

# Wheel to Wheel



# 2016

## Newsletter for the HUB

## Club

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

### HUB Club Officers:

President Lydia Gray 630-701-5903 [LydiaGrayDVM@gmail.com](mailto:LydiaGrayDVM@gmail.com)  
Vice President Emily Berendt 815-337-3101 [eberendt@yahoo.com](mailto:eberendt@yahoo.com)  
Treasurer Sue West 815-482-2747 [iswestwindfarm@aol.com](mailto:iswestwindfarm@aol.com)  
Recording Secretary Ann McCombs 815- 482-5085 or 815- 648-4471 [eqvet@mc.net](mailto:eqvet@mc.net)  
Newsletter Editor Kris Breyer 847-526-3012 [briarpatcheast@aol.com](mailto:briarpatcheast@aol.com)  
Head Librarian Theresa Adams 815-624-6229 [idocde2@yahoo.com](mailto:idocde2@yahoo.com)  
Assistant Librarian Leslye Sandburg. 847-602-7500 [lsandberg@permatron.com](mailto:lsandberg@permatron.com)  
Webmaster Ann Olujic 815-734-8871 [magichandshorsemassage@gmail.com](mailto:magichandshorsemassage@gmail.com)

### ADS Representatives:

Midwest Region Rep Katy Rhinehart, Ferguson IA [gkm104@heartofiowa.net](mailto:gkm104@heartofiowa.net).  
[katy.rhinehart@lennoxinc.com](mailto: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](mailto:Slyfork@gmail.com)

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

**The HUB Club:**  
**Education &**  
**Camaraderie**



HUB CLUB



**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](mailto:briarpatcheast@aol.com) by the 20<sup>th</sup> 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:** I was traveling last week and it seemed like every single person I saw asked "what are your show plans with Newman this year?" Right now, he's not ready to appear at either a riding OR driving show, so their questions were beginning to stress me out and make me feel like a failure.

But then I realized that JUST bringing him to the John Greenall clinic is a victory, JUST bringing him to a Mary Wanless rider biomechanics clinic is a victory, and


that I have a wonderful horse that I can do fun things with for myself and for him. Suddenly the peer pressure didn't matter and the pressure I was putting on myself wasn't important either. Yes, I still plan to enter competitions in both disciplines with lofty year-end goals, but things have been put into perspective for me and now I can also appreciate the journey more, and my wonderful partner. Yours Truly,

**Dr. Lydia Gray**



*Art washes away from the soul  
the dust of everyday life.*

*-Pablo Picasso*

 freedmanharness.com

# 2016 DRIVING



## APRIL

**24<sup>th</sup> FVSA Open Show**, Hampshire, IL

**30<sup>th</sup> - 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](mailto:sterlingenator@GMAIL.COM)

**22<sup>nd</sup> FVSA Open Show**, Hampshire, IL

## JUNE

**3 Prairie State Classic Horse** show is featuring three Open to All Breeds Carriage Classes all on Friday, Ledges Sporting Horse Center in Roscoe, IL. contact Gail Kelce at; [gkelce@earthlink.net](mailto:gkelce@earthlink.net)

**4 FVSA Driving Derby** Mike Chuman at [FarmAwesomeMike@gmail.com](mailto:FarmAwesomeMike@gmail.com) or call him at 630-723-764. FVSA is 44W300 Rohrsen Road, Hampshire, Illinois.

**11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Columbus Carriage Festival**, Columbus, WI <http://columbuscarriagefestival.org/>

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

**25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> Skunk River Driving Trial & Combined Test** Kathy Kuehl & Jenny Potter Secretary, 55823 175th St., Ames, IA 50010 [kuehl@iastate.edu](mailto:kuehl@iastate.edu) (515) 290-9271

**26<sup>th</sup> FVSA Open Show**, Hampshire, IL

## JULY

**1-3 CAA Carriage Festival Lexington, Kentucky**, USEF/ADS Pleasure-driving competition. contact: Jill Ryder [859-231-0971](tel:859-231-0971) [www.carriagefestival.com](http://www.carriagefestival.com)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Notara Farm HDT**

**16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Hickory Knoll**

**30 FVSA Driving Derby** Mike Chuman at [FarmAwesomeMike@gmail.com](mailto:FarmAwesomeMike@gmail.com) or call him at 630-723-7648.

FVSA is at 44W300 Rohrsen Road, Hampshire, Illinois.

## AUGUST

**6<sup>th</sup> MSMHC Open Show** Hampshire, IL

**6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> Eastern Iowa Carriage Glow Pleasure Show** Laurie Renda, 601 Dows Rd, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52403 [laurie@touchofglassinc.com](mailto:laurie@touchofglassinc.com) (319) 3601078

**26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> Indiana CDE & CT** Hoosier Horse Park. This year's jury is Debbie Banfield, Jane Merritt, Craig Kellogg and Doug Orr. We will again be offering the Combined Test of your choice on Friday followed by the full CDE on Saturday and Sunday. Dave Sadler, organizer 217-621-5547

## SEPTEMBER

**9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> Villa Louis Carriage Classic**, Prairie Du Chien, WI **Villa Louis Carriage Classic**

ADS Pleasure-driving competition. contact: Mike Rider [608-326-4436](tel:608-326-4436) [www.carriageclassic.com](http://www.carriageclassic.com)

**24<sup>th</sup> HUB Club's Dirty Harness Day** FVSA, Hampshire, IL

**25<sup>th</sup> FVSA OPEN Show**, Hampshire, IL

## OCTOBER

**8 FVSA Driving Derby** Mike Chuman at [FarmAwesomeMike@gmail.com](mailto:FarmAwesomeMike@gmail.com) or call him at 630-723-7648. FVSA is 44W300 Rohrsen Road, Hampshire, Illinois.

**11<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> National Drive**, Kentucky Horse Park

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/8lfgl4bvew5hk7/AAA8ifNmtvsMhrLkkoYDLdgga?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](mailto: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.

## **WHAT IS “VEGETABLE” OIL?** by Juliet M. Getty, Ph.D.

[www.GettyEquineNutrition.com](http://www.GettyEquineNutrition.com) February 23, 2016

The ingredient list is your most important source of information when evaluating a feed or supplement for your horse. Items within the ingredient list must be presented in a certain order. According to the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO), the ingredient with the highest percentage of total weight must be listed first with all ingredients listed in descending order. However, under certain conditions, the manufacturer may list ingredients alphabetically, making it difficult to interpret concentrations. Also, feed items are often clumped together in one term.

This is typically the case with added fat. Many manufacturers will list fat content simply as “vegetable oil,” leaving you, the consumer, with absolutely no idea of the source. The only thing this tells you is that the fat is not of animal origin. But there are many vegetable oils available -- the most commonly added ones are soybean, corn, and coconut oils. The majority of fatty acids in soybean and corn oils are in the omega 6 variety, which is inflammatory in high amounts when not balanced with omega 3s. Coconut oil does not contain any appreciable omega 3s or 6s, but it is easy to handle because it is solid (due to its highly saturated chemistry); however, research is unclear about whether it is safe for long-term consumption.

Ultimately, it is your responsibility to know what is in your horse's feed. Call the manufacturer for clarification. Don't guess when it comes to your horse's health.

---

Juliet M. Getty, Ph.D. is an independent equine nutritionist with a wide U.S. and international following. Her research-based approach optimizes equine health by aligning physiology and instincts with correct feeding and nutrition practices. Dr. Getty's comprehensive resource book, *Feed Your Horse Like a Horse*, is available at <http://www.gettyequinenutrition.com/> -- buy it there and have it inscribed by the author, or get it at Amazon (<http://www.amazon.com/>) or other online retail bookstores. The seven separate volumes in Dr. Getty's topic-centered “Spotlight on Equine Nutrition” series are available with special package pricing at her website, and also at Amazon in print and Kindle versions. Dr. Getty's books make ideal gifts for equestrians.



# Fox Valley Saddle Association's 2016

**April 24**

Dawn Scully  
Helenville, WI

**May 22**

Kat Zelnio  
Moline, IL

**June 26**

Dana Panella  
Hartland, WI

**August 28**

Steve Papaeliou  
Minooka, IL

**Sept. 25**

Cori Elliott  
Stockton, IL

## Horse Show Series



Hampshire, Illinois Since 1946

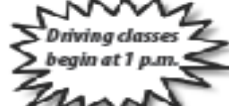
[www.fvsa.org](http://www.fvsa.org)

1. 3-Year-Old & Under Horse Halter
2. English Horse in Hand
3. Color Breed Halter (judged on 50% color, 50% conformation)
4. Western Horse Halter
5. Aging Gracefully Halter (for horses age 10 and older)
6. Pony/Mini Halter
- GRAND & RESERVE CHAMPION HALTER** (1st & 2nd from 1-6)
7. MELANIE GILL MEMORIAL OPEN SHOWMANSHIP PAYBACK\*\*\*
8. Beginner Showmanship Clinic Class \*\*\*\*
9. Pony Showmanship
10. Showmanship at Halter, 40 and over
11. Showmanship at Halter, 19-39
12. Showmanship at Halter, 14-18
13. Showmanship at Halter, 13 & under
- **15 MINUTE BREAK**, Lead Liners and Walk-Trotters only, please -
14. Lead Line, 8 & under\*\*
15. Walk Trot Pleasure, 12 & under\*\* (can also ride in: 20,26,34 & 40)
16. Walk Trot Equitation, 12 & under\*\* (can also ride in: 20,26,34 & 40)
17. Open Walk Trot Novice\*\* (No age limit. Can also ride in: 20,26,34 & 40)
18. Pony Pleasure
19. Pony Equitation
- **15 MINUTE BREAK** -
20. Open Walk Trot English Pleasure (no age limit) ☺
21. OPEN ENGLISH PLEASURE PAYBACK CLASS\*\*\*
22. English Pleasure, 40 & over
23. English Pleasure, 19-39
24. English Pleasure, 14-18
25. English Pleasure, 13 and under
26. Beginner English Equitation Clinic Class \*\*\*\*
27. English Equitation, 40 & over
28. English Equitation, 19-39
29. English Equitation, 14-18
30. English Equitation, 13 & under
31. Open Junior Horse Pleasure (Horse 5 years or under)
32. Open Senior Horse Pleasure (Horse 6 years or over)
33. Open Color Breed Pleasure (Observable color/pedigree on request)
- **15 MINUTE BREAK** -
34. Open Walk Trot Western Pleasure (no age limit) ☺
35. OPEN WESTERN PLEASURE PAYBACK CLASS\*\*\*
36. Western Pleasure, 40 & over
37. Western Pleasure, 19-39
38. Western Pleasure, 14-18
39. Western Pleasure, 13 & under
40. Beginner Western Horsemanship Clinic\*\*\*\*
41. Western Horsemanship, 40 & over
42. Western Horsemanship, 19-39
43. Western Horsemanship, 14-18
44. Western Horsemanship, 13 & under



Driving classes will start at 1 p.m., and run concurrently with the rest of the show, with a separate judge. Classes will be held on the lawn, east of the indoor. In the event of inclement weather, classes will be cancelled. Call the show grounds on the day of the show for a weather update: 847-464-4355.

45. Pony/Mini Pleasure Driving
46. Horse Pleasure Driving
47. Pony/Mini Reinsmanship Driving
48. Horse Reinsmanship Driving
49. Pony/Mini Cones Class (timed, weather permitting)
50. Horse Cones Classes (timed, weather permitting)
51. Pony/Mini Pleasure Driving Cross Country
52. Horse Pleasure Driving Cross Country



**TIME:** 8:30 a.m. (grounds open at 7 a.m.)  
**ENTRY FEE:** \$8 per class; \$12 Jackpot classes  
**AWARDS:** Ribbons to six places

**Stalls on grounds:** \$25 per stall, first come, first served  
**FVSA reserves the right to require stalls in the event of inclement weather.**

Food Stand - Rain/Shine - Indoor/Outdoor Arenas

**Contact:** Judy 847-683-2372

**Day of Show Phone:** 847-464-4355

**LOCATION:** 1 mile west of Rt. 47 on Rohrsen Rd. (44W300 Rohrsen Rd.) Location is north of Rt. 64, south of Rt. 20

**\*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.\*

### HIGH POINT AWARD DIVISIONS

To be eligible for any high point\* you must enter in class 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6. Points earned in classes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 will not count toward high point. Ties broken by judges discretion.

### AGE DIVISION HIGH POINTS by HORSE/RIDER COMBINATION

13 & under:	.....13, 25, 30, 39, 44
14-18:	.....12, 24, 29, 38, 43
19-39:	.....11, 23, 28, 37, 42
40 & over:	.....10, 22, 27, 36, 41

- ◆ **Daily High Point Awards** for each age division at each show.
- ◆ **Year End High Point Awards** for each age division for points accumulated for show series.
- ◆ **Year End Driving High Point Award** for points accumulated in classes 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51 and 52.
- ◆ **Year End Pony/Mini High Point Award** for points accumulated in pony classes for show series (Classes 6, 9, 18, 19, 45, 47, 49, 51)
- ◆ **Year End Walk Trot High Point Awards\***

\*Walk-Trot riders do not have to enter a conformation class

\*\*Entries in classes 14, 15, 16 and 17 CANNOT enter in any other riding classes except 20, 26, 34 and 40.

\*\*\*\$12 Entry Fee. Horse and Rider must enter in at least 2 other non-payback classes to enter a Payback Class.

Payback Pay \$50=1st, \$30=2nd, \$20=3rd

\*\*\*\*Entry \$0, for true beginners only. Based on RIDER level.

☺ Entry fees from these classes will be used to begin a Fox Valley Scholarship Fund.

**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 entry fee for Grand and Reserve halter. No alcoholic beverages on the grounds. All dogs must be on a leash. Children must be under adult supervision. Ages as of Jan. 1 2016. Ponies are 14.2 & under. The show committee reserves the right to combine or cancel any class with less than six entries. AQHA Rules will be followed where applicable. Horse Registration papers may be requested. 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

# CAA DRIVER PROFICIENCY TEST

Driver proficiency is a great opportunity to review all that you know about horse management and care with a focus on safety for you, your horse, and the people around you.

Details of the driver proficiency program are found on the Carriage Association of America (CAA) website. Level 1 test covers harness knowledge, harnessing & putting to, practical driving, horse care & general knowledge. Candidates should obtain and study the Level I syllabus and the reference material which may be purchased from CAA.

**Friday evening (6/3) about 7 pm:** PowerPoint presentation. Refreshments. Everyone is welcome to attend, whether or not you take the test.

**Saturday (6/4):** evaluations will be conducted

**Sunday (6/5):** evaluations will be conducted

Details about Driver proficiency can be obtained from the CAA website.

You will need a horse, harness, carriage 2 or 4 wheel, and an assistant who is not scheduled to take the exam. Camping space and horse boarding are available with advance reservation.

People waiting for their turn for the exam are welcome to drive trails at the farm and a practice a cones driving course.

We hope to also have optional individual lessons.

Exam times scheduled in advance, the process takes about 1 1/2 hour.

Driving practice cones and trail driving will be open at no charge for all.

Persons taking the exam deserve the privacy of not having observers during the exam, so no observers will be allowed.

**DATES:** June 3-5, 2016

**LOCATION:** Panache Acres, 2821 N Polzin Rd, Janesville, WI 53548 [608-754-2065](tel:608-754-2065) c [608-931-6087](tel:608-931-6087)

**COSTS:** Power Point on Friday **Free.**

**Level 1 test + road test:** \$105 for CAA members, \$115 for nonmembers + \$20 facility use fee.

**Level 2 test + road test:** \$20 facility use fee + test cost should be discussed individually with Jerry. There are several elements and he may be unable to do them all.

Make check for the Level I test & road test to Carriage Association of America.

Make the facility use check to Panache Acres.

Mail both checks to: Panache Acres, 2821 Polzin Road, Janesville WI 53548

There are 3 tie stalls + 2 box stalls + a round pen available on a first come basis.

You can also tie to your trailer. There is an ample trailer/camping area.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email or phone \_\_\_\_\_

I will attend: \_\_\_\_ PowerPoint presentation

\_\_Level I test \_\_Sat am \_\_ Sat pm \_\_ Sun am \_\_ Sun pm

\_\_Level 2 test \_\_Sat am \_\_ Sat pm \_\_ Sun am \_\_ Sun pm

*Dan & Sue Peterson*

# Spring Training

COACHMAN'S DELIGHT · FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2016

I've had quite a few people asking me about getting horses going again after their long winter off. Understandably, people are concerned with getting their horses back into shape without causing stress, trauma or damage to the horse. Of course, people are also trying to find a way to put their horses back together in a way that fits their demanding schedule as well.

Here are some thoughts and tips that will get you and your horse ready for the season. As you read through these exercises, remember the rule "less is more." Gradual improvements over many sessions will create lasting results. If you try to forge ahead too quickly, you may suffer setbacks because of issues related to either temperament or physical strain.

The timelines suggested in these exercises assume that you have the opportunity to work with your horse 3-4 days per week. If you are only able to work with your horse 1 or 2 days a week, you'll have to extend the time it takes accordingly. Work with these exercises in every type of training you do with your horse. They work as well for riding as they do for [long lining](#) and driving. In fact, carrying these exercises between each modality of training will likely net you even greater results.

## ***Walk work.***

The best place to start is with lots of walking. Walking is great, low impact exercise for the horse physically and mentally. Bear in mind, if your horse has had the better part of the winter off, he's not going to be very fit, and it's going to take a little time for his body to catch up physically. Even if the horse is willing, or wanting to do lots of trotting right out of the gate, you'll be best served starting at the start. The walk is one of the most useful and important gaits for training a horse.

When I was starting out as a horse trainer, I was lucky enough to work around some trainers that impressed the importance of a good walk upon me. One old timer told me, "Andy, just remember, any fool can make a horse trot." Another trainer I was taking dressage lessons from told me that if a horse can achieve a skill at the walk, it is a world easier to perfect similar skills in every gait. These truths have served me well. The walk is the fundamental gait that is so often overlooked as a building block.

Give your horse a solid two weeks of walking. It may sound like walking for two weeks will bore your socks off, but there is a whole lot more to do at the walk than you think. Before you think that I'm being extreme, with purist ideals, read below and learn just how much you really can accomplish "just walking."

For the first couple of days, just walk without expectations. Take the walk the horse wants to walk, as long it's not rushed or jiggy. Every time the horse asks, "Trot now?", say "walk" and settle back to a regular walk. When you have a few drives or rides under your belt you can start playing with the walk.

## ***Manipulating the Walk***

Really listen to your horse's footfalls in the walk. Try to change the rhythm. Start by trying to make the walk really arrhythmic. Use irregular half-halts to interfere with your horse's walk to the point that the strides are so out of sync with one another that the horse looks off. Then, experiment to see what it takes to bring the walk back into an even, regular rhythm. (Hint: put the reins together in your left hand, and use your right hand on both reins to give steady half halts in the rhythm you are looking for. If you are riding, touch your thumbs together while relaxing your hips to just follow the horse.)

When you begin to understand how to manipulate your horse's rhythm, you can start working on the tempo. You can go as far with this as your horse's temperament allows. Use [half-halts](#) to slow the walk to the absolutely craziest, slowest possible walk without having the horse fall right over. Then try to maintain that pokey tempo. Don't increase contact to slow your horse's walk as if you are holding onto a hand break. Instead, give little light half halts that interfere with his forward motion, but release just before the horse halts.



Next, gradually start pushing the horse on into a fast walk. How close can you get the horse to breaking, without breaking into a jog or a trot? Don't throw away the contact while you are doing this! That will just lead to your horse falling on his forehead, tipping all of his weight onto his front feet. In fact, it's not unusual for a horse to require more contact to maintain a fast paced walk. Again, use your half-halts to keep him from breaking to a trot, but immediately urge him on to the stronger walk after each half-halt.

## ***Length of Frame***

Once you've had a few workouts where you can consistently manipulate your horse's walk, you can start playing with his length of frame in the walk. To shorten his frame, use half-halts, followed by a very slight draw on the reins, bringing the reins closer to your body with every other half-halt. If you're riding, begin to mildly resist your horse's motion by limiting the swing of your hips. Ask for the change in frame gradually, over a period of one or two minutes, if not more.

Don't shorten your grip on the reins in your hand. Simply draw your hands closer to you as you drive this exercise. You may end up with your hands quite close to your body. That's okay! You can lean back a little if you need more range to continue drawing the reins. The range of movement that your hands have to make toward your body clearly illustrates how much your horse is shortening his frame.

Unlike the previous exercise, ask your horse to continue to walk at a consistent pace. Continue shortening his frame until you feel your horse has compressed his frame as much as he can, without giving up the quality of the walk. If your horse begins to get upset or anxious, pause the exercise at a place where he's comfortable.



Maintain the walk, in the shortened frame for a minute or so, then very carefully and slowly begin to allow your hands and the reins forward. You can even add a verbal aid such as "stretch." Do this over the period of a dozen strides or more. If your horse starts to trip, or break to a trot, give a half-halt or two to help him balance, and slow the rate at which you are giving the reins forward.

As with the shortening exercise, you'll want to maintain your grip on the reins in the same position. Allow your arms to follow the horse forward into the longer way of going. Once again, you'll get a very clear illustration of how much change there is in your horse's frame by the distance your hands travel.

You are trying to lure the horse out and down, to a longer, lower way of going. Go as far as your horse will follow the bit. When you lose contact with the bit, stop moving your hands forward. Repeat this exercise, from shortening to lengthening 6 or 8 times, looking for slightly more compression and stretching with each cycle. You'll be surprised at how much more change your horse will be capable of by the end of the exercise.

## ***Transitions***

Perhaps one of the greatest ways to build fitness and suspension in a horse is through transitions. As you



know, horse's and ponies have quite a bit of mass. It takes more energy to get that mass moving than it does to sustain the mass in motion. It also takes a fair amount of energy to slow the mass. A dozen walk → trot transitions take a great deal more energy than trotting or cantering for 30 minutes.

[Transitions](#) also are like horsey sit-ups and cross-training all rolled into one. In upward and downward transitions, the horse has to engage his abdominals to allow the hind legs to swing forward under his body. As he is doing that, he will flex his quadriceps (stifles) to raise the hind leg, allowing the hoof to land flat for more traction. In an upward transition he'll have to flex his glutes (butt), to push his body forward. In a downward transition, he'll have to use his quads to arrest the forward motion. All of this equals better engagement, which will later be used to develop balance and suspension.

As you become competent at the walk exercises I've already given you above, you can begin to ask for the changes more rapidly. In time these changes in tempo develop into transitions within the walk. This will not only build fitness, but will more clearly define the different stages and types of walking you are getting from your horse. Next, start doing walk to halt transitions at regular intervals in sets of 5 transitions, followed by a relaxed walk for a break. For each transition, give your horse a light, but clear, half halt followed by a clear release, then a request to halt (don't just pull your horse to a halt). If your horse begins to anticipate the halt when you start your half halt, you are on the right track. Reward your horse!

## ***Equipment Check***

This is also a great opportunity to test the adjustment of your breeching and traces. If you have a bunch of movement in the carriage after your horse has halted, you have too much play in your breeching. This makes it difficult for you to be articulate with your rein aides, and punishes your horse for halting with a big shove from the carriage after he's done what you've asked.

There shouldn't be more than 4-8 inches of play between the horse being in the traces, or on the breeching. When the horse stands, the breeching and traces should both appear moderately snug, but not taught. Push the carriage back, as if the horse is in draft, and the breeching should slacken slightly, but not fall away from the hind quarters. Push the carriage forward, and the breeching should be tight, but the traces should slacken slightly. Make sure your shaft tugs are not being pushed way ahead of the saddle as you halt, or are being dragged way behind the saddle as you walk off. If they are, you need to snug things up!

## ***Trot Transitions***

When your walk-halt-walk transitions have become smooth and predictable, move on to walk-trot-walk transitions. Do four or five transitions in row, sustaining neither a walk or trot for more time than it takes to establish a good rhythm in either gait. 20 or 30 seconds should be long enough at each gait. Let the horse walk for a minute, then do one or two walk-halt transitions. Provided things are going smoothly, you can begin to string the transitions together. Trot-walk-halt-walk-trot. As your horse's fitness improves he may become strong and balanced enough to do trot to halt transitions, with only two or three stride of walk in between.

## ***Putting in the time***

In the beginning days and weeks of these exercises you'll see that this is a lot of work for your horse. Progress through at a rate that is appropriate for your horse. You are looking for quiet, smooth transitions at each level, before progressing to the next. As your horse develops the physical and mental stamina to perform each type of transition they will become easier and more balanced. But be patient. I've had horses that take months to progress through the more demanding transitions.

If you do these correctly, and you are careful with your half halts, you'll develop a horse that is fit and supple. Continue these exercises throughout the year, using them as warm up for other activities. Remember to spend the last 20% of your working time walking your horse. The more days you get home with a cooled out horse, the better you are doing getting him fit.





# 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.



**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.

Breastcollar. 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





## 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](mailto:sannowicki@aol.com)

## *The following miniature horses are for sale at Double L Equestrian:*

**Chili Bean**, bay pinto gelding, 21 years old, 37.5" tall. Drives in shows, on trail and with drill team. Good for intermediate or advanced beginner driver. Was abused before we got him, so needs a knowledgeable handler, but he is really sweet. Trailers, leads, ties, clips, bathes. Goes over obstacles in hand or driving. Up to date on everything and microchipped. Needs a good forever home. \$600 Pkg deal possible with metal or wood cart and harness.



**Twylite**, black mare, 9 years old, 38.5" tall. Drives in shows, on trail and with drill team. Good for beginner driver with supervision. Has been ridden leadline walk and trot. Has been driven and led in parades. Trailers, leads, ties, clips, bathes. Goes over obstacles in hand. Can be mischievous, but loves attention and is easy to work with. Up to date on everything. Good home a must! Microchipped! \$950 Pkg deal possible with cart and harness.





**Romeo**, grey and white pinto gelding, 13 years old, 36.5" tall. Drives in shows, on trail and with drill team. Good for intermediate or advanced beginner driver. Pulls strong. Took overall driving high point at Fox Valley in 2015. Can be ridden by experienced child up to 60# or leadline little ones. Trailers, leads, ties, clips, bathes. Goes over obstacles in hand or driving. Up to date on everything and microchipped. Needs a forever home. \$925 Pkg deal possible with metal or wood cart and harness.



**Fin MacCool**, cream with dark points, gelding, 18 years old, 32". AMHR and AMHA registration current. Drives in shows, trail and with drill team, though has trouble keeping up. Good for beginner driver, used in lessons. Has been in many parades. Also drives as a pair with Tinkebell (below). Trailers, leads, ties, clips, bathes. Goes over obstacles in hand. Microchipped! Up to date on everything. Good home a must. \$650 Pkg possible with cart and harness. Wagon and team harness also for sale.



**Tinkerbelle**, red roan mare, 19 years old, 30" tall. AMHR registered. Drives inside or outside and with drill team. Good for beginner driver, used in lessons. Has been in many parades. Also drives as a pair with Finn MacCool. Trailers, leads, ties, clips, bathes. Goes over obstacles in hand. Up to date on everything. Good home a must! Microchipped! \$650 Pkg deal possible with cart and harness. Wagon and team harness 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)



Contact Linda for any of the above horses at  
[dbllequest@gmail.com](mailto:dbllequest@gmail.com) or 815-546-7995

## PRAIRIE STATE CLASSIC HORSE SHOW

**PSC** is featuring three Open to All Breeds Carriage Classes all on Friday, June 3rd, 2016 at their annual show at Ledges Sporting Horse Center in Roscoe, IL. They will be Turnout, Working and Reinsmanship with a High Point Award.

Their enticement to attend is that they will only charge \$55 for a one day stall (it's what they pay the Ledges and isn't open to any other exhibitors other than carriage). This is a USEF rated show.

For a prize to be mailed to you, contact Gail Kelce at; [gkelce@earthlink.net](mailto:gkelce@earthlink.net)

**PLEASE** consider this USEF show....we need to show our carriage horses to the outside world....MANY breeds can and should be able to compete in these classes.





## ASK WHINNY

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!

### **From the April issue: What is the difference between an HDT, a CDE, and a marathon?**

I love alphabet soup so I'll take a pass at this! "Combined driving" is one of three disciplines recognized by the American Driving Society: 1) combined driving, 2) pleasure driving, and 3) recreational driving. Within the sport of combined driving, there are still several options.

The first is a CT or combined test. What's "combined" is usually a dressage test with a cones course. Next is an ADT or Arena Driving Trial which has three components: dressage in an arena, cones in an arena, and marathon-type obstacles in an arena. They're a great way to introduce a horse and/or driver to combined driving in a safe, enclosed environment without requiring extensive conditioning. One step above this is the HDT or Horse Driving Trial which includes dressage, cones, and an abbreviated marathon course (Section B only). The marathon of an HDT can be up to 10km long and the number of obstacles may not exceed the number of kilometers.

Finally, there is a full Combined Driving Event or CDE. Held over one, two, or three days, it consists of dressage, cones, and a full marathon. A "full" marathon includes Section A, walk, and Section B, with increased difficulty and length as horses and drivers move through Training Level, Preliminary Level, Intermediate Level, Intermediate—II, USEF Advanced, and international levels (FEI). For example, at Training Level, the total marathon distance can be no more than 12km, with up to 5 obstacles and no more than 3 gates each. Training Level competitors may only walk and trot. But at Prelim, the marathon can be up to 14km long, have 6 obstacles, each with 4 gates, and cantering is allowing.

There are also Combined a-la-carte (CAC) events--where competitors' have the option of selecting one class for each of the three competitions dressage, cones, and marathon—and Driving Derbies, which consist of two runs over a combined cones and marathon-type obstacles course.

I hope this description makes sense to you; sometimes you just have to sit down with the ADS rule book and keep going over it until it sinks in – **Lydia**

### **FOR JUNE: What is the best way to practice for a cones course? Are there set patterns that come up again and again?**

Please submit questions you want feedback on and share your experiences by emailing them to me at [nancykbaker@yahoo.com](mailto:nancykbaker@yahoo.com) Thanks for your input!

### *Ask Whinny Comments from a member:*

I know you said at the last meeting that if there wasn't any response to the questions you were going to discontinue the article. But I have to say you have asked questions I haven't thought about. Like the difference about the type of harness (leather, nylon or biothane) I also was looking forward to the answer to the last posed question of the difference between an HDT and CDE. I have been driving for a long time and my harness is put together from old pieces of different sized harness, so I am looking forward to the answers. Since I have joined HUB club I have learned quite a bit and have tried to use this in my driving.

My question would be do you have show harness and everyday harness? Or do you use one harness for both.  
Thanks for the time. *Beverly Horsley*

## EDITOR'S Answer:

**Beverly,**

I am so glad that the newsletter is of value to you. Lydia Gray has written an answer for the next "Ask Whinny". We would love to have everyday input from our members on these subjects!!! Just our own experiences.

### To answer your question:

We started out in 1978 with a harness built by an Amish harness maker in Arthur, IL. Inexpensive, but well done and modified. Black leather, as nylon did not last and biothane was not available as yet.

Nylon does not fit well and many varieties can be abrasive. The Standardbred trainers that used the early nylon harnesses threw them away at the end of the season and bought new ones. The nylon stretches and the holes wear.

The bio type harnesses can be VERY stiff in the winter and seldom shape to the horse. The expensive leather/ bio/ nylon combination harnesses are good, but quite expensive.

Hence, we had ONE harness for show and every day. That harness was stolen (along with our truck) on New Year's Eve 1980, so a replacement was made. As we could afford another, we had the same harness maker do a nicer leather one with more patent leather, rolled parts and better quality leather.

Then we got into driving pairs.....bought a used collared harness at a farm sale for everyday and had a leather breast collared harness built for good wear...again by our Amish friend, Harley Stutzman (who has built many harnesses for our friends and club members over the years). Then several years later, had a second good pair harness made (it is now around 1998).

### FAST FORWARD.....

We were driving pairs and singles at the same shows.....then we were driving several singles at the same time. We bought a used Smuckers Supreme K-collared leather harness to go with our growing carriage collection.

We now have two single show harnesses, one for everyday and small shows, a training single harness, two pair show harnesses, one work pair harness, a reproduction Run-about harness....and a show ring fine harness for breed shows. Our oldest harness (still in good shape due to good leather and workmanship) just went to a Special needs driving program ( It was around 36 years old).

We do not care for nylon or bio harness...we use brass hardware and polish it.... We too have mixed parts to fit different sized horses (from 14.1h to 16h), but they all were built by Harley .....*Kris Breyer*



**Older breastcollar harness**

**Updated with a K-collar and short tugs**

**This changes the whole look without having two expensive harnesses.**



# Wheel to Wheel

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

26715 N. Schwerman Road

Wauconda, IL 60084-2703



HORSE



## 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