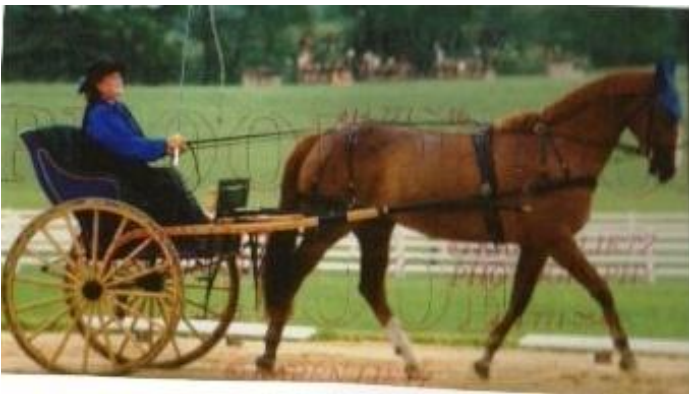
We bought this vehicle new and used it much less than anticipated—maybe 10 outings. It has a pole and shafts. I'm not sure of the weight but have driven it single with the off horse, a Belgian thoroughbred cross. The brake is in



Frejlach-Grubb

For sale:

The gig is most suitable for a cob size horse/pony, however the horse shown in the picture is a 16.3 field hunter. It's royal blue with gold pinstripes and has natural oak wheels and shafts. The interior is black



Frejlach-Grubb

the center of the floor so it can be driven easily from either traditional or traffic position and it rolls quite freely. It's well sprung and rides quite comfortably over uneven ground as well as roads. Pictures don't show the color well—the frame and gear are all a beautiful shade of bottle or hunter green and the woodwork is light varnished wood. Its been used for a wedding supper, an HDT, a couple of Pleasure Driving classes and three club pleasure drives. I am asking \$2,600. Call me at 630-363-4619 with any questions. Grace



velvet and as comfortable as any loveseat. it has been used at Villa Louis, Iron Horse CDE as well as many pleasure drives and the Sharon WI lighted Christmas parade. I'm selling it for \$1800.

Call me at 630-363-4619 with any questions. Grace



horse. Ace was about 14 hands, very slight build, narrow. He wore the blanket the very cold winter of 2013-2014 and the next winter. Price \$100. Located our home, rural Rochelle, IL. Contact Don Hayes 815-761-2757.



For sale:
very
warm,

very good condition horse blanket for pony or small

I have a Sierakowski horse marathon for sale or trade for a pony marathon of equal quality/features. Located in McHenry, IL. We will be at Midwest Horse Fair in Madison, WI with carriage April 19th-22nd for clinic. Let me know if you want to see it there and bring what you have!

Looking to trade my horse Sierakowski marathon for a lighter medium/large pony size.

The Sierakowski is 185kg without shafts/pole. Has 5th wheel, front and rear brakes.

Comes with pair of shafts, team pole adaptor and extra set of wheels. (Hard and pneumatic.)

I am the second owner. Bought from gentleman who had it imported. Stored inside, no wrecks. Some flaked paint/rust on underside of carriage and on shafts where the shafts rest on the dash. Chrome of dash unharmed.

Measurements:

Telescoping shafts: 64"-82" (might be able to go longer, but I wanted to leave ample room for the bolts to grab)

Height to top of single tree: 26"

Height to top of wedge seat: 67"

Trade for medium pony marathon of equal value or for sale for \$6,500 can deliver within reasonable distance.

Krista Ziec



Kristat40@gmail.com 815-342-4819



ASK WHINNEY

This is an opportunity for all members, but especially novice drivers, to get input and advice from other members. Each month we will be posting an anonymous question raised by a Hub Club member and asking you, the membership to respond from the deep and vast store of your driving knowledge and experience. So let's go!



QUESTION: What is the best bit to use in driving?

ANSWER: Best bit: The one your horse is happy in! We drive one pony in his riding bit, a Kimberwicke. Some ponies and VSE have thick lips and need a much larger bit than one would guess. Use a bit measuring tool to be confident of the size needed. Iowa Valley Carriage can order custom bits from Bowman Bits for the really tough to fit. Horsesdaily.com posted video of a recent Boyd Exell clinic in which he masterfully describes bits, their function, and use! Bits are only as good as the hands that direct them. Your horse may not need a new bit, but may need softer, more responsive hands from you. **Michele Harn**

The best bit to use is the mildest bit you can control your horse, comfortably. Sounds simple it isn't. Trainers and people who have driven for years have dozens of bits. Just look at the pages of bit options in any driving supply catalog. Also the bit that is appropriate when you begin driving is not necessarily the bit you will use as you advance. **Dr. Ann McCombs**

I use a simple half cheek snaffle. He goes well and is happy. I don't compete so no reason to change. **Leslye Sandberg**

For Next Month: How about shoes vs. boots for asphalt driving & driving in general.



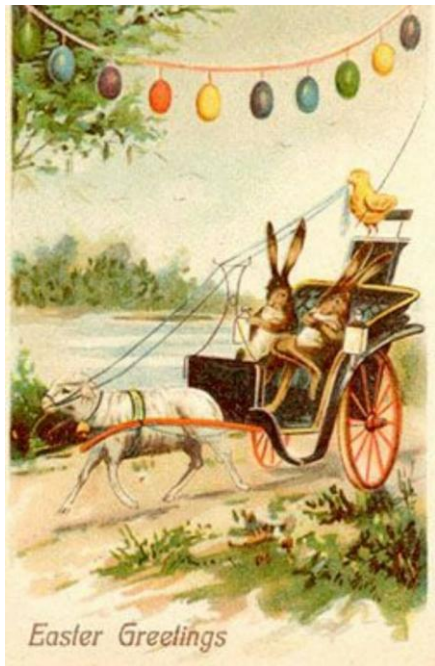
Live Oak water obstacle.

My friend from WI, Candy Hankins took this photo and it's just a super one - thank you Candy for sharing with me! She helped me at the clinic as well and volunteered at Live Oak with 3 other WI friends as the Fab Four from Wisconsin. Super volunteers !

Mary Ruth Marks

Wheel to Wheel

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
26715 N. Schwerman Road
Wauconda, IL 60084-2703



HUB CLUB Membership Application Year _____

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

PHONE :(home) _____ (work) _____ (cell) _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Also member of: _____ ADS _____ CAA, _____ USEF, Local club _____

MEMBERSHIP DESIGNATIONS:

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP: 18yrs or older, 1 vote per membership

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: Couple and any underage children (<18), immediate family, 2 votes per membership.

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP: Child under 18yrs of age, no voting privileges. (Must have an adult member as sponsor).

Also, parent/guardian must sign on application for Junior Members to participate at club events.

I accept the benefits, obligations and responsibilities of membership and agree to abide by the HUB Club bylaws
Signature(s): _____ Date _____

_____ Date _____

_____ Date : _____

Parent or Guardian (if under 18 years of age)

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP: \$25.00 (Renewing or New)* \$ _____

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: \$35.00 (Renewing or New)* \$ _____

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP: \$10.00 (Renewing or New)* \$ _____

*New memberships received after June 30 will be pro-rated for 6 months

The newsletter is normally distributed via email, as PDF. Do you **REALLY NEED** receive the newsletter via regular mail? Yes _____ No _____ If yes, please include additional \$12.00 to help with print and mailing costs.



Send check payable to HUB Club with completed form to:

Tammy M Carlo
4761 Bordeaux Drive
Lake in the Hills, IL 60156

Check # _____
Amount _____
Date _____