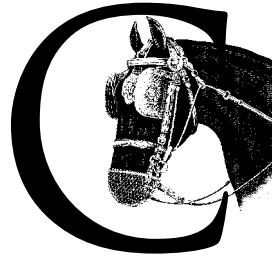


# NCDC



Northern  
California  
Driving  
Club

DECEMBER • 2006

CARRIAGE TRACKS

## Hello NCDC, a letter from your editor, Harriet Merritt

Happy Holidays! As I plan for Christmas and look to the New Year, I always take stock of my many Blessings. I have been blessed with the friendship of a wonderful group of like minded folks that make up our club. I've been blessed with the opportunity to serve these friends by compiling the newsletter and volunteering at events. I've been blessed with the challenge to learn from fantastic teachers, and an opinionated mare. I count these among my greatest blessings and I am thankful for them.

2007 promises to be an exciting year for NCDC! We're taking on more responsibility; presenting clinics, committing to help with major events, as well as maintaining our great Arena Driving Trial, our Sporting Day of Traditional Driving, and our thank you from the generous Grupes, the Play Day at Shady Oaks. The kick off for the year is the Planning Meeting and Potluck Lunch on January 13, at the Shady Oaks Clubhouse in Lodi. This is a fantastic time to come and visit with good friends, meet new faces, and put your "two cents" in about what we'll be doing this year. Be sure to attend, and bring that fruitcake you want to get rid of... (Okay, I was just checking to see if anyone actually reads this!)

Some last minute Holiday gift ideas are included in the for sale section. Remember, a note in a box with the picture of our new pony would always have been the best present for any of us as kids, and we're not far from that now!

There will not be another Newsletter until February, so this one is chock full of stuff! Have a Blessed Holiday season with your families, the two and four legged ones, and I'll see you all in 2007!

## NCDC PLANNING MEETING AND POT LUCK LUNCH

January 13, 2007, Lunch at 11:30, meeting at 1pm

Shady Oaks Clubhouse, Lodi CA  
Directions to Shady Oaks:

I-5 to Lodi, exit Hwy 12 heading east. Turn left (north) on Thornton Rd (first light) go approximately 1/2 mile, turn right at the NCDC banner onto the Shady Oaks ranch. The clubhouse is on the left where the hazards are located. Plenty of parking near the clubhouse.

### Agenda:

- Call to order
- Reading of the Minutes
- Financial Report and Membership Report - Treasurer
- Reports of Committee Chairpersons

- Purchase of CDE in a Box
  - Purchase of trailer for CDE equipment
  - Planning of club sponsored events for this year
  - Donations
  - Open Forum
  - Set next meeting date
  - Adjournment
- Please contact our President Liz Hendrick (Ehultgren@aol.com) 415-898-8404 with additional agenda items for the meeting.

## BEST EVER HIGH TEA!

I can't keep my mouth shut on this one. The Tea was a great success and one of the most pleasant days I have spent in the company of old and new friends. I have never seen so many turnouts assembled at WSS and it was incredible that we all fit into the parking lot; and as far as I know, there were no problems or incidents except maybe a flat tire on one training type vehicle. There were many new driving folks with wonderful driving horses, ponies and minis. They all looked like they were having fun and it was a beautiful sight to look out over the roads, on the greatest property we have to drive on, and see horse and carriage dotted here and there.

Thank you to Shelley Chavoar for making this all happen. Thank you to Ann Taylor for the use of her wonderful facility, for our drive, tea and meeting of NCDC. I mean we took over the whole station yesterday, but it seemed to be orderly and the residents were out enjoying their riding horses along with the drivers. The weather was made to order and the roads were perfection. Many new trails in the cow pasture and grand vistas of the surrounding farm land and distant foothills made it spectacular. The most awesome sight for me was the tens of thousands of birds that moved from between the vineyard to the plowed fields in search of seed. I am not exaggerating when I say the sky became an ocean and the birds were like massive schools of fish in their movement. The sound was awesome and it became dark when they passed overhead. It was beautiful and my pony seemed to say to me: "So what's the big deal, I see this everyday and live amongst these shows of nature?" Well, I could wax on and on about this day so I'll let others share their experience in a great day. I wish it could have lasted forever, but another day I hope.

Merry Christmas to all, Nancy Rojo

I too would like to thank Shelly and Ann and everyone else who helped put on this wonderful event for our enjoyment. This was our first trip out to WSS and I was impressed with the facility, the gently rolling terrain, the perfect driving roads, the pastoral views and all the friendly folks there, in-

cluding the riders. They didn't seem bothered by us all being there at all.

The tables were beautiful! Pretty tablecloths draped both the picnic and serving tables and to my surprise, there were candles on the tables to make the affair more elegant which is a tricky thing to do when you are set up in a barn! <GRIN> I was amazed at how many people came and it was great to see everyone again! The food was absolutely amazing! Such good cooks out there. I wish I could have tasted everything but what I did taste was amazing, especially the salmon tea sandwiches and the real sleeper (yes, many of you passed right over it, but not Lisa, right?) the bread pudding with "Hard Sauce" sitting right next to it! Oh my gosh! You guys need not be afraid of eating something that looks strange as you may have missed one of the best things on the table!

I probably would not have come except for the fact that my Hackney horse Duke is with Leslie right now and she is turning him into a "good citizen" and what a fantastic job she is doing of it too! It was fun to be on the back step of my own carriage and go trotting down the road. Gary had fun with Leslie's son and daughter who joined us and they sure enjoyed the tasty treats at the end!

Thank you again to everyone for your generosity and friendship. It's wonderful to be affiliated with such a nice bunch of people (and their horses)!

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!  
Celine & Gary Rickards

I've done these teas off and on for years now and never have I seen such a large attendance.

As others have mentioned, the weather and the trails were in top form. I had the distinct pleasure to drive Shelly Chavoor's wonderful Arabian, Altair and if there is a more gentlemanly horse, I've not found him. What a delight he

was... willing to amble when I was, ready to do a lovely free trot for as long as I wanted and even turned on a little dash as we cantered along the perimeter trails. I had a young guest with me, so new to driving and what an introduction this wonderful guy gave her.

Thanks Shelley for all the work ahead of time to pull this off several times a year.

Beverly Means

WSS is open to outside drivers/riders at \$10 a horse. Please call ahead (530) 661-1358 to check weather trail conditions. [www.woodlandstallion.com](http://www.woodlandstallion.com)

### AND THE CONFLICTING EVENT ....

Every year, and always on the same day as the High Tea Drive at WSS (Grrrr), we have the Raymond Christmas Drive. This year we had about a dozen turn outs + 4 riders on horseback, all decorated for Christmas. This is a low key event in a low key town. The drive is really a parade through town, past the post office and the Raymond General Store where the crowd ( maybe 2 dozen people) gathers to wave to the drivers. After the drive, everyone goes back to the General Store for a buffet lunch. We had over 40 people for lunch. There were door prizes and a prize for the best decoration. Barbara Spring won the best decoration prize and it had to be good to beat the kid with a Christmas Tree growing out of his pony's back .

Everyone had a good time despite a few minor mishaps. Major lesson learned - get your pony used to really loud brass bells before you show up at the Raymond Christmas Drive.

Bob Ashworth

### NCDC Officers (thank you!)

CHAIRMAN: Liz Hendrick 415-898-8404

[ehultgren@aol.com](mailto:ehultgren@aol.com)

VICE-CHAIR: Jean Terry 530-743-3605

[riverrockcobs@yahoo.com](mailto:riverrockcobs@yahoo.com)

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Celine Rickards [celine@carriagedriving.com](mailto:celine@carriagedriving.com)

Sharon Waite 209-848-2507

[rollingpony@aol.com](mailto:rollingpony@aol.com)

### Advertising Fees

Members: Classified ads are free. Please limit to 35 words or may be reduced at editor's discretion. All classified ads to be renewed monthly. You can e-mail an ad to me at [hl\\_merritt@yahoo.com](mailto:hl_merritt@yahoo.com)

Business Card ads: \$20.00 per year (Minimum 10 issues)

Business ads (per issue):

1/4 page: \$5.00

1/2 page: \$10.00

Inserts: \$20.00 per page, per issue, you provide the insert, and disc to accompany PDF file.

Non Members: Classified ads: \$5.00 per issue with a max of 35 words.

Business Card ads: \$45.00 per year (minimum 10 issues)

Business Ads (per issue)

1/4 page: \$10.00

1/2 page: \$20.00

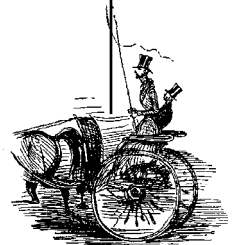
Please send all ads and checks (if applicable) payable to NCDC to:

Harriet Merritt

4305 Peaceful Glen Road, Vacaville, CA 95688

[hl\\_merritt@yahoo.com](mailto:hl_merritt@yahoo.com), 925-968-9805

Carriage Tracks, the NCDC Newsletter is published 10 times a year monthly with Dec/Jan and June/July combined. Deadline for articles and ads is the 15th of the month.



## NCDC MEETING MINUTES

DATE: December 2, 2006

LOCATION: Woodland Stallion Station, Woodland, CA

1. Call to Order. Meeting was called to order at 2:05 PM by Chair, Liz Hendrick.
2. Reading of Minutes. Motion was made by Jay Hubert to waive reading of the minutes of the August meeting since they were posted in a previous NCDC Newsletter, second by Harriett Merritt. All approved. Motion passed.
3. Treasurer's & Membership Report. Treasurer Thomas Smith reported that our bank balance is \$8,571.67 with one expense item pending of approximately \$300 for production and mailing of previous newsletters. Thomas also reported that we have 118 paid voting memberships. Motion was made by Buck Scholderer to approve Treasurer's report, second by Jane Moody. All approved. Motion passed. Discussion item: Next expense item will be club insurance bill due in January. Last year fee was \$808 and expect an increase. This includes two (three?) named insured events (Ione Arena Driving Trials, Shady Oaks Play Day and Silverbend Traditional Day of Driving. Each additional insured event fee was \$51 in 2006.
4. Introduction of Guest(s). Welcome to Mary Morgan-Stevens, a new driving trainer at WSS. Information to be posted on WSS website.
5. Committee Reports. No committee reports or activity.

### NEW BUSINESS - AGENDA ITEMS:

1. A discussion item was presented to the membership regarding charging non-internet user members the cost of receiving the Roster by US Mail. Motion was made by Harriett Merritt NOT to charge members for this service, second by Shelley Chavoor. All approved. Motion passed.
2. Clinic/Event Protocol: Procedures to Follow for Organizers. Liz Hendrick presented Gina Miner's protocol recommendations for event organizers, primarily to protect the club and its officers in usage of our insurance. Therefore, Motion is as follows: firstly, organizer must present a budget of anticipated income and expenses. Secondly, all income/checks are to be made out to NCDC and all expenses to be paid through NCDC - all financing must have a paper trail through NCDC. And lastly, organizer must present a detailed accountability of event. Motion made by Laura Keister to approve above, second by Jay Hubert. All approved. Motion passed. Discussion item: Jane Moody offered to prepare an "event planning form" to be added to the Organizer's Planning Kit.
3. Gina Miner is organizing a Carriage Maintenance Clinic in January at her home in Livermore with Arnold Riffle. Main topic will be wheel and brake maintenance. Gina has 12 people with carriages who are interested (at \$20 per person) to participate. Arnold's expenses may be \$300-500. Gina anticipates cost to club will be approximately \$250. Motion was made by Jay Hubert to approve this clinic and costs as outlined above, second by Jane Moody. All approved. Motion passed.

### NEW BUSINESS - OPEN FORUM

1. Vice President Jean Terry asked about the possibility of splitting the NCDC Yahoo Group email list distribution from "global" chat discussions to a secondary "official"

necessary club business. Treasurer Thomas Smith advised that maintenance of this type of website would be extremely time consuming and not beneficial to majority of club members. Jay Hubert added that our website email list is intended to be a "chat" line and if we all remembered to be more specific about our SUBJECT line then members could choose to read or delete. We also need to remember that by hitting REPLY when responding, it goes to all members on list, and some members do not want to see all the chat stuff.

2. Harriett Merritt reported that the Gilroy Classic will be no more due to development. Celia McCormick and Kate Kennedy have given us the opportunity to purchase the CDE equipment "CDE in a Box" for \$2,000. Harriett has a list of equipment involved in this deal and suggests that we buy it particularly if we plan an HDT event at Horse Expo, etc. It was suggested that Jay Hubert, Buck Scholderer and Gina Miner review list to see if feasible before January meeting. Motion to purchase (or not) will be made at that time.
3. Jean Hayes suggested that there should be a hospitality service of NCDC (social secretary duties) that would send cards of thanks (i.e. WSS Tea and Drive), congratulations, sympathy, get well, good wishes to your equine friends - types of greetings to members when these situations arise. As NCDC chair, Liz Hendrick appointed Laura Keister and Jean Hayes as the NCDC Hospitality Committee. Please email subject member information to Jean Hayes at drjeanh@verizon.net or Laura Keister at searoseranch@aol.com. Please also supply a "blurb" if this is to be mentioned in the newsletter.

NEXT MEETING. January 13, 2007 at Shady Oaks, Lodi, CA Potluck @ 11:30. Meeting starts promptly at 1:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn meeting at 2:45 PM by Jay Hubert, second by Harriett Merritt. All approved. Motion passed.

Submitted by Laura Keister, Secretary

NOTE: Thanks to Shelly Chavoor smchavoor@sbcglobal.net and her helpers for organizing this event. Many thanks to Ann Taylor at www.woodlandstallion.com in giving NCDC members the opportunity to enjoy this fabulous facility!

### FIRE!

As many of you know by now, the latest Moorpark fire came through Oak Run Farm again. While our house, animals, barn, carriage house and mobile home sustained only smoke and ash damage there was considerable damage outside.

The container purchased by the Downings and left at Oak Run, in which was stored the majority of the Whip 'R Snapper equipment, was a total loss. Fortunately not everything was put away after the Hustle. We still have most of our



course markers and cone covers. The cones, PA System, tables, chairs, pop up tent, banners and measuring sticks were lost. In addition, most of the caps for the dressage chain posts and many of the posts themselves are gone. Most of the chain is OK. The gutter we used to make the field smaller for VSEs is gone as well as the beautiful sign saw horses that Mike had made.

The obstacles all sustained some damage. The trees by the driveway have several burned fence posts and the fence with the woodpile in it is gone completely. Some of the bushes and smaller trees are questionable.

The bridge is gone. The Western obstacle lost two of the sets and several fences. The water obstacle partially filled with sand and gravel from the wind and has landscaping damage. I think all the posts are OK.

The tree obstacle in the back on the hill has about half the trees down and several more that need to come down.

We are still planning on the Horse Driving Trial January 27-28, 2007. We will be using some temporary hazard components and try to borrow whatever we need.

There will be a cleanup and course building weekend on January 6-7, 2007. Wear old clothes; bring gloves, hammers, screwdrivers, sledge hammers (to put in new stakes), shovels and buckets to put trash in. If you have a large magnet for finding hardware please bring it. Heavy-duty pruners might also be a good idea if we have to rip out cooked bushes. I will arrange for a roll off bin for the week.

Let me know if you are coming to the cleanup weekend. If you need a place to stay we have lots of room. Email is the preferred method of letting me know: [m.jody.cutler@gmail.com](mailto:m.jody.cutler@gmail.com). Otherwise phone 805 501 4060

Thanks for everyone's concern, Gregg and Jody Cutler

## OAK RUN DRIVING TRIAL

Oak Run Farm, Moorpark, CA

January 27 2007 – Training

Rating: ADS

January 28, 2007 - Prelim

Use ADS Entry Form

Levels: Training, Preliminary

Classes: Training and Prelim: Single Horse, Single Pony, VSE, Multiples

Note: After finish of event on Sunday, extra Dressage tests may be driven for an extra fee. Tr, Prel, Interm

Entries Open: Dec 15, 2006 Entries Close: Jan 15, 2007  
Waiting List: Yes

Entry Requirements: Training drivers must volunteer on Sunday both morning and afternoon. All Prelim drivers must volunteer on Saturday morning and afternoon. Exceptions for Sunday afternoon if coming from over 400 miles.  
Other volunteers welcome.

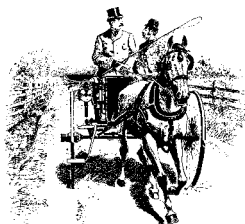
Organizers: Whip'R Snapper Driving Society, Suellen Hall  
661-944-4677

Secretary: Veronica Campbell, 1100 Stevely Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815

Judges: Jody Cutler, CA

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## DRIVING CLINICS

Ted Draper Training Stable  
530 Irwin Lane Santa Rosa, California

January 7, 14, 21, 2007 (Sundays)

9a to 12noon

\$40.00 per day or \$100.00 for all 3 sessions

You will not need to bring your horse to participate on the 7th and you can bring your horse for sessions on the 14th and the 21s We will have horses for those who can not bring theirs.

### Special feature

Pair training will be at 1p or at the end of the clinics each day

### Topics to be covered

Carts, Meadowbrook's, Competitions Vehicles

DEMONSTRATIONS AND 'HANDS ON'

Harnesses (Types), Harnessing (Fitting)

Ground driving

Horse's head carriage

What judges look for

If you wish to sign up, either contact Kasey Ashley or Ted

For questions call 707 546 2568

A deposit of \$25.00 is required to hold a spot.

## THE LIGHT GOES ON FOR A NEW MEMBER!

It has become obvious that the best way to put faces with names and learn the in's and out's of what's acceptable and what's not will be to volunteer. I look forward to helping with some of the upcoming events. If you are a chair or organizer and need inexperienced help, let me know. I'm eager to learn and willing to help! Terri Holveck 209 632-1801

## OUR A.D.S.

I had a nice conversation with Susie Acker yesterday Susie is working hard to continue the tradition of the ADS and what it does for driving and its members. Susie has taken the reins so to speak in April of 2006 after Ann Pringle retired

from the position and has worked hard to continue the growth and tradition of carriage driving that the ADS supports.

Most of us that compete in CDEs and other events that are ADS sanctioned are members however there are some that are not. Some choose not to become members for any number of reasons and choose to pay the "non member" fees to compete in ADS sanction events. Some reasons that I have personally heard were that the ADS is not geared to them or that the ADS doesn't do anything for them anyway.

Let's look at what the ADS does for its members.... For many years until this coming January 1st, anyone with a computer who wanted to access the ADS website for any number of things from forms, dressage tests and a printable free rule book not to mention many other services and information could do so with the click of a mouse.

The ADS hosts programs that train the judges and keep the records that we all love to see. The ADS also provides the insurance that is behind ALL ADS Sanctioned events. The ADS also sends out the Omnibus, *the Wheelhorse* and the wonderful magazine, *The Whip*, which has many articles written by many of our most revered and experienced experts.

As of January 1st many services will be available only to ADS members and those pesky "non member fees will be twice as much as before. Many of you may not agree with this but if you are an ADS member you will understand why it is a great benefit to be a member.

The ADS is not about CDEs alone but about the sport and traditions of "carriage driving". There is a wealth of information available through the ADS as well as support for clubs, organizers, carriage driving enthusiasts and members have a say in all of it. Remember that the ADS is not a machine, but is run by humans interested in the sport of carriage driving in many aspects.

Members will be soon receiving you renewal and will be asked to do so on line if you are on line. This is going to cut the cost to the ADS and in the long run will be of benefit to its members. Some very nice services will be available when you login that you will enjoy. It is new and may have a few buggers so be patient and it should be ok.

Happy driving days Jane Ann Merritt

Jan 13	NCDC Planning Lunch Meeting, noon, Shady Oaks Clubhouse, Lodi CA
Feb 2-4	Marsoe Larose Clinic, Clay Station Horse Park, Wilton, CA Debbi Packard 916-687-7948 cla-sta-horsepark@softcom.net \$90 prepaid only
Mar 16-18	Marsoe Larose Clinic, Clay Station Horse Park, Wilton, CA Debbi Packard 916-687-7948 cla-sta-horsepark@softcom.net \$90 prepaid only
April 7	ADT Lone, CA
April 14-15	HDT, Clay Station Horse Park, Wilton, CA Debbi Packard 916-687-7948 cla-sta-horsepark@softcom.net
April 19-20	Ram Tap, Fresno
May 19-20	HDT, Clay Station Horse Park, Wilton, CA Debbi Packard 916-687-7948 cla-sta-horsepark@softcom.net
June 16-17	HDT, Clay Station Horse Park, Wilton, CA Debbi Packard 916-687-7948 cla-sta-horsepark@softcom.net
July 7-8 (rain date for April)	HDT, Clay Station Horse Park, Wilton, CA Debbi Packard 916-687-7948 cla-sta-horsepark@softcom.net
Aug 11-12	HDT, Clay Station Horse Park, Wilton, CA Debbi Packard 916-687-7948 cla-sta-horsepark@softcom.net , prepaid only
Sept. 1-2	ADS Dressage Extraordinaire Clay Station Horse Park, Wilton, CA Debbi Packard 916-687-7948 cla-sta-horsepark@softcom.net
Sept. 3	Mickie Bowen Clinic, Clay Station Horse Park, Wilton, CA Debbi Packard 916-687-7948 cla-sta-horsepark@softcom.net
Oct 27-28	HDT, Clay Station Horse Park, Wilton, CA Debbi Packard 916-687-7948 cla-sta-horsepark@softcom.net

**FOR SALE:**

11yr old Black Mare. Pony Quarter cross 13.2 hh. Driven in pair and single in parades. Has been ridden 3 years in 4H. Very sound and great work ethic. \$2500.  
Call Lois @ 559-298-4124

2 beautiful Sec B. geldings by Telynau Royal Charter, 3yrs old in Jan. A nice almost perfectly matched pair for driving or riding. Nice manners and ready to start. Excalibur is out of Hillcrests Snow Shower and Rocket is out of Cloe Val du Sar mare. Breeding doesn't get much better than this for Section B's. \$1800 each or \$3400 for the pair.

4yr gelding by Charter and 2 yr gelding by Copper Hills Galahad, both priced below cost to breed and raise.  
Roger Helm, Clovis, Ca. 559-298-3995 rhelmsprint@earthlink. Net

Half Arab/half Dutch Harness horse, VERY BLUE BLACK!  
Four year old gelding, about 15.1hh, started under saddle by a professional... a good trotting machine, his temperament probably is more like his Dutch Harness Horse parent. The owner lives in Oakdale, probably \$2500 OBO.  
Marianne Elliston blackoak-tran@earthlink. net

**CONGRATULATIONS CALIFORNIA DRIVERS!**

United States Equestrian Federation, Inc.  
2007 International High Performance Driver Training Long List

The following are(excerpts from) lists of American single and pair drivers who have attained a score of 165 penalty points or less, ...at an advanced level of competition in the United States within the last two calendar years:

- Leslie Berndt
- Fritz Grupe
- Colleen Sullivan
- Tasha Wilkie

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NCDC  
1993 Rancho Verde Circle, East  
Danville, CA 94526

## NCDC Membership Application

Complete this page and mail with your check, made payable to NCDC, to:

Thomas Smith  
4305 Peaceful Glen Road  
Vacaville, CA 95688

Dues are \$25 for individuals and \$35 for families. The membership year runs from June to June, not the calendar year.

New membership  Renewal

How did you learn about us?  Friend  Website  Event  Banner  ADS  Other

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

(\*optional info) Cell Phone\* \_\_\_\_\_ County\* \_\_\_\_\_

Is it OK for NCDC to use your email address for club information?  Yes  No

The newsletter is normally distributed via email, as an Adobe Acrobat .pdf file. Do you need to receive the newsletter via regular mail?  Yes  No

NCDC maintains an email discussion list for members only. Do you want to be added to this email list?  Yes  No

Would you like us to include your information on the Membership Roster, (for private club use, not to be commercially distributed)?  Yes  No

If limited info only, write specifics in space below (example, "name only").

Please include an optional brief description of your interests, experience, type of horse and carriage, and what you would like to see in the way of club activities.

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