



Piedmont Driving Club Newsletter

Dedicated to the sport of carriage driving in Northern Virginia

July 2007



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Advertising, articles, show reports, and information relating to driving and carriages are welcome for inclusion in the newsletter free of charge. Please use e-mail contact above and on the PDC website on the "Newsletter" webpage to send information. Photographs of members are welcome.

Inside this issue:

Committees needed	Pg 2
"Bits and Pieces"	2
More "Bits and Pieces"	3
History of Carriages	4
Member Profile	5

Picnic Drive and Event Schedule ~ 2007

21 July - Llangollen

4:00 PM Drive-off

RSVP to Maryalice at 540-341-4972

Howard County Fair Crossbred/Connemarra/Pony Show
OPEN driving pony classes on Thursday afternoon 8/9/07

Contact person for class list and pre-entries is:

Mrs. Charles A. Maslin

Maslin's Little Acres, #31 Perryman, MD 21130
(410-272-1727)

**Saturday/Sunday, September 22/23 - Piedmont Driving Club
Pleasure Show**

Are you aware of any additional events the club membership would be interested in?

Please let Peggy Pence know: lpence@wildblue.net

Notes:

1. Items in bold are either PDC events or PDC is participating jointly with another organization.
2. Items with a question mark will be firmed up at a later date. Watch the newsletter for further info.
3. Phone numbers for directions to the event will be added to the schedule in the coming months.

Show Committee Needs Your Help!

The show needs help in the following areas *NOW*.

- People to solicit donations from businesses and individuals
- 6 people for break down at 1PM on Sunday 9/23
- Saturday cones starter
- Sunday cones and marathon starter (AM only)
- People to set up on Thursday before the show
- A volunteer to arrange for a tub of ice and bottled water for officials and volunteers.
- Vendors
- Volunteers in general



We need ***everyone who can*** to help with the show .

Please contact Marcia West (the show secretary) at 434-971-8272 .



Bits and Pieces



~ **Smaller barn means no room for this stuff! Call Maryalice @ 540-270-6157.**

1. Single Meadowbrook. Used, 14.2—15.2 h size. \$850.00 Firm.
2. Beautiful, but old with some repairs, quite useable brown single harness. Horse-size, English made, sliding tugs. \$750.00.
3. Single black and chrome warmblood-size harness, Smuckers Deluxe. Used 4 times. Sacrifice at \$1000.00.
4. Single black and brass, warmblood-size harness, Super Deluxe. Used maybe 5 times. Another sacrifice at \$1200.00
5. 5 y.o. green-broke Cleveland Bay X TB mare. 15.2, gorgeous, serviceably sound for trail or breeding. \$4500.00 OBO. Must sell.
6. 9 y.o. Fjord mare. Well broke to ride and drive. Has shown, hunted, and been used for lessons (mounted and driven), papered and worth \$8500.00, but I can't take her with me. \$4500.00 OBO, to good home only.
7. 3 y.o. 3/4 Cleveland Bay / 1/4 TB, 17 h. Very quiet longe lining. Wonderful coach horse or gentleman's field hunter prospect. Must make room, \$12,000.00.
8. Yearling Cleveland X TB filly. Gorgeous! White stripe; huge, kind eye; beautiful mover; gentle temperament. Took 2nd on line @ Upperville in part-bred class. \$8500.00 firm.
9. Three proven TB broodmares in foal to Penrhyn Bayswater (Cleveland Bay). All good movers, 16 hh average, 2 greys & 1 bay. Wholesale @\$2500.00 each! UTD on all health matters. Foals due April / May.



More Bits and Pieces



~ **For sale!** I have a beautiful 17 yr old, 15.3 Quarter horse who is trained to drive. He has not been driven for about 7 years though. I am looking to find him a good home. Please feel free to call. 703-786-4438.

~ **Small, local carriage company looking for drivers** and grooms for occasional carriage events. Knowledge and experience with horses a must. Driving experience is preferred, but not critical — we will train. We always drive a pair of Haflingers. Most events are scheduled for a Saturday or Sunday in the Rte. 66 corridor from Middleburg to Washington, D.C. It's a great way to kick your team driving skills up a notch or learn how to drive in multiple environments. Please contact Art or Linda Winder, (540) 635-7745. Visit us at www.shenandoahcarriage.com .

The Shenandoah Carriage Company, LLC



Have any information / things to sell / suggestions for the newsletter?
Email Peggy at : lpence@wildblue.net



History of carriages

Some horsecarts found in Celtic graves show hints that their platform was suspended in a frame, elastically. The Romans in the first centuries BC used sprung wagons for overland journeys. With the decline of the antique civilizations these techniques almost disappeared.

In the Middle Ages all travelers who were not walking rode, save the elderly and the infirm. A trip in an unsprung cart over unpaved roads was not lightly undertaken. Closed carriages began to be more widely used by the upper classes in the 16th century. In 1601 a short-lived law was passed in England banning the use of carriages by men, it being considered effeminate. Better sprung vehicles were developed in the 17th century. New lighter and more fashionably varied conveyances, with fanciful new names, began to compete with one another from the mid-18th century.

Coachbuilders cooperated with carvers, gilders, painters, lacquerworkers, glazers and upholsterers to produce not just the family's state coach for weddings and funerals but light, smart fast comfortable vehicles for pleasure riding and display.

In British and French coaches, the coachman drove from a raised coachbox at the front. In Spain the driver continued to ride one of the horses, as also in the 1939 state visit procession in Canada .

From the 1860s, few rich Europeans continued to use their posting coaches for long-distance travel: a first-class railway carriage was the faster modern alternative. Then, in the 1890s, just as automobiles came into use, "coaching" became an upper-class sport in Britain and America, where gentlemen would take the reins of the kinds of large vehicles of types generally driven by a professional coachman.

Types of horse-drawn carriages

An almost bewildering variety of horse-drawn carriages existed. Arthur Ingram's *Horse Drawn Vehicles since 1760 in Colour* lists 325 types with a short description of each. By the early 19th century one's choice of carriage was only in part based on practicality and performance; it was also a status statement and subject to changing fashions. The types of carriages included the following:

- Barouche
- Berlin
- Brake
- Britzka
- Brougham
- Buggy
- Cabriolet
- Calash
- Cape cart
- Cariole
- Carryall
- Chaise
- Chariot
- Clarence
- Coach Coupé
- Croydon
- Curricule
- Dogcart
- Dos-à-dos
- Drag (carriage)
- Dray
- Droshky (Drozhki)
- Fiacre
- Fly
- Four-in-hand
- Gharry
- Gig
- Gladstone
- Hackney
- Hansom
- Herdic
- Jaunting car
- Landau
- Limousine
- Mail coach
- One-horse carriage
- Park Drag
- Phaeton
- Post chaise
- Randem
- Ratha
- Road Coach
- Rockaway
- Spider phaeton
- Stagecoach
- Stanhope
- Sulky
- Surrey
- Tarantass (Tarantas)
- Telega
- Tilbury
- Trap
- Victoria
- Village cart
- Vis-à-vis
- Voiturette
- Whim
- Whiskey

Member Profile ~ Frances and Wayne Baker

This month we're going to meet Frances and Wayne Baker! They live in Lewes, Delaware on 18 acres with their six Canadian cross-bred driving horses. They also have an additional 1000-acre working farm, where they drive. To make driving there even more pleasant, they are in the process of building a big barn on that acreage to house their carriages, tractors, and other equipment — plus seven stalls (sounds like another horse might be in their future!)

They've been members of the Piedmont Driving Club for one year, but have been driving for more than 10 years. They are also members of several other driving clubs in the area.

Frances started driving when she acquired a cart and harness and began driving an old horse just for fun. She likes driving because it's fun, and because she can take along her friends and they don't have to know how to ride. Because of this focus, she really enjoys pleasure drives and hopes to do some of the Picnic Drives this summer.

Her horse background includes Pony Club and being a 4-H leader. She's done a little dressage, eventing, and fox hunting. Since she moved up to four-in-hand last summer, she's made driving her primary focus, although she fox-hunted one of her driving horses last winter (the mare did really well, even jumping a little.)

Frances considers herself 'sort of retired', as she's discovered she has more horses than time. That said, she does sell real estate part-time. Wayne is still hard at it in the full-time working world.

As for advice — she says the best she's ever heard came from Bill Long when she was training with him last summer in Southern Pines, NC. His guidance?

~ Never take anything for granted.

~ Get all the advice you can on all aspects of driving (harnessing, putting to a new vehicle, and driving in general).

Frances is looking forward to her association with the Piedmont Driving Club membership and is eager to learn more about four-in-hand driving and turn out. She would love to be able to show at the fall show — so much so that she went back to Canada and bought a young spare horse, who is coming along nicely.