

Wheel to Wheel

Newsletter for the HUB

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



2015
Club

HUB Club Officers:

President Lydia Gray 630-701-5903 LydiaGrayDVM@gmail.com
Vice President Emily Berendt 815-337-3101 eberendt@yahoo.com
Treasurer Sue West 815-482-2747 iswestwindfarm@aol.com
Recording Secretary Ann McCombs 815- 482-5085 or 815- 648-4471 eqvet@mc.net
Newsletter Editor Kris Breyer 847-526-3012 briarpatcheast@aol.com
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The HUB Club:
Education &
Camaraderie



HUB CLUB

ADS Representatives:

Midwest Region Rep Katy Rhinehart, Ferguson IA gkm104@heartofiowa.net.

katy.rhinehart@lennoxinc.com Phone: H 641-478-3285 C 641-485-7821

Central Region Rep Lynn Simpson, Middletown, Indiana Cell: 765-623-0088; e-mail: Slyfork@gmail.com

A current negative Coggins must be on file with the club secretary in order to participate in any HUB Club event



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: The following HUB Club officers have

been elected by acclamation:

Lydia Gray, President

Emily Berendt, Vice President

Sue West, Treasurer

Ann McCombs, Recording Secretary

They will be installed at the annual meeting Sunday, January 17, at The Public House in Woodstock, IL. If you haven't RSVP'd to me, time's running out (**RSVPs due January 10 th**) so email, text, or call today! Also let me know if you have any topics you'd like to discuss and I'll add them to the agenda. This is YOUR club and YOUR meeting (but MY food and MY drink so keep your hands off).

Yours Truly, **Dr. Lydia Gray**



2016 DRIVING



JANUARY

17th HUB Club Annual Meeting (see flyer further on)

APRIL

24th FVSA Open Show, Hampshire, IL

30th- May1st HUB Club Spring Clinic, Rockton, IL

MAY

14-15 We missed the omnibus deadline but there will be a new CDE in KY, at **Lucky Charm Farm** in Paris. Training - Intermediate. Sterling Graburn <sterlingenator@GMAIL.COM>

22nd FVSA Open Show, Hampshire, IL

JUNE

18th-19th Columbus Carriage Festival, Columbus, WI <http://columbuscarriagefestival.org/>

19th FVSA Open Show, Hampshire, IL

24th-26th Metamora Combined Driving Event Darlene Daly Secretary, 2457 Louise Drive City: Lapeer, MI 48446 | ddaly0037@gmail.com (810) 441-0888

25th-26th Skunk River Driving Trial & Combined Test Kathy Kuehl & Jenny Potter Secretary, 55823 175th St., Ames, IA 50010 kuehl@iastate.edu (515) 290-9271

JULY

2nd Notara Farm HDT

16th-17th Hickory Knoll

?? Buckeye CDE, OH

AUGUST

6th MSMHC Open Show Hampshire, IL

6th-7th Eastern Iowa Carriage Glow Pleasure Show

Laurie Renda, 601 Dows Rd, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52403
laurie@touchofglassinc.com (319) 3601078

26th-28th Indiana CDE Hoosier Horse Park

SEPTEMBER

10th-11th Villa Louis Carriage Classic, Prairie Du Chien, WI

24th HUB Club's Dirty Harness Day FVSA, Hampshire, IL

25th FVSA OPEN Show, Hampshire, IL

OCTOBER

?? Kentucky Classic CDE, KY Gayla **CANCELLED**

?? Hermitage Classic CDE, KY

11th-16th National Drive, Kentucky Horse Park



HUB Club Annual Meeting and Awards

Sunday, January 17, 2016

Noon: Buffet 1 pm: meeting, awards to follow

Public House of Woodstock

101 N. Johnson St.

Woodstock IL 60098

815 337-6060 www.publichouseofwoodstock.com

COST: \$30 INCLUDING tax and gratuity for non HUB Club members.

For members, The HUB Club will subsidize this major club event .

Each member will only have to pay \$20.

Renew your HUB Club membership at the event!!

Buffet :

Nonalcoholic Beverages

Salad: Fresh Garden Salad ~ red onion, tomato, cucumber – assorted dressings ,
Fresh rolls & butter

Entrées: Sautéed chicken ~ lightly breaded chicken breast drizzled with a light
garlic cream sauce

Herb Encrusted Pork tenderloin medallions ~ drizzled with a rich demi-glaze

Beer Battered Fish Fry ~ Fresh Alaskan Cod

Sides: Fresh Steamed Vegetables ~ Carrots & Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes ,

Cavatappi Pasta tossed in a blush sauce ~ combination of marinara & Alfredo

Dessert: Assorted sweets Buffet: Mini cupcakes, Brownie Bites, Cheese
cake bites, Puff pastry

**This is a great time to renew your membership as well as sign up
for the spring clinic, bring/buy silent auction items,
and receive awards!!**

RSVP by January 10, 2015

Please RSVP the number attending to Lydia Gray at:

lydiagraydvm@gmail.com or 630-557-0241 or

call/text: 630-701-5903

**Happy
New
Year**



Christmas Eve Eve.....

On the eve of Christmas Eve (December 23rd), Al Breyer decided to give everyone at our training barn, Stone Ledge Farm, in South Beloit, IL, a special Christmas present. He and Merriehill Angel Dust (Angel) decided that they would give anyone at the barn that day a Holiday Carriage ride complete with a decorated vehicle and a set of real antique brass sleigh bells. Unfortunately, it was pouring rain, so the rides had to stay in the indoor arena that day.

Two of the teenagers accepted the task of decorating the Meadowbrook for the occasion. Angel got groomed, put on green and red ear covers and her fancy string of bells. Clients who had never been in a horse drawn vehicle were thrilled! Some just had never been in more than a show jog bike.

Most were enthralled with the mellow sound of the bells.....



Everything You Never Knew You Never Knew About Sleigh Bells

December 16, 2015 Kristen Kovatch

We sing about them, decorate our Christmas cards and ugly sweaters with them, and love to hear the sounds of a horse-drawn wagon or sleigh bedecked in bells. But why bells?

Sleigh bells ring, are you listening?

Photo by Kristen Kovatch.

Arguably the official “sound” of the holidays, the jingling of sleigh bells instantly puts a listener in the mindset of Christmas. (Don’t believe me? Flip on the radio to virtually any station this time of year and you can tell within seconds if you’re listening to a holiday song — you’ll hear sleigh bells in the background.) One-horse open sleighs are, of course, jingling all the way, and it’s a well-known fact that Santa’s reindeer also wear bells. But why? Who decided that putting bells all over a sleigh and harness were festive?



Look out, coming through!!

Like other forms of equine ornamentation, bells on the harness, tack or horse itself were used as charms: they were said to bring good luck, ward off evil and protect against disease and injury. Additionally, bells and ornaments were a great way to show off your wealth and status: bells and other charms have been in use since at least 800 BC.



Petal bells in cast brass. Photo by Kristen Kovatch.

For more practical purposes, however, bells were a good “early warning” system to pedestrians and other folks on the road that horses or horse-drawn vehicles were heading their way. For horse-drawn livery or vendors, the bells also served as a commercial to let potential customers know they were in the area — kind of like an old-school ice cream truck.

In both Europe and the United States, sleighing became a popular form of recreation in the winter as well as a method of transportation in the nineteenth century. Therefore, horses and sleighs were turned out spotlessly with plenty of decoration, including rich strings of harness bells — again emphasizing the wealth and status of the owner. The sound of harness bells became inextricably linked with winter activity, especially around Christmas, and an icon was born. Bell manufacturers began to shape an industry in the eighteenth century, casting their makers’ marks and ornate designs on individual bells. Bells were cast until the end of the 1800s, when an American manufacturer developed a process to stamp bells out of sheet metal, greatly expediting the production process.

However, as horse-drawn transport faded with the advent of the automobile, so did the bell makers: only a handful of the old manufacturers are still producing the classic bells and many strings still used today are vintage relics from days gone by.

Types of bells

Individual makers aside, a bell is a bell, right? Not quite: within the category of “sleigh bells” there are a number of ways to classify the individual bells: shape, throat style, decoration and construction. It should also be noted that what we think of a traditional sleigh bell — a pellet trapped within a hollow globe — is actually called a “crotal” and is technically a rattle, not a bell. (I warned you that this article included things you never knew you never knew.)

Shape: Crotal bells for harness purposes are commonly seen in a few shapes: round or egg-shaped bells were called arctic or globe bells by the makers. Round bells with a flared ridge were also popular. Less common shapes include the bevel or band bell with a slightly pointed face; square bells look impressive but are said to sound absolutely terrible (and are also quite fragile). Other specialty custom bell shapes include acorns or flower buds.

Traditional and authentic bells, with an open mouth and a clapper, were used on occasion and are still found on European working harnesses with one bell suspended between the hames.



Throat: The “throat” of the bell refers to the number of slits, which allow the bell to vibrate and therefore ring. Before the heyday of the sleigh bell, most cast harness bells were designed with a broad single throat, which gave them a rich tone much like an open-mouthed “liberty” bell sound that’s familiar thanks to the miracles of Christmas pop recordings. Most of these multiple-throat bells were stamped rather than cast, allowing for new and unusual shapes.

Stamped bell with double throat. Photo by Erik Bentley. mouthed “liberty” bell.

To add distinction to their bells in the 1800s, manufacturers started adding a second and sometimes even a third throat, which gave the bells a softer chime, or jingle — the kind of sleigh-

An exception to these rules is the Swedish bell, typically a very large bell up to two or three inches in diameter. These bells are distinctive because of the six “pie slices” formed by the narrow throats that were cut into the bell rather than cast. Their hefty size gives the Swedish bells a deep and loud tone.

Swedish bell on a hip strap. Photo by Erik Bentley.

Decoration: Old traditional cast bells from Europe commonly carried a petal or horseshoe design and were subsequently referred to as “petal bells.” Individual makers might include their initials, or perhaps the size of the bell. As styles changed and stamped bells became vogue, bells were left undecorated and were polished to a shine. Individual specialty antique bells can still be

found with fish-scale or ornate petal designs, but these are much less common.



Cast petal bells marked with sizes. Photo by Erik Bentley.

Construction: As mentioned above, harness bells were originally cast in brass. The process of metal stamping revolutionized the bell-making industry as well as the tonal qualities!

Harnessed up

Okay, now that you've finally selected what style of bell you'll be using, you need to look at your horse and harness and decide where to put these things.

Body strap: Arguably one of the more common places to put your bell string, the body strap buckles over the traces of the harness around the horse's middle. Body straps can come in the New England style, in which all of the bells are the same size, or the graduated style, in which bells get smaller as you travel down the strap. Less common body straps are the pony strap, which includes a double-row of small bells (so named because of the size of the bell, not the animal!) or the all-metal Sunday strap which would be used only on special occasions. A warning: even the most careful driver may sometimes get a line caught up in the bells. Because of the body strap's location, bells are more prone to becoming broken, scraped off or gummed up with mud and ice.

Neck strap: Perhaps a safer option than the body strap, the neck strap simply places those bells around the horse's neck or collar. Bells might all be one standard size or they may be graduated.

Hip straps: Usually just a few bells make up a hip strap, which slides onto the back strap of the harness and hangs down over the horse's lower back or hips. The hip strap is a common place to find Swedish bells with their deep voices.

Saddle & shaft bells: These are small collections of large bells intended to be attached to the wagon or sleigh directly. The name refers to where they are placed on the vehicle: the saddle bell is placed on the horse's back pad while the shaft bells are attached to the shafts of the wagon or sleigh.

The above information can all be referenced to Classic Bells' thorough history!

And what about the sound?

No discussion of sleigh bells would be complete without listening to a few examples!

Go sleighing!

Cut and paste the below address into your browser to listen.....

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rnAWyZ8yCv0>

Does Your Horse Need Rest? Give Him More Bedding

- By [Christa Lesté-Lasserre, MA](#)



New research shows that the more soft bedding available, the longer horses spend lying down.

Photo: Courtesy Joan-Bryce Burla

If you've ever carted wheelbarrow loads of soiled bedding to the manure bin, you've probably wondered, at one time or another, if your horses really need all those shavings or straw in their stalls. Wonder no more: New research shows that bedding does matter, and so does the amount of bedding available. In fact, the more soft bedding (straw or shavings) available, the more time horses spend lying down.

Longer times spent lying down are important, as they allow horses to recover from stress and exercise, promoting better equine welfare, said Christina Rufener, PhD, researcher at the Agroscope research center at the Swiss National Stud Farm, in Avenches, Switzerland. She presented her findings at the 10th Annual Swiss Equine Research Day, held in April in Avenches.

Rufener and colleagues tested 38 horses divided into eight groups, each of which lived in group housing and were tested in four different bedding scenarios based on the Swiss welfare requirements. Swiss law requires that horses be offered a minimum surface area of straw or shavings as a function of their body height. For example, a 17-hand (170 cm) horse in a group housing situation should have at least 75 ft² (7.5 m²) of "resting area."

Rufener's study conditions tested percentages of the minimum bedding requirements (MBR) as follows: The greatest incidences of lying behavior (the frequency of lying bouts and length of time lying down) in all horses occurred in the largest bedding condition—150% MBR.



Photo: Courtesy Joan-Bryce Burla

1. 150% of MBR per horse;
2. 100% of MBR per horse;
3. 50% of MBR per horse; and
4. Rubber mats with no straw or shavings.

The greatest incidences of lying behavior (the frequency of lying bouts and length of time lying down) in all horses occurred in the largest bedding condition—150% MBR, Rufener said.

They also found that regardless of the bedding dimensions, low-ranking horses spent more time lying down in areas with fewer or no shavings than high-ranking horses, she added. But in the 150% MBR conditions, higher-ranking horses less

frequently “required” lower-ranking horses to get up and liberate the bedding area before they were ready, compared to 100% and 50% MBR. This is important, as higher-ranking horses often prevent lower-ranking horses from getting the rest they need in group scenarios, she said.

Higher-ranking horses often prevent lower-ranking horses from getting the rest they need in group scenarios.

Photo: Courtesy Joan-Bryce Burla

Without the bedding, however, the horses rarely lie down, Rufener relayed. Providing comfortable bedding is, therefore, critical to equine welfare, she said.

“Our study showed that horses prefer lying down on bedding and that hard rubber mats are not an adequate support surface for them,” Rufener concluded.

“The minimum statutory bedding requirements (in Switzerland) seem to be adequate, but there are large differences among individuals,” she added. “Including social parameters in our study revealed that optimizing the

bedding areas with more interspersed bedding can help improve the welfare for the lower-ranking horses, as well.”

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

[Christa Lesté-Lasserre, MA](#)



Christa Lesté-Lasserre is a freelance writer based in France. A native of Dallas, Texas, Lesté-Lasserre grew up riding Quarter Horses, Appaloosas, and Shetland

Ponies. She holds a master's degree in English, specializing in creative writing, from the University of Mississippi in Oxford and earned a bachelor's in journalism and creative writing with a minor in sciences from Baylor University in Waco, Texas. She currently keeps her two



Trakehners at home near Paris. Follow Lesté-Lasserre on Twitter [@christalestelas](#).



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HAY!!!!

Are you stocked up yet for winter? 1000 bales of alfalfa mix hay needs to get out of the Bull Valley barn. \$4.50 a bale, \$4.25 if you buy 100 or more, \$4.00 for 500. Also available second cutting alfalfa mix, soft, fresh and green. Turned and dried thoroughly before baling. Only a couple hundred of these are available @ \$6.00 a bale. Pick up only, sorry. Emily Berendt 815-337-3101 eberendt@yahoo.com

Freiburger Carriage Works must make room for new models.

Have Demonstrators and slightly used marathons available

Bobcat: large pony cob demonstrator: \$6950 new: now \$5950, stainless steel package and brakes, fifth wheel driver control.

Runabout, used but immaculate: Oak bodied pair for cobs or large ponies, made to fit Haflingers and Fjords \$5500 frei@chorus.net



FOR SALE:

Meadowbrook with 48

inch wheels. I used it for 15.2 hand horse. \$1200 or best offer.

Located in Woodstock. Call 815.861.096 Or email

patti.klein.dvm@gmail.com **Patti Klein**



FOR SALE: Russet

leather Single Horse

reins: lightly used, \$60

Country Carriages USA,

Country cart, small pony/

mini sized. Used for

Pleasure Shows & CDEs.

Dark walnut stained wood,



wool grey Bedford cord seat and black rain seat. Light weight approximately 175 pounds, two passenger cart with the best

ride. A sliding, adjustable seat, spares box under the seat, flush hubs, flat rubber tires, chrome hardware, wood dash, whip socket, black leather shaft trim, good condition. New was \$2,600, **asking \$1,750.**

Call Ann McCombs 815-648-4471.

FOR SALE: (I do not have a photo) **Driving Harness for**

Draft - Black leather and patent leather. Breast collar. Was custom made for my Belgian. Good Condition. \$225

Beautiful Carriage - - 2 bench carriage with Burgundy crushed velvet seats. Excellent condition. Draft and regular size shafts. - \$3500

Driving Cart - Excellent condition. Regular size shafts. \$399

All located in Crystal Lake, IL Contact - Jennifer Swanson - 815-459-4092



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



This is the new link to the updated Hub Club Library – out on Dropbox. For those unfamiliar, Dropbox is a free computer app. that allows files to be shared on the internet. Anyone clicking on this link will get the excel spreadsheet with the most updated library on it. This new link to a dropbox HUB Club folder, contains the library spreadsheet but also 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. I would like to remind everyone that we now have a mail out and back program.

If you want to check something out from the library you contact Leslye Sandberg lsandberg@permatron.com and include your mailing address. The item will be mailed to you. We ask that you return the item in a timely manner in the preaddressed envelope that will come with it. You will have to pay the return postage. In upcoming issues I will be showcasing some of the new additions. And again I ask for your suggestions for items to add to the library. Note that any horsey movies or videos you have that you no longer want or need, can be donated to the library as well.

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 _____



HUB CLUB

Please check preference: Newsletter sent via email _____ U.S Postal Service _____
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

Send check with completed forms to: check # _____
date _____

Sue West
16212 Nelson Road
Woodstock, IL 60098