Alberta Carriage Driving Association

The Carriage Lamp

Volume 1, Issue 2

July 2009

Special points of interest:

- Message from the President
- Chapter news
- AGM
- ACDA editor needed

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Summer in Alberta….

A junior and a senior…..Maven Boddy and Two Bit Pete, at 10 and 25 respectively, taking a cruise through the Glacier obstacle for fun. You're never too old or too young to drive!

A message from the President

Just a note to let you know what is happening. We went to the mane event and a report is going to the executive. The cost of being there is high and the return in new members is doubtful. In any case the Red Deer area received the most interest. It appears to me that the trade show booth idea is a way of raising the club's profile, but I think each chapter should do so in their area as they can then contact the people who have interest and get them out more easily. It should be possible for the provincial level to help in a number of ways.

AEF is still going ahead with their provincial circuit but no hard information is available. Will keep you posted as information comes to us. Please set aside the 14th of November for the annual meeting in Leduc. Copies of the safety rules are out. Contact your director for more info. Any comments or suggestions for ways to increase memberships or revenue is greatly appreciated. Ideas for driving functions and interaction with the rest of the equine world is also welcome. We need to get out there more.

One of the thoughts that came to me this summer is that we should do a fun something for our volunteers each year. A drive or? These people give us overall many hours of their time each year and receive only a verbal thanks (or not) in many cases.

Does the thought of two pleasure shows, one in southern Alberta and one in Beaumont, sound like a plan? Contact me or the web page for your thoughts. Member participation in these above matters is greatly appreciated. Drive safe but keep driving and drag your friends along. Thanks for your patience in waiting for the newsletter. Chuck

ACDA Board of Directors

President: Chuck Taylor

Vice-President/Secretary:

Jackie Lanman

Treasurer: Barb Richard

Past President: Arlene Murray

Carriage Lamp: Julie Laverdiere

Promotion: Chuck Taylor

Safety Committee Chair:
Darlyne Copeland

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Peace
- Ed Pimm
- Gale Dodd Hayday

Klondike
- Barb Richard
- Arlene Murray

Chinook
- Bev Archer
- Geri McNeil

East West
- Chuck Taylor
- Darlyne Copeland

Stone Bridge
- Cindy Holyoak
- Morris Helmig

Coulee Winds
- Edith Evans
- Jackie Lanman

Northern Lights
- Chris Fauque
- Jennifer Mills

Foothills
- Sue McIntosh
- Carolyn Orton

"The ACDA is the provincial voice representing drivers and the sport of driving.

No news from Klondike Chapter or Foothills Chapter

East West Chapter

The East West Chapter has been busy preparing for our trials which are set for June 13 and 14. First we had Deb Laderoute clinic on the 16 and 17 of may that was well received. We spent two days with Deb learning how to improve our driving skills. We set up a dressage ring and cones and the second day she took us through them and gave us some really hands on tips. We had two members from the Saskatchewan club join us and it was nice to get to know them a little better too. Also outside our club was Barb Richard so we thank her for driving down and supporting our even. Then on the 23rd Glen Smith set up a schooling show that was a blast. We walked and drove the dressage pattern and received immediate feedback. We did a session with an Animal Health Technician on Pulse and Respiration. Then we practiced dressage, cones and obstacles. It was a great day. Some club members are planning to attend the Dandelion Tournament this weekend. However, we are working hard to may our trails excellent this year. So if you want to come and have some fun with us that weekend please give Irene a call at 780 853-2194 entries should be postmarked May 29 after that date you are welcome to come but at higher fee. So that's it for now…. Happy driving trails!!!

Greetings from Northern Lights Chapter.

Our little group has grown some since last year and we are now spreading our wings a bit further over the province. Yeah!!!!!! Needless to say, there have been a few more get-togethers and some new trails and of course----new friends. Looks like the Chapter's primary focus is on pleasure driving. Perhaps there will be a few that may want to try out some combined driving once we all are comfortable with our steeds, just to see if there might be an interest…..no pressure though.

This last winter didn't bring much snow till New Years, but boy oh boy after that, most of the club put on many miles in the snow. We attended three or four cutter rally's locally as well as some pleasure driving get-togethers. Hell we even drove in a storm!!!!!!!

The snow was gone all too soon though and since we have spent a one day safety and harness clinic, taught by Terry Francis at Chris Fauque's farm. And recently a small gathering of pleasure drivers at the farm of Sarah Fryer. By the way Sarah and Bob have the most beautiful groomed natural driving trails…….thank you so much for that!!!!

We will be having a pleasure drive at the farm of Jake and Nan Currie in July followed by a pot luck, barbecue. And then in August, we will be hosting a driving show at the Rich Valley Fairgrounds on Sunday, August 23, 2009. For a show booklet, please call Jennifer Mills at 780-963-3031 and she can send it out to you. It would be great to have a good showing of drivers that day. We plan to set up a few obstacles as well for a combined driving demonstration…….the best way to tell people what a combined drive is, is to show them, right?

Barb Richard at the Deb Laderoute clinic with east west chapter.

Glen Smith at the Deb Laderoute clinic.

Denise MacDonald at the Deb Laderoute clinic.

Chinook Chapter – ACDA

Through the winter and spring we've been holding our regular meetings the second Thursday of each month at the Cow Palace in Olds. Recent meeting highlights include an excellent leather care seminar by Todd Bailey, Jonathan Field long lining video, and a hat show and sale.

We've had a busy and successful spring with our horses, too! In mid-April Rise Massey came to teach a weekend clinic, with private lessons and a group long lining lesson. Not everyone was ready to hitch (even a few of us that thought we were, but learned that we still had a lot of homework to do!), but there were a few singles and Elaine Sanderman's pair of Icelandic ponies (pictured) that got to pull. The rest of us worked on the basics of long-lining and getting comfortable with the vehicles. I had no idea there is so much you can teach your horse from the ground. Kendra Gale and her mini, Hawk are in the second photo.

Two of our members participated in driving clinics at the Mane Event, with coach Hardy Zantke, in late April, and many more attended and learned on foot, as well as volunteered in the booth.

In May we had a two-day set of lessons with Kathleen Winfield held at Brown's Rock Spring Farm west of Olds (what a great facility). She's coming back again June 18-19 for more!

One club member participated in the training division of the High Country Spring Fling Driving Trial and had a blast! What a well-organized and hospitable group, and their facility is beautiful. The marathon course offered so many options; routes through the obstacles were rarely duplicated. We saw Deb Laderoute with her intermediate four-in-hand and a pair, as well as a preliminary entry from Invermere with a four-in-hand of Friesians, and Helen Davis' gorgeous advanced stallion. (That's Patty & Mike Carley with Nick doing the work in the water.)

Our Safety Clinic and Fun Day is coming up June 13, near Red Deer. If you are interested in starting to drive, this is a great introduction to harness and vehicles. We spend the morning on foot demonstrating and discussing safe hitching procedures and harness and vehicle fit, then play on a cones and obstacle course for the afternoon for those that are ready to drive. Call Patty Carley at 403.346.2146 for more information and directions.

Watch for prize lists for our Pleasure Show August 8-9 near Bowden. This is open to any ACDA members; so if you'd like to join us for a fun weekend of every kind of driving class you can think of (from dressage to pleasure to obstacles and barrel races), call show secretary Geri McNeil at 403.224.3753. She'll mail a prize list out to you.

Sincerely,

Patty Carley
secretary, Chinook Chapter, ACDA

Coulee Winds Chapter

Coulee Winds got off to a great start this spring. Nine members attended a three day clinic with Kathleen Winfield on May 22 – 24, 2009 at Edgewood Stables in Lethbridge, driving everything from VSE pairs to single ponies and single horses.

One new member hitched her pony for the first time after doing ground driving through the winter.

On May 30 and 31, 2009 four members competed successfully in the High Country Combined Driving Trials at the Polo Grounds south of Calgary. This was the first combined driving competition for one of the members and she was thrilled with the experience. They are all looking forward to competing in the High Country International Combined Driving Event in September so they will be busy conditioning and perfecting their skills over the summer.

We have a couple of tentative fun driving days planned and another Kathleen Winfield clinic from August 7 - 9, 2009 at Edgewood Stables in Lethbridge.

It will be a busy driving summer and before we know it, fall will be here.

Carolyn Otto
Newsletter Reporter

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Darryl Dennis and Topaz at High Country

Jackie Lanman & Roc at Kathleen Winfield clinic

Kylie Jorgensen & Jimmy at Kathleen Winfield clinic.

Edith Evans with Chinook and Valerie at Kathleen Winfield clinic.

Lorraine Hill, Lois Cicman (navigator) and Duster at the High Country Driving Trials

Stone Bridge Driving Club

This year has been a busy one for Stone Bridge Club. In February we had our third annual Cutter Rally and Poker drive at the Helmig farm. There were over 20 entries including a four up of paints owned by Foss Erwin of Wetaskawin. The club put on a beef on a bun lunch and chili which was greatly enjoyed by over 50 people. The weather held out and we had just enough snow to take a trip around part of the cross country course and the driving obstacles. The Glacier hazard was a real hit!

April saw a bomb proofing clinic with Cheryl Fotheringham at the Donalda arena. There were 14 participants; everything from a 28 inch mini to a strapping molly mule. Lots of juniors attended with their horses learning the ins and outs of tires, streamers, noise (oh, my!), a bear skin to wear, tin cans and balls, etc. Everyone left with much better mannered critters and had a great time.

May brought about our indoor driving trials at Donalda. Though only 4 rigs attended, everyone had a great time. Colleen Coulthard and her groom Gordon with their mini horse entertained everyone with Gordon guiding the mini by running ahead through the cones and obstacles! Garry and Al brought out a new team and Morris made his debut with his pony Duchess. A potluck supper was enjoyed by all after.

June 20th the club hosted a drive through the Battle River Valley in conjunction with a Trail Ride for STARS. There were 43 precipitants, from all round Alberta and from as far away as Ontario.
A great time was had by all. Door prizes were given out for various categories with Alfred Engel of Castor raising the most pledges for the males and the Hewitt girls winning for the females .Lunch was provided by Bar L Lazy T Ranch and supper was sponsored by the Alliance Seed Cleaning Plant & Terry Howe and was prepared by Marilyn Polege. It was well attended and was very delicious. The drive was hosted in part by the Stonebridge Driving Club and $6094.20 was presented to STARS.

July saw our fourth Annual No ?itch Hitch at Rosalind. Our entries were down a bit this year as we picked the same weekend as the world Miniature Horse Show in Calgary, so lost out on a number of our mini drivers. (We'll fix that next year!) But we still had 16 entries, with two junior whips showing. Our sponsors came through for us again this year and we were able to present our top prizes of embroidered directors chairs for High Point and Reserve High Point Preliminary and Training divisions, a High Point and Reserve High Point Junior Award and of course, the best Gator and the Sportsmanship Award. These highly coveted chairs were presented at the end of the show to much cheering and friendly teasing from those attending. Our auction brought in $1650.00 and we fed over 75 steaks to competitors and volunteers on Saturday night. A fine time was had by all.

Left: Roxy Bell and Dixie Chick with groom Aldona Tracy driving through the Fort at the NBH.
Right: Judy Orr-Bertelsen and Luke with groom Kathy Helmig driving through the Fort at the NBH.

We have a new driving venue with Judy and Brian Bertelsen who live just West of Innisvail opening their new combined driving course on the 12th & 13th of September. This will be a complimentary fun show to the No ?itch Hitch. The cross country drive is well worth coming out for and the overall scenic view is unbelievable. For more information on this show, view the Stone Bridge list of events or call Judy at 403 728-3282.

Have a great summer and keep your wheels on the ground!

Left: Morris Helmig and Duchess with groom Otto Helmig cruising through the fort at the NBH.
Right: Cindy Holyoak and her horse Adamas in the cones course at the NBH.

Left: Al Thomas and groom Gary Stienwand driving Gary's new pair of Arab geldings in the warm up area at the NBH.
Right: Judy Orr-Bertelsen driving Luke in the dressage ring at the NBH.

Patty Carley & Nikki at High Country Driving trials.

Margaret Gosling with Starlight and Harmony at May 2009 Kathleen Winfield Clinic

Doug Orr & Ringo at High Country.

ACDA needs a Newsletter Editor!

Feel an overwhelming need to let out your creative side? ACDA is looking for someone with knowledge or the desire to learn how to make the voice of ACDA available to the membership. If your interested please contact Chuck Taylor at cwtaylor@mcinnesappraisals.com .

Alberta Carriage Driving Association

Annual General Meeting

November 14th, 2009

Leduc Denham/ Best Western Inn

Tentative Schedule:

Directors Meeting— 10 am

Directors light lunch— 12:30 pm

AGM— 1:00 pm

Any Proposed bylaw amendments must be in to the Secretary by August 29th, 2009.

If people want to bring donations for a silent auction, Jennifer Mills will look after the bid sheets, etc. Please contact her at 780 963-3031.

Please send in any concerns to be included in the agenda at the AGM to Jackie Lanman at circlescontrols@telus.net or call her at 403) 345-5385.

We can address your needs as members when two things happen:

1. We know what you would like us to do
2. When you help make it happen

Hope to see you there!