



The Scoop

May 2015 | Volume 28 Issue 75

Maybe you have all climbed out of the mud onto solid ground by now. The drive at Pocahontas Park was held on a beautiful sunny day. There were 4 turnouts including Karol Fair, Lisa Beckwith, Susan Hairfield, and myself and family. Susan and I drove on one trail and returned to the parking lot with our horses. We waited for Karol and Lisa to return with their minis. We were sure they would be back soon (how far could they go with minis)? After a while we decided to have lunch and set up to eat. Halfway through lunch the minis appeared. They had gone 9.7 miles around the whole loop and extra trails. Now I know how tough those little guys are! We all finished up with lunch and were too full to drive again. What a nice day.

The **Funday on May 16th** is the next event on our calendar. It will start at 10:00 and have fun games and cones, poker rally and a tailgate picnic competition. There will be a brief meeting at lunch. The location is the Ruqus farm, 2545 Dogtown Road, Goochland, VA 23063. Phone 804-556-4486. **Please sign up so we have a count for food.**

The Tailgate picnic will be judged by the people on site after the driving games. Horses will **not** be attached to the carriages for this display. You may just use a table or blanket or the back of your carriage. You may have a theme that is fun or elegant.

This is a suitable day for all types of horses, minis drafts, and donkeys. If your horse is inexperienced you may bring it out and ground drive or ride for the games or just hang around. There is no fee for this event.

Burgers and hotdogs are provided by the Ruqus' so please bring a side dish or dessert.

Please consider volunteering for us as a timer or cones setter, etc. Call me for more information.

See you soon,

Dot

James River Driving Association
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www.jamesriverdrivingassociation.com

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The Scoop is a monthly publication of the James River Driving Association. Please submit items of interest to the editor by the 17th of each month for publication in the following issue. All ads will be posted to the newsletter for three months and then removed. Ads are free for members and \$5 for nonmembers. If you would like for your ad to remain in the newsletter longer, please contact the newsletter editor, Cristi Anderson by phone at 804-386-9328 or by e-mail at: newslettereditor@jamesriverdrivingassociation.com

Minutes from JRDA club meeting April 17th @ Sally Sutherlands

Meeting was called to order by President Dot Ruqus.

Treasurer's Report was read by Treasurer Candy Thomas

Activity since January reflected \$205 in membership income and \$204 in expenses for an ending balance of \$5,184.12.

VP-Daphne Wood-Lasser reported on the ADT Planning Committee activities that the venue and judge has been secured - Meadow Event Park and Shelly Temple respectively. There will also be a clinic with Shelly the day after the event. The next committee meeting to be held June 23 at Daphne's home at 7 pm. All club members interested are invited. It was mentioned that the Planning committee was looking for someone to take a lead on awards for the ADT. Several members in attendance shared awards that they had received that they have liked or particularly enjoyed.

Some mentioned were: Etched glass items, Golf style towels, Mugs, Crystal, wheel choks... to name a few.

Volunteer recruiting and appreciation was discussed and the club passed a motion to invite any and all former and future volunteers to the Annual Club Picnic/Auction in July. Notice to be sent to club members to provide anyone's name and contact information to Sayre Graves so that she can contact them and make sure they are invited. All that is needed is for them to RSVP.

The club stationary was again discussed and Daphne agreed to take ownership of getting the cost for printing of cards with the JRDA logo and envelopes so that officers and coordinators can communicate thank-you, condolences, etc... to members and volunteers.

Cones Rally was discussed - to be held in October at Dot and Lou's Carriage Grove Farm. Dot is hoping that Tim Wright can judge the event.

Paula Hennessey had asked whether the club was going to want to put on a winter seminar in the early months of 2016. A motion was made and passed that the Winter Seminar would go on - hopefully as an even year event for JRDA.. Sally Sutherland volunteered to assist Paula with topics for the seminar.

Dot mentioned that she had a request from a Karon Parham that was hoping someone might have a horse sized harness to donate to the handicap driving program that she runs. They have the horse and the vehicle just need a harness. If you would like to assist contact KaronParham@gmail.com .

Dot announced a club party to be held at Deb Downs farm in New Kent - that we will not want to miss the barn tour! No other details were provided except that that would be our August meeting.

The program for the meeting included samples of picnic baskets used for carriage tailgate dining. Dot shared with us the finer points of putting together your tailgate display and said that after the May Fun Day and lunch, there will be official judging to determine the 'People's Choice' favorite tailgate display. Members, with or without vehicles were urged to come and set up their 'tailgate' party display...

The meeting was adjourned and members enjoyed delicious potluck. Thanks to Sally and Jackie for hosting the meeting. It was also good to see longtime former member Fayette Witherell who was visiting Virginia.

2015 JRDA Budget			
Income			
2015 membership			1,260.00
Auction			350.00
Club store			200.00
Clinics/Education			300.00
Event - Cones Rally (entries 24@30)			720.00
Total Income			\$ 2,830.00
Expense			
Fixed expenses:			
Insurance			(1,000.00)
Website			(150.00)
ADS membership			(60.00)
Other Expenses:			
Donations			-
Misc gifts			(100.00)
Supplies			(50.00)
Food/utensils			(100.00)
Club Store			-
Clinics/Education			(600.00)
Event - ADT 2016 **			(1,500.00)
Event - Cones Rally			(500.00)
Newsletter			(10.00)
Fun days/pleasure drives			(200.00)
Total Expenses			\$ (4,270.00)
Gain/Loss			\$ (1,440.00)
Membership collected # members			
2013	\$	1,895.00	126
2014	\$	1,020.00	68
2015	\$	1,425.00	95 estimated
Club Store			
Purchased a lot of inventory in 2013			
Only purchase inventory based on orders.			
**ADT 2016 remaining income and expense will be recorded in 2016 budget.			

Pictures from Southern Pines CDE

Josh Rector's team (grooms Jeff Legg and Tori Ashly) and Josh's student Ann Sutherland (a club member) who is driving Pit57. Josh won his division (Intermediate II Horse Teams) and Ann was sixth in hers Preliminary Single Pony.



National Drive and The Spring Fling want to welcome the recreational driver and rider back to the Kentucky Horse Park

The absolute best thing about both events is the people who attend. Drivers and riders of all skill levels. The common factor is their great attitude about lending a helping hand when needed. From our clinicians, to our staff and including our drivers and riders in attendance - we are a very laid back group of people. You can drive and ride thru the Kentucky Horse Park and mix with awesome people who will make you feel like you have been at a family reunion.



The Spring Fling Dates are set for May 28th thru May 31st

You may notice we have added one extra day to the Spring Fling so that you can come and drive and ride for four days. This gives those who are driving from afar an extra day to play with the human and equine friends.

The National Drive will take place October 6th thru October 11th.

For more information go to: <http://www.nationaldrive.net/>



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Glen Willow Summer Clinic July 24-26

Janelle Marshall will be at Glen Willow July 24-26 for a weekend of learning fun. The clinic will offer participants the option to school the hazards under Janelle's educated eye. There will also be cones and dressage clinic options if there is enough interest. Similar to last years very successful clinic, participants will be paired with other drivers and equines of similar skill level.

Clinician: Janelle Marshall

Janelle Marshall is originally from Southern Australia and came to the United States in 2003, where she now resides in Aiken South Carolina. She started competing in driving at age 12 and has several Australian championship titles. She has represented Australia in two Pony World Championships, most recently in 2013 and in 2014 she was a member of the Australian World Singles Horse Championship Team.

Janelle has experience with a variety of horse and pony breeds and combinations, including singles, pairs and tandems. In the past she has most notably been seen with her Connemara Pony 'Johnny' competing at shows along the east coast, and was the 2010 USEF Reserve National Single Pony Champion with him.

Janelle is an enthusiastic and friendly teacher who enjoys sharing her knowledge with her students. She understands the importance of furthering ones education and trains with other top drivers, like Koos de Ronde and Thorsten Zarembowicz.



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Belle Grey Farm Presents:

Virginia Driving Derby Series

2015 Spring Derby Series

Belle Grey Farm is pleased to host the 2015 Spring Derby Series. The Derby Series offers the opportunity, under informal conditions, to drive obstacles in the style of driving competitions or scurries. Format will be similar to the Fall series but we will move it to the grass as preparation for the upcoming season. Same low key event format. Come have fun, try some things out, maybe break in the new marathon carriage Santa left under the tree!

Entries are open any time and will close the day before each event (the total number of entries may be limited).

Dates for the Driving series:

April 11, 2015 April 25, 2015 May 9, 2015

Prize list & entry form:

<http://www.drivingnews.us/results/results2015/BelleGreySpring/BG15-Entry.pdf>

To learn more please email Belle Grey Farm at: admin@bellegreyfarm.com or (703) 774-4688

The ADT Planning Committee met at Tom and Daphne's- Spring Hill House on March 17th at 7 pm

Members in attendance included:

Candy Thomas, Lisa Marie Beckwith, Dot Ruqus, Sayre Graves, Jeff Legg, Lynn Legg, Amy Jacobson and Daphne Lasser

The minutes are included here:

Committee accepted Shelly Temple as judge for the ADT and her cost for both the ADT and Clinic + travel expenses.

Group informed that the Meadow Event Park has been contracted for the event.

Suggestions were discussed about incorporating into our ADT

- A Challenge Series with Morven Park and possibly another ADT show.
- Creating a category for a Virtual Team Challenge for whips to form their own teams to compete for best overall score for a team – (Like Captain's Choice in golf maybe?)

Vendors during the ADT were discussed - no decisions made \$25 fee to MEP for Vendors – we could actually charge more if we wanted. Vendors required to have Caroline County permit.

Sponsorship for Events-

Jeff shared the importance and need for Sponsorships. He shared with the group the Glen Willow sponsor letter and sponsorship guide. Candy to work with Jeff to develop a sponsorship guide with levels of sponsorship and perks associated with each at both or either a business or individual type. Since Mary did such a nice job with sponsors for the Pleasure show and has offered to handle awards for the ADT – Daphne agreed to contact Mary and ask her if she would participate in the sponsorship process – perhaps more towards late fall/end of year. Jeff and Candy to communicate via email in the meantime and meet perhaps with Mary later to share the sponsor solicitation letter. Noted also was that sponsors can be individual participants as well.

Social Media for Marketing ADT events

There is a compelling story for relying on social media to communications rather than paying for ad space. Our ADT will appear in the Omnibus for next year and should persist as we develop the event.

Lisa Marie-Beckwith volunteered to handle Facebook posting for JRDA events and boosting of posts. Lisa also volunteered to work with Paula Hennessey with the club's website to see what might be need to be updated or remodeled. Daphne to make the introduction via email between Paula/Mary. Sending notifications to magazines for free announcement was discussed. Candy has a list of publications.

Volunteer Coordination

Discussion of having Volunteer Appreciation Day for JRDA – perhaps at the Annual Club Auction Picnic.

Decided that we needed a complete list of volunteers to invite to this July's Auction – hopefully with physical addresses in addition to email. Sayre to work on pulling this list together so that we can send out invitations to those who have in the past volunteered for JRDA and those who are interested in volunteering.

Wanted also to take opportunity to recognize some unsung volunteers in the club today (Cristi/Paula in particular)

Nomination made to order 500 blank inside notecards with the club logo on the front with envelopes to be used for formal Thank-yous, notices, etc.... Sayre agreed to use them for communicating with volunteers as needed and others to send club communications (condolences, appreciation, get well).

Event Budget

Draft budget not available for the meeting but will be sent to committee members for their review and input.

Discussed the clinic fee that would be charged – ranged from \$75 - \$80 – No decision made.

Cones Rally Discussion

Jeff shared a draft document with registration form and list of officials/volunteers needed. Consider asking Tim Wright to judge, Tom and Lou to cook. Another meeting to be scheduled to finalize details for the event closer to the date. Hopefully volunteers can be elicited from our Volunteer appreciation Picnic/Auction.

No future date to meet was discussed at this point.

Spring Into The Ring Horse Show Series

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Mini A

Mini B

Show Pony

**In Hand is in the arena

****Driving will be on
Grass****

Calling all Volunteers

If you have been so gracious and given of your time to JRDA as a volunteer in the past, we want to extend a special invitation to attend our Annual JRDA Picnic/Auction/Meeting to be held on July 25th to enjoy some live entertainment and reconnect with club members. It will be held at Spring Hill House in Ashland (home of Tom and Daphne Lasser). If you are receiving this newsletter and know of former volunteers, please be sure and let them know that we want to have them there and to rsvp for the event by July 22nd to spring_hill_house@yahoo.com or call 804-798-8787.

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May ADT Planning Committee

Any and all club members are invited to be part of the planning committee and are welcome to attend the committee meetings. Check the calendar for dates and or contact Lynn Legg or Daphne Wood-Lasser if you want more information. Our next committee meeting is scheduled for 7 pm on June 23rd at Daphne and Tom Lasser's home in Ashland.

Budget Worksheet based on 25 entries for show and 8 clinic participants for May 2016 ADT/Clinic				
Projected Income				
Entry Fees	# entries-	25	entry fee\$ - 65	1625
Stall Rental Income	# days-	40	stall fee\$ - 30	1200
Clinic Fees	# spots	8	clinic fee\$ - 80	640
ADS Subsidy ?	pending?			250 Not yet applied for.
Stall Shavings Profit	1\$/bag	50		50
Total Estimated Income				3765
Projected Expenses				
Shelly Temple-Judge				375
Travel (2 x \$50 plus gas/meals)				200
Clinic Fee				600 1175
Announcer Fee				
MEP-Venue 2x\$550				1100
MEP - Stall Rentals	# days-	40	stall fee\$ - 20	800
Hospitality Expenses				
Volunteer Expenses				
Ribbons				3\$ ea 45 135
Printing / Supplies				100
EMS Standby Fee				100
ADS Hold Date Fee				100 Already Paid to ADS.
ADS per horse fee @ \$5				125
Total Estimated Expenses				3635
Total Net Loss/Gain				130
All fees/charges noted are only estimates at this time..				

The Cost of Putting on a Driving Event

Submitted by Lynn Legg

Do you know how much it costs to put on a driving event such as an Arena Driving Trial (ADT), Horse Driving Trial (HDT) or Combined Driving Event (CDE)? Would it surprise you to know that none of these events break even on entry fees and stall fees alone? Let's look at some costs, using our own experience with hosting an arena driving trial as well as some figures from other events our club members are involved in putting on:

JRDA ADT to be held May, 2015:

Venue (Meadow Event Park) \$550 per day; half of which has already been paid to hold our date

ADS fees: \$100 deposit to hold our date, \$5 fee per entry due at the close of the event

Judge: being a one-day event and not being required to have an international judge as the bigger CDEs are, we are putting out a measly \$375 for a judge (that does not include travel, lodging and meals which will add at least another \$100 for travel alone). Since our judge is "R" rated we are not required to have technical delegate on the grounds along with the judge. Had we chosen a judge with a lower ADS judges rating, we would have been required to hire a TD as well at a cost similar to a judge.

So we are already over \$1,000 in expenses before we even advertise the event.

An average entry fee for an ADT is \$60. Our ADT drew about 24 entries, for a total entry income of \$1440. Sounds like we did well, right? Not when you consider the rest of the costs of putting on the event:

-ribbons and prizes (varies, typically several hundred dollars)

-hospitality for volunteers (including "goody bags" as a thanks for their time and meals) one of the best deals events get as far as value for the money. No event could run without many volunteers. The Katydid CDE estimates its cost per volunteer at \$25 per volunteer per day. Katydid is a 4-day event with about 100 volunteers. Do the math.

-porta potties (if needed) at about \$150 per pot

-secretarial costs-this includes printing of schedules, orders of go, competitors packets (which includes safety checklists, bio sheet for the announcer, event evaluation, event schedule, a welcome letter, schematic of the cones course, schematic of the hazards, and a list of housekeeping items), score sheets for dressage, cones and hazards (about 3-5 sheets per entry), and results to be submitted to the ADS. Fortunately this is a volunteer job for JRDA

events so we do not incur a cost for the many, many hours the person in this position puts in prior to the event as well as the day of the event.

Even for an event as small as the JRDA's ADT, just putting on a bare bones basic event requires a budget of close to \$3,000. Now the entry fees and stall fees don't look so great, do they? Just be glad we are not a large multi-day event such as a CDE which typically have budgets of \$100,000 or more.

So how do shows manage to cover their costs? Two words: sponsors and donations. Live Oak International CAI (a CDE) has had supporters such as Budweiser that donate thousands of dollars towards the expense of putting on the event. Smaller events typically solicit the support of local companies. All rely on the generosity of individuals who want to see the sport continue. The smallest of events, such as ours, rely solely on the sponsorship of individuals. Driving is fortunate to have the support of many individuals from the very wealthy to the not so wealthy who donate regularly and generously to events to make up the deficit between income and expense. Look through the program for an event and you typically will see a list of sponsors; this mention is often all the thanks they receive yet without them driving events would not survive.

Large events have committees that work year round to secure sponsorships and donations through many avenues. Those that are successful have their show once a year and those who aren't fade away.

The past few years have been especially tough for our sport, which as we all know is not cheap. Gas prices have kept people closer to home, cost increases of nearly everything have gone up, yet entry fees have remained relatively unchanged as show committees elect to try to keep participation affordable.

Shows have tried to stay solvent by working hard to secure sponsorships and donations as well as come up with creative ways to attract interest to their cause. Often there is a gift tied to a donation-the larger the donation, the "better" the gift. For corporations there is the promise of advertising. For individuals there may be the benefit of their donation being tax deductible. There are opportunities to "sponsor a volunteer", or have our name displayed somewhere on a hazard.

The next time you receive a request for a donation from a show, whether you plan to attend or not, or even if you don't show, consider making a donation if you can. Don't think the amount may be too small to matter-every dollar makes a difference.

Calendar of Events

16 May	JRDA Fun Day at Lou and Dot Ruqus Farm and JRDA Club Meeting. 10 AM. Games and trails, perfect for horses and minis. Contest for best picnic turnout, without the horse. Potluck lunch, Lou and Dot to provide hamburgers and hotdogs. RSVP 804-556-4486. 2545 Dogtown Rd. Goochland, VA 23063	JRDA Sponsored
13 June	JRDA and Piedmont Driving Club – Drive and Activity at Wayne Humphreys. More information to come!	
20 June	Summer Day in the Park & Pot Luck Social, Spring Valley Park, Winterstown, PA. Members and non-members welcome. \$10/per turnout. 10am-4pm Open Driving in the Park and hazards available for your use. Noon – Pot luck Lunch – everyone is invited to bring their covered dish. RSVP required to Sue Fair, donandsuefair@beavertrapfarm.com , 410-239-7196	
26-28 June	CAA Carriage Festival – Lexington, KY. USEF Carriage Pleasure Competition – held in the air-conditioned Alltech Arena at the Kentucky Horse Park Contact the Carriage Association of America- info@caonline.com or go to www.carriagefestival.com or call 859-231-0971	
11 July	Saturday, 9am-4pm, NEW FORMAT: MLMDC GAMES DAY, Spring Valley Park, Winterstown, PA. This is an open event. Fees and program TBD. Contact Anne Council, acbirchhollow442@gmail.com , 717-993-8956.	
25 July	JRDA Annual Auction and Swim Party – Daphne and Tom Lasser 11 AM.	JRDA Sponsored
29 Aug	Show Committee and JRDA Club Meeting	JRDA Sponsored
11-13 Sept	Villa Louis Carriage Classic – Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, ADS Pleasure Driving Competition- held on the lawn of the Villa Louis Historic Site. Contact Mike Rider – info@carriageclassic.com or go to www.carriageclassic.com or call 608-326-4436	
12 Sept	JRDA Drive at Pocahontas State Park and JRDA Club Meeting. 10 AM	JRDA Sponsored
20 Sept	Sunday, MLMDC PLEASURE DRIVING SHOW, 33rd ANNIVERSARY, Spring Valley Park, Winterstown, PA, Contact organizer Anne Council, acbirchhollow442@gmail.com , 717-993-8956 or secretary Pam Schneider, 717-776-9748.	
10 Oct	JRDA Cones Rally Show – Ruqus Farm 10 AM	JRDA Sponsored

7 Nov	JRDA Officer Elections Meeting	JRDA Sponsored
22 Nov	JRDA Sabine Hall Drive 10 AM	JRDA Sponsored
12 Dec	JRDA Christmas Party – 6 PM	JRDA Sponsored
13 Dec	Church Hill Drive, Chimborazo Park, Richmond, VA 1 PM	JRDA Sponsored
27-31 Jan 2016	2016 CAA/CWF Carriage Symposium- Colonial Williamsburg, VA	
21 May 2016	JRDA ADT	JRDA Sponsored

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CLASSIFIED ADS

All ads will be posted to the newsletter for three months and then removed.

For Sale: Meadowbrook cart, excellent condition, asking \$650.00 obo. It is located in King William County, close to Ashland. Used with my Haflinger. Contact Cristi Anderson at mini.reef@hotmail.com or 804-386-9328 if interested.



For Sale: Two Pairs of Size 3 Cavallo Simple Horse Boots. They are brand new and have never been on a horse's foot. I bought them and waited too long to see if they fit my horses (they didn't), and now I can no longer return them. Simple and fast to put on and remove. Use this horse boot on rough terrain or slippery surfaces. They retail for \$150.00 a pair. Asking \$100 per pair. Or if you buy both sets I will take \$175. Contact Cristi Anderson at mini.reef@hotmail.com or 804-386-9328



For Sale: Pony size WCC training cart, fits 12-14 hand pony. New condition, used twice. Wheels 24", singletree 33". Please email pac2007@hotmail.com for more information, measurements and pictures. Located in Chesapeake, Va. \$1000.00

DRIVING/RIDING TRAINING: Located in Manakin-Sabot, VA Breaking horses to drive and ride with an emphasis on groundwork, dressage, and manners. I also take broke horses in for conditioning, working through problems, or evaluations. Lessons available with my own horses or yours; I have shown successfully through the intermediate level at combined driving events. I have worked with minis to draft horses, and everything in between! I have experience driving single, pair, four, six, and tandem. Please contact Mary Clark Lind at 804.305.2911, or email: lind@vt.edu

WANTED to buy or borrow: Easy Entry cart, cob size (14-15hh). Contact Cheryl Childress 804-784-0001 or cpc1996@gmail.com.

For Sale: Four Glinkowski marathon carriage wheels--60 cm. (pony or cob size) excellent condition. \$150 each (OBO) Call evenings or leave message 540-348-6233. Sharon Mueller

CLASSIFIED ADS CONTINUED

All ads will be posted to the newsletter for three months and then removed.

Antique Back to Back Village Cart & Harness -

Large horse or draft Back to Back Village cart made in New York approximately 75 years ago. We have partially restored it. It is natural wood with black vinyl seats and black paten on the shafts. It has brass appointments. We added large blocks to raise it up for our 17.2 H Percheron, but we have the original blocks that make it appropriate for a large horse. Wheels are sound with no wobble. It is a beautiful cart, just isn't getting used any longer. \$1000

Also I have an Amish made all leather black draft harness. It has 2 breast collars and 2 breeching straps. 1 set is plain with no added padding and the second set has soft leather padding. Buckle in traces with slotted ends. \$650

Will sell together for \$1800.00 OBO, make me an offer, these are just sitting and need a new home. Pictures on request. Contact Karol Fair at karol.fair@wildblue.net. or 540-785-9552



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