

Hello NCDC, a Letter from your editor

I hope you have all received your ballots for the bylaw change, and have cast your votes. It is very important we all vote on this issue as we need two thirds of the membership to agree to make a change. The questionnaire is totally optional, the Ballots are the important issue! (So if it's sitting on your counter waiting for the time to fill it out, Vote! and bring the questionnaire to the January meeting!) I don't know why I'm in such a dither about getting approval, as approval means I will have to do timely and informative newsletters. Is it too late to change my vote?

Please note our formal invitation to the High Tea. Hopefully you will have this in your hand before it is history. Okay, so much for timely, but this newsletter is informative! The minutes of the November meeting are included. There was a quorum! We got things done! Please read them, there are a lot of changes. Make special note of the new opening on the quickie Committee. Have someone in mind to nominate at the January Meeting.

On that note, I personally want to thank Gina Miner for the incredible contribution she makes to NCDC. She was my introduction to the club, as I believe she has been to many of us "newbees". Everything the club does has her name on it; entries are returned to her, (This means she was involved with the organization of the event), checks go to her, (she was our treasurer, and maintained the membership rosters) until I came along she was doing the newsletter, and you will note, has submitted the minutes for most meetings. At the November meeting, Thomas Smith agreed to take over the treasurer position, and Laura Kiester has stepped up to fill in Sally Baker's secretary position, leaving Gina with only the responsibility of organizing the ADT, TDD, Shady Oaks Playday, CDE Camp/Clinic and whatever else we decide to do! Whew! *Hat's off to Gina, and a heart felt THANK YOU!*

Is anyone else sorry to see the temperatures drop? Amy looks like a Toy bear, and I'm wearing 32 layers, which really helps with my flexibility, the tip of my nose, my hands and feet are frozen...But the suns out, and I'm ready for TEA! Read on!

TENTH ANNUAL PLEASURE DRIVE AND TEA

Pleasure drive over 1200 acres of vineyards and farmland at Beau Cheval Vineyards by Woodland Stallion Station.

Date: Saturday December 3rd

Time: Drive starts at 11:00 a.m. and Tea will follow at 2:00

Place: Woodland Stallion Station (see below for directions)

Cost: \$10.00 per turn out to cover the cost of insurance and we ask that you bring a tea savory or dessert to share. We will provide tea.

Attire is casual; no need to sign up before, just show up. I will keep you posted about the weather as the time draws near. If you have videos or DVDs from past events bring them to show at Tea. Call WSS directly if you need to arrange for stabling overnight.

For more information contact: Shelley Chavoor (530) 753-6761 or wsstea@scrubjay.nu

Link to WSS Website for additional directions: <http://www.woodlandstallion.com/map.htm>

FROM THE BAY AREA:

Take I 80 toward Sacramento
Turn North on 505 at the Nut Tree, go 26 miles to Woodland take Hwy 16 turnoff, go east 3.5 miles to Road 94B (there is a sign that says Woodland Airport), turn left and stay left through one set of stop signs and over a bridge, turn left on first street which is Road 20 (there is a large sign for WSS), go 400' and entrance is on the right.

SOUTH FROM REDDING on I 5:

Take 505 south to Woodland, Hwy 16 off ramp, go across freeway and follow above

Directions continued from page 1

FROM SACRAMENTO:

Take I 5 past downtown Woodland exits to Hwy 16 West - Esparto, go back across the freeway three miles to first stop sign, turn right on Hwy 16, go 3+ miles, Hwy 16 makes a left turn, DO NOT TURN, go straight on Road 22 (it is marked) about a mile to dead end, turn right, go across the bridge, take first left which is Road 20, about 400 yards on right

FOR SALE - BIRD IN HAND EAGLET

- Pony Sized 2-Wheel Show Cart
- Size: fits pony 11.3 - 13 hands
- Shafts: 22" wide at narrowest; 66" long
- Wheels: 32" diameter wood with solid rubber tires
- Bird's eye maple panels & dashboard
- Brass : hubs/rein rail/shaft tips/singletree ends/ whip socket/footman's loops
- Axle is adjustable fore and aft
- Tufted black vinyl upholstery
- Lightly used for pleasure shows, dressage and cones
- Price: \$2700 firm; cost new @ \$3200 + \$900 shipping
- Buyer pays shipping
- Contact: Kathy Freeman (209)245-6184
email: kathyf@ponyplace.com

NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES,

submitted by Gina Miner

12:40 PM 11/13/2005

Meeting called to order by Chair

Attendance - Leslie Berndl

Moire Creek

Susan Hassett

Liz Hendrick

Jay Hubert

Laura Keister

Harriet Merritt

Gina Miner

Jane Moody

Buck and Pat Scholderer

Debra and Thomas Smith

Loraine Waite

John Walker

Harriet moved to accept minutes of the previous meeting, as published in newsletter; Jay seconded. So voted.

There was a brief discussion of the problems created by the fact that we are so spread out (and so busy) that it is difficult to get enough members to a meeting to have a quorum, and the officers do not have the authority to make decisions without a vote of the membership. A change in the bylaws would be needed to give the officers more authority to act for the club.

Gina gave the Treasurer's report. Details of recent activity were printed in the newsletter. The account balance is \$9,815.83

Laura moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Moire seconded. So voted.

NCDC Officers (thank you!)

CHAIRMAN: Pat Scholderer 925-778-2640

grannyncart@earthlink.net

VICE-CHAIR: Jean Terry 530-743-3605

riverrockcobs@yahoo.com

SECRETARY: Sally Baker

sallybaker@infostations.com

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gina@acornnmr.com

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Kathy Freeman 209-245-6184

kathyf@ponyplace.com

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hoofnit@bigfoot.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

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

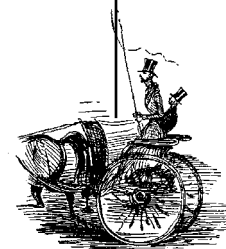
Please send all ads and checks (if applicable) payable to NCDC to:

Harriet Merritt

1993 Rancho Verde Cr E, Danville, CA 94526

hl_merritt@yahoo.com, 925-968-9805

Carriage Tracks, the NCDC Newsletter is published monthly, and mailed out by the 20th of the month. Deadline for articles and ads is the 15th of the month.



Pat presented recent correspondence. Sally Baker has resigned as Secretary. Laura has volunteered to take on the duties, and is hereby appointed by the Chair. Jay moved to approve this appointment, Debra seconded; so voted.

Kathy Freeman was unable to attend the meeting, but wrote to ask some questions about the Traditional Day of Driving: Is this run under ADS rules? No, this is not an ADS event. There are guidelines created by the Carriage Association of America. Are there ADS rules for attire? No. Is there a provision for marathon vehicles? No. Jay explained that NCDC decided to modify the format to allow marathon vehicles, and the organizers next year will clarify the question of what is expected in the way of attire for those driving marathon vehicles.

Thomas reported the "Quickie" Committee (QC) approved paying for today's pizza.

There was discussion of how members on QC turn over. It seems that new members are appointed as spots open.

Chair announced that Treasurer position is open (Gina has submitted her resignation) and proposed appointing Thomas. Buck so moved, Laura seconded, so voted.

That removes Thomas from the QC. Gina suggested we wait on replacement til the Jan mtg, to allow more people to be aware of the opening.

Conflict resolution committee — this year, we had a conflict between Joe Daehling's annual ranch drive and the driving weekend (CDE Camp) at Hiskens. This arose because Hiskens offered us only that one weekend, take it or leave it, after the date for Joe's drive had been set. We would like to avoid having that happen again. Oct is looking very busy, and Hiskens' lack of flexibility may not mean that a fall weekend there may not fit the schedule.

Rush Ranch, on Hwy 12 in Suisun, may be available to us as a driving venue. There are 2,000 acres. One weekend/month will be available for various horse activities. They want to build an arena and some fencing. Michael Muir operates from there. Members expressed a desire to have some novice/beginner clinics — perhaps Rush Ranch would be suitable.

Bylaws review committee: Jay offered to write the wording for the ballot to amend the bylaws to allow electronic voting.

Laura raised the issue of changing the membership year from the current June-to-June year to a calendar year, which would be a bylaws change. It was suggested we discuss this at the Jan meeting.

Date for the Jan meeting is the 14th at the Shady Oaks clubhouse. Pot-luck lunch at 11:30, meeting at 1.

The Chair raised the question of locations for quarterly meetings. Susan Hassett offered to host a

meeting in conjunction with some type of horse activity. Perhaps a spring mtg at Rush Ranch in conjunction with work day, with the ability to bring horses, too. Summer meeting at the Traditional Day of Driving works well. Perhaps we could hold a fall meeting at Susan's.

Donations policy — the membership needs to express its wishes for what sort of events we should donate to, and at what level. Susan suggested including a questionnaire with the bylaws ballot asking members for input on a donation policy. Susan so moved. Loraine seconded. Harriet explained that a previous questionnaire got little response, and that she was hesitant to complicate the ballot. Susan offered to compose the questionnaire and email it to Harriet. So voted.

Laura pointed out that we know what the big events are well in advance. We could pre-approve those, and then have a slush fund for others that come up. Jane suggested we present a budget at the Jan meeting. Jane offered to work with the Treasurer on this. Jane so moved, Loraine seconded.

Concern was expressed that if the club votes to reject the budget, the club will be unable to function. Jane withdrew the motion. Thomas will present a Treasurer's report at the Jan mtg to set the stage for discussion of events.

Pat raised the question of an education committee to plan clinics. Loraine, Leslie and Debra volunteered. The Chair appointed the committee.

The issue of incorporating as non-profit was raised again. The main advantage is liability protection of officers and organizers. We may need Directors and Officers liability insurance. The lack of governing body may prevent approval.

2006 activities - Celine's calendar has not been updated. We are planning a repeat of this year's activities: Arena Driving Trial (ADT), Traditional Day of Driving (TDD), Shady Oaks playday. Jay will chair the TDD committee. Tentative date is Aug 1. ADT committee — Freemans, Smiths,

Jay, Gina. CDE camp in Oct may not work due to other events. CDE camp in May is possible. Should consider other venues besides Hiskens, as their available dates are very limited, and the cost has gone up?

Jay offered to coordinate with Grupes about activities there. Gina, Buck and Laura volunteered to help draft plans.



Harriet explained that Horse Expo has offered to let us do some sort of modest event weekend of June 10. This conflicts with the dressage festival. Suggestion made to consider this for 2007.

Pat said that Laura suggested NCDC prepare an informational brochure with a membership application that could be handed out to interested people at events. Laura offered to create one, Thomas will help with printing. Final version should wait for our new logo. Harriet moved, Jay seconded, so voted.

Harriet brought up the idea of a directory, to be updated biannually. Harriet moved to form a committee to do this, Jay seconded. Pat mentioned that she has received negative feedback, with regard to having the club appear to endorse trainers. Jay suggested we make it just a membership roster, which could accept ads. Harriet amended the motion to create a roster. The roster needs to state that the information may not be used for commercial purposes, and won't appear on the web. Members can opt to have no information or limited information included. So voted.

Gina moved to adjourn. Buck seconded. so voted.
2:59 PM 11/13/2005

Driving info:

Two highly recommended Internet resources, both contain tons of articles and information about all phases of driving: <http://www.carriagedriving.net/features.html> <http://www.carriagedrivingworld.com/Archive.php> There is also this directory with links to loads of driving information: http://www.dmoz.org/Sports/Equestrian/Carriage_Driving/ Enjoy!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 4, 2005
New FEI Registration Fee Required for Horses and Riders

As approved by the 2005 FEI General Assembly, an annual FEI registration is now mandatory for all riders and horses competing in FEI events.

This would include the following disciplines: Dressage, Reining, Show Jumping, Driving, Endurance and Vaulting, Paraquestrian and Eventing.

The fee requirement will take effect on January 1, 2006 and it is renewable annually. Fees are \$15.00 for each horse and \$15.00 per rider.

This registration is in addition to acquiring a passport or horse recording. All horses and riders must be registered with the FEI before competing in any 2006 competitions. In addition, the FEI horse and rider registration form is available on the USEF web site, www.usef.org <<http://www.usef.org>> . On the homepage go to the menu on the left and select either "Competitions" or "High Performance." The downloadable form is highlighted in red in those areas."

American Driving Society Publishes Best of The Whip, Volume II

The American Driving Society is pleased to announce the publication of the second volume of *The Best of The Whip* – a compilation of articles appearing in *The Whip* magazine from 1993 through 2002. Following the format of the popular first volume, the 188 page soft cover book includes 13 chapters with over 80 of the best educational articles that were first featured in *The Whip*.

Chapter Titles:

- Alternative Competitions
- Clinics and Education
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- Pleasure Driving and Turnout
- Safety
- Training
- Editor's Choice

Best of The Whip, Volume II can be purchased from The American Driving Society, either by mail order, or on-line at www.americandrivingsociety.org for \$19.95. A discount is available if you purchase both volume I & II: \$35.00 (a \$4.90 savings).

The *Best of The Whip* is available just in time for holiday giving. Order your copy(ies) today!

The American Driving Society
2324 Clark Rd
Lapeer, MI 48446
Contact: Ann L. Pringle
810-664-8666
Fax: 810-664-2405
Email: ann@americandrivingsociety.org

New Member:

Linda Harbertson, Corralitos, CA
I have 45 American Shetland. He's 7 yrs old, gelding. Have customized easy entry cart. Interested in play days, dressage, cones, cross-country. Love to drive."

Eavesdropping about the Meeting of the Minds/ Dressage festival weekend:

"Moire asked me how the weekend dressage festival in Clovis went, so I thought I'd share this with the whole group. Short answer – it was a good weekend, I had a ton of fun.

This was put on mostly by Phyllis Rumley, our regional ADS rep (and also a member of the Central Valley club) and by Sharon Booth, with help from Linda Fairbanks and Celine Rickards.

I have no idea how many people showed up. Judging

from the number of tables at dinner, I'd guess 80+. We had the annual Meeting of the Minds, during which all the Calif clubs enter their planned events for the coming year onto a giant calendar. It's looking like a busy year. Celine will be putting all of it on her calendar - <http://www.carriagedrivingessentials.com/cvha/calendar.htm> A lot of the events are already there, but it will be updated soon.

There were parallel sessions on carriage maintenance, gatoring, turnout, harness fit, etc. I didn't go to any of those, guessing that they would be more geared to newbies. (Also was busy driving!) Looked like they were well-attended. Hardy gave a talk explaining the German dressage training levels, which was very good. He wrote a series of articles for Carriage Driving World, which are now available on CDW's web site.

David Ventura did 8 lessons each day and did a ridden dressage demo on his stallion, PointMaker, each day — lovely to watch. He had a mike, so could explain as he was riding. David worked out of the main arena, which had room for a full-sized driven dressage arena with room to spare, and grandstands on both sides. Also lots of cattle pens (this is a rodeo grounds).

There was a cones course set up for everyone to play in, and Cathy Grimes did a lesson on cones driving on Sun. Linda Fairbanks also gave some lessons.

In addition to lessons, there was a Parade of Breeds on Sun, and lots of people brought horses just for that. They set up a short cones course and one simple hazard, and each person drove them while the announcer talked about the horse's breed, as well as the individual horse, driver, turnout, etc.

Lots of fun. I think Diane Kastama stole the show — she drove her pair of cobs, who are impressive just standing still, but REALLY impressive galloping through a cones course! Diane is one heck of a driver. The Cutlers brought 4 grey Welsh ponies and drove them as a 4-in-hand.

The featured speaker at dinner on Sat was Fritz Grupe, talking about his transition from his pair of haflingers that he drove at Prelim to the pair of warmbloods with which he won the US Pairs championship. He said he ended up buying 6 horses to work with to accomplish this! He talked about the reaction from the east coast folks when he showed up to compete - using the line from the movie Butch Cassidy, it was "who ARE those guys?!" Fritz then placed his trophy on the table in front of him, and said "THIS is who we are!" to great applause!

Fritz also said they are open to hosting some additional events at Shady Oaks next year, and asked us to propose what we'd like to do and possible dates for them to consider. Needless to say, this will be a major topic at next weekend's meeting — be there!!

Fritz is trying to persuade east coast pairs drivers to make the trip out to Calif next fall for the US Pairs championship. To make the trip more worthwhile, he is trying to get a second event at Woodside in Sept. Twin Rivers is



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going to put on their CDE again, so that would make 3 within a few weeks.

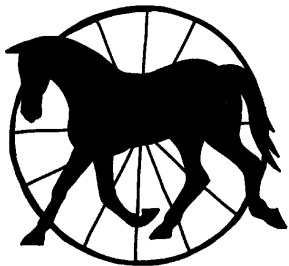
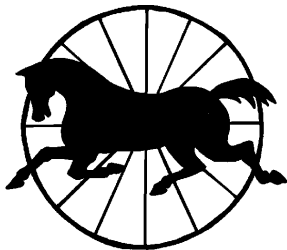
Accommodations for the horses were rustic, but spacious — Sandor had a pen about 40x60 ft. I think the pens were laid out by committee — you could get lost trying to get out! There was plenty of room for the number of turnouts we had, so it was safe.

Celine had a booth, and appeared to be very busy. Marie McKee has taken over Barbara Burr's Ultralite Whip business, and she was there. I know she sold several, including one to me. I thought my whip was pretty light, and didn't really expect the new one would be much different. But after my lesson on Sat, my wrist was killing me, so I thought I'd give it a try. Night and day difference — no pain after over an hour of driving on Sunday!

I had 2 good lessons with David, and we saw marked improvement in Sandor. I think we've identified the weak link in this partnership — me! I drove for a couple of hours each day, and Sandor was very good, very little of the spookies, despite all the activity.

All in all, a wonderful time! My guess is that it was enough of a success that they will do it again next year. One thing we need to discuss at the upcoming meetings, on the subject of financial support to non-NCDC-sponsored events, is the possibility of contributing to this meeting." Gina Miner

Logos! I need to have all entries for the LOGO contest by December 15th as I'm headed to the sun to defrost the first of January, and will be sending them off to be prepared for the voting at the January Meeting. We are getting some interesting submissions...any more ideas out there?
 hl_merritt@yahoo.com or snail, 1993 Rancho Verde Cir. E., Danville, CA 94526



CARRIAGE TRACKS

2005 CALENDAR

2005:

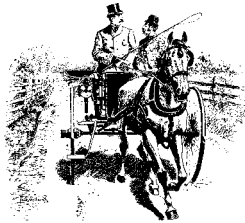
Dec 3 Pleasure Drive and Tea, Woodland Stallion Station, Shelley Chavoar, wsstea@scrubjay.nu 530-753-6761

2006:

Jan 14 NCDC Pot Luck and Meeting, Clubhouse at Shady Oaks, Lodi, CA, Pot luck at 11:30, meeting at 1:00pm

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CLAY STATION



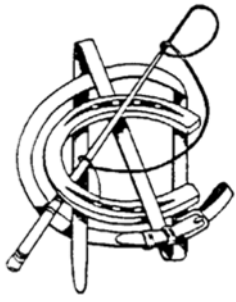
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cla-sta-horsepark@softcom.net





NCDC
4008 Dyer Rd.
Livermore, CA 94551

NCDC Membership Application/Renewal Form

New Member/Renewal

Dues are \$25 for Individuals and \$35 for Families. The Membership year runs from June to May 31, not the Calendar Year.

Name _____

Address _____

City State Zip _____

Phone Email Address _____

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

Use this space for an optional brief description of your interests, type of horse and carriage, and what you would like to see in the way of club activities.

Mail this form along with your check, made payable to NCDC, to: Virginia Miner, 4008 Dyer Road, Livermore, CA 94551