



Winter 2010 Newsletter

2010 Board of Directors

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From the Bylaws of the Middle Tennessee Carriage Club (MTCC):

The Middle Tennessee Carriage Club was established April 13, 1993 and incorporated January 14, 2002 . The MTCC is a nonprofit corporation.

The purpose of the Club is :

- To promote the sport of driving of horses and ponies to carriages, both competitively and for pleasure
- To educate current and prospective drivers in techniques of safe and fun carriage driving
- To organize driving events and to facilitate the organization of driving events by others, including the rendering of technical assistance to event organizers and the publishing of event calendars
- To be a medium through which carriage drivers may meet other drivers in this area to swap ideas and be supportive of each other.



President's Message

A note from Rebecca . . .

As I am writing to you today, I sit looking out at about 5 inches of snow topped with a crust of ice and it is now snowing again; it seems unlikely that it will ever be driving weather again! The good news is that as the days progress we'll begin to see a nice day here and there. These nice days will then start

being more frequent and the winter days less frequent and before we know it, it will once again be time to pull the carriages out! My hope is that we are all using these winter days to plan for upcoming competitions, setting some goals for ourselves, and maybe even deciding this is the year to try something new. With this in mind we already have several items on our calendar and information is following in this newsletter. Some of us might find ourselves still not able to compete, but still want to be involved in some way. There are always needs for each of our activities for volunteers: timers, "office" help, hospitality, and more, and there is NO better way to find out what MTCC has to offer than getting involved. If you are interested in learning more about volunteering at any of our events or activities contact the organizer(s) listed and they will fill you in.

I am excited to share that at our last meeting much discussion was given to how we can help drivers who are new or new to our club's competitions. When you enter you will see a box to check to notify us, in turn we plan for someone to contact you to see if you have any questions we can help you with. Once the day of the activity or competition is here, we then strive to have someone in attendance to

once again answer questions and be of assistance in helping you find the secretary's desk, what to expect for the day's activities, etc.

I am looking forward to warmer weather and especially driving with my MTCC friends again. If I can ever be of assistance to you, don't hesitate to contact me -- 615-969-3822, or mrebeccajones@gmail.com

I hope to see you soon!

Norwegian Fjord Horse Annual Membership Meeting.

By Ardeth Obenauf

This fall I was asked to run for the Board of Directors of the Norwegian Fjord Horse Association and after agreeing to do so was totally shocked to learn that I had been elected! As a result, I attended the Annual Membership Meeting and Educational Forum sponsored by the Norwegian Fjord Horse Registry (NFHR) which coincided with the face to face Board Meeting that occurs once per year (our other meetings are telephone conference calls). The meeting was held in Herndon, Virginia, just outside Washington, D.C., and lasted from Friday morning through Sunday afternoon.

There were many interesting speakers at the Educational Forum, especially Andy Marcoux, who was entertaining as well as informative. The Forum also featured a silent auction (I bid on, but did not buy a fabulous afghan with fjord horses knitted into it), a members cocktail reception and some vendors. The Board Meeting was largely devoted to getting organized for the coming year. I knew the committee assignments would be handed out, and since I knew which committees I did not want to be in charge of, I volunteered for the Education Committee on which I have served in the past. I'm in the process of putting a committee together, but in the meantime have been busy with projects already. The NFHR is a breed partner with the American Driving Society (ADS), so I had to supply material for the fjord web page on the ADS sight and I'll be providing an article on driving fjords for an upcoming edition of the Whip. And there is a very strong chance that the next Educational Forum and Membership Meeting will be held in Nashville, which will make it largely my responsibility. I already knew some of my fellow board members, and those that are new to me seem capable and responsible. I'm looking forward to working with all of them plus the members of the NFHR. ==

Degenerative Suspensory Ligament Desmitis Update

by: Stacey Oke, DVM, MSc

December 17, 2009, Article # 15489

Equine.com

Peruvian Paso, Arabian, American Saddlebred, and American Quarter Horse owners have been patiently waiting for an update on the diagnosis and treatment of equine systemic proteoglycan accumulation (ESPA). While no new data has been published recently, researchers have been working diligently to make progress in this field.

ESPA is a "new" name for an old disease: degenerative suspensory ligament desmitis (DSLDD), a heritable, debilitating syndrome characterized by "an insidious onset of either bilateral or quadrilateral lameness with no history of trauma or injury," according to P.O. Eric Mueller, DVM, PhD, Dipl. ACVS, professor of surgery and Director of Equine Programs at the University of Georgia Large Animal Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

The condition was (and often continues to be) referred to as DSLDD because it was widely thought to affect only the suspensory ligament. Either way, the condition is often progressive, leading to recurrent, incurable lameness and, oftentimes, euthanasia. The underlying cause is an overabundance of molecules called proteoglycans (part protein, part carbohydrate) in the suspensory ligament.

In 2006, researchers found that the excessive accumulation of proteoglycans occurred in a variety of anatomic structures with high amounts of connective tissues. Along with the suspensory ligament, these tissues include the:

- Deep and superficial digital flexor tendons;
- Patellar ligaments;
- Aorta;
- Coronary arteries;
- Ocular sclera, and
- Nuchal ligament.

Subsequent to this [published study](#), which was [previously reported on TheHorse.com](#), Mueller, Jaroslava Halper, MD, PhD, from the University of Georgia's College of Veterinary Medicine, and colleagues suggested ESPA as it better describes the condition as a systemic disease in which the proteoglycan decorin accumulates in a number of tissues throughout the body.



An affected horse.

Decorin is a small proteoglycan intimately involved in collagen fibrillogenesis. That is, decorin plays an important role in the formation of the strong collagen fibers that are found in connective tissues such as tendons and ligaments.

"We hypothesize that the biochemically and biologically altered decorin found in ESPA leads to impaired regulation of collagen fibrillogenesis, secondary decreases in biomechanical strength of the affected tissues, with eventual tendon and ligament failure as the clinical consequence," explained Halper.

The condition continues to be a diagnostic challenge.

"On ultrasound, the affected structures have a loss of normal appearance, an irregular fiber pattern, and occasionally calcification in the ligamentous tissues," explained Mueller. He did add, however, that it is not possible to differentiate between injury and ESPA based on ultrasound alone. "ESPA-affected tissues postmortem do not have the characteristic fibrosis (scarring) and inflammation observed microscopically that is seen with chronic injury."

The research team started evaluating nuchal biopsies after their paper on ESPA was published.

"The test involves biopsying the nuchal ligament, staining the proteoglycans, and examining the biopsies microscopically to determine if excessive amounts of the proteoglycan called decorin are present in the tissues," Muller said. "It is a subjective test and at the present time it is not possible to make any recommendations on breeding or removing affected horses based solely on the test results."

If the test is positive in a horse demonstrating signs consistent with ESPA, it helps support the diagnosis of ESPA.

"If, however, the horse is asymptomatic and has abnormal amounts of proteoglycan in the nuchal ligament tissues, we still do not have enough information and the test is not specific enough to make any conclusions on whether or not the horse will ever develop clinical symptoms," Mueller said.

Other aspects of the disease that continue to frustrate researchers and horse owners alike is the fact that the underlying mechanism remains undefined.

Halper is hoping that more detailed information regarding the molecular characterization of ESPA will be published in the veterinary literature within the next year.

In the interim, additional research is ongoing.

"We have submitted a grant for funding in collaboration with scientists at Texas A&M in an attempt to design a more specific test that will identify affected horses earlier in the course of disease with the hope that one day we can identify affected horses before the onset of clinical symptoms," Mueller said.

Accurate and early identification of affected horses before clinical signs are apparent will allow owners to make informed decisions on breeding and management of these horses in the hopes of minimizing the morbidity, emotional impact, and economic losses associated with this debilitating disease.

Veterinarians who would like more information regarding nuchal biopsies and tissue handling can [contact Halper at UGA](#).

WHAT OWNING A HORSE MEANS:

by Anon

When you are tense, let me teach you to relax.
When you are short sighted, let me teach you to see.
When you are short tempered, let me teach you to be patient.
When you are quick to react, let me teach you to be thoughtful.
When you are angry, let me teach you to be serene.
When you feel superior, let me teach you to be respectful.
When you are self-absorbed, let me teach you to think of greater things.
When you are arrogant, let me teach you humility.
When you are lonely, let me be your companion.
When you are tired, let me carry the load.
When you need to learn, let me teach you.
After all, I am your horse.

And now... The REST of the STORY!

When you are tense, let me teach you that there are dragons in the forest and we need to leave NOW!
When you are short-sighted, let me teach you to figure out where exactly in the 40 acres I am hiding.
When you are short-tempered, let me teach you how to slog around the pasture for an hour before you can catch me.
When you are quick to react, let me teach you that herbivores kick MUCH faster than omnivores.
When you are angry, let me teach you how well I can stand on my hind feet, because I don't FEEL like cantering on my right lead today, that's why.
When you are worried, let me entertain you with my mystery lameness, GI complaint and skin disease.
When you feel superior, let me teach you that, mostly, you are the maid service.
When you are self-absorbed, let me teach you to PAY ATTENTION. I told you about those dragons in the forest.
When you are arrogant, let me teach you what 1200 lbs of yipee-yahoo-gotta-go horse can do when suitably inspired.
When you are lonely, let me be your companion. Let's do lunch. Breakfast and dinner sound good, too.
When you are tired, don't forget about the 600 lbs of grain that needs to be unloaded.
When you are feeling financially secure, let me teach you the meaning of "veterinary services".
When you need to learn, hang around the barn, Bud, I'll learn ya. :-)

anonymous

The American Horse Council's Welfare Code of Practice

by: Press Release

January 15, 2010

The American Horse Council (AHC) is pleased to announce the American Endurance Ride Conference, the American Paint Horse Association, the National Cutting Horse Association, and the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association have recently endorsed the Welfare Code of Practice further broadening the industry support of a national code. The AHC drafted the Welfare Code of Practice, which outlines in generic terms what it means for an organization to be committed to the responsible breeding, training, care, use, enjoyment, transport, and retirement of horses.

Many associations have undertaken studies, reviews, and initiatives that indicate their commitment to the welfare of their horses. This generic code is simply a continuation of that effort.

"The American Horse Council's Welfare Code of Practice demonstrates the equine industry's commitment to the welfare and safety of the horse," said Dan Metzger, president of the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association. "We wholeheartedly endorse these principles and encourage other equine organizations to do so as well."

In endorsing the code, Laura Hayes, Vice President of the American Endurance Ride Conference (AERC) and Chair of the AERC's Welfare of the Horse Committee said, "We are pleased to endorse this document as an extension of our commitment to the health, welfare and longevity of our equine partners."

"The American Paint Horse Association (APHA) is and always has been committed to the humane and proper treatment of all horses," said Lex Smurthwaite, Executive Director. "By supporting and endorsing the Code of Practice, APHA's leadership has taken that commitment to an even higher standard. We are pleased that the American Horse Council has provided a vehicle for all associations to join together to see that the welfare of our horses continues to be our primary concern."

"The 20,000-member National Cutting Horse Association (NCHA) is proud to add our organization to the list of those in the horse industry that have adopted the AHC Welfare Code of Practice," said Lindy Burch. Burch is Past-President of the NCHA and currently serves as Chairperson of the NCHA Horse & Cattle Welfare Committee. "Adopting this policy and having our members abide by its standards is just one of the many ways the NCHA is proactively ensuring the welfare of our horses in cutting horse competition. We appreciate and respect the leadership exhibited by the AHC in formalizing this Code of Practice so that all disciplines can work together in this important initiative."

"We are pleased with the positive feedback and continued interest we have received from a broad spectrum of equine organizations since the Welfare Code of Practice was announced this past November," said AHC President Jay Hickey. "This latest round of endorsements further demonstrates to the public the industry's unified commitment to the welfare and safety of horses, and we hope to build upon this momentum to bring in as many organizations as possible to further reinforce the industry's commitment to safety, health, care and welfare of all horses."

The AHC's Welfare Code of Practice has already been supported by the American Association of Equine Practitioner, the American Quarter Horse Association, the Kentucky Thoroughbred Association, the National Thoroughbred Racing Association, the U.S. Equestrian Federation, and the U.S. Trotting

Association. The Code is not intended to replace or pre-empt those activities or any rules and regulations specific to a segment of the industry. Rather it is hoped that the endorsement of a broad, more generic Welfare Code of Practice by as many organizations as possible will be another indication to the public, the media, federal and state officials and the horse community that the horse industry "Puts the Horse First."

To view the complete Welfare Code of Practice please visit the AHC website at:

<https://www.horsecouncil.org/newsroom.php>

Member Profile: Peppy Butler

Hello! I grew up in Memphis riding with the West Tennessee Pony Club, Foxhunting with Longreen Hounds and Eventing. It wasn't until I moved to Franklin as an adult that I discovered driving. In 2001, Dave and I had accumulated a pasture full of ponies for our children who were too young to even ride at the time. I stopped by my neighbor Laura Grimes house to see if she could teach them how to drive as well as me. She recommended that I purchase a "ready made" driving pony if I wanted to start off safely. I am so glad she did. I bought Lucy, an adorable red roan welsh pony from Rebecca Jones. That pony got me hooked on the pleasure shows and interested in Driving Trials. Since then I have owned several different driving ponies and love all disciplines available.

We currently own 9 horses/ponies, but only 3 of them drive. Grace and Libby are very involved with the Middle Tennessee Pony Club and plan to compete in Show Jumping Rally as well as many Dressage Shows this year. I actually have a show horse for myself this year for the first time in 12 years! 2010 will be a fun year for me to be back in the show ring, in a saddle! I am sure you will see us "in the box" several times this year too. Grace and Libby love getting our miniature "Snuffy" out to some of the MTCC Fun Activities. We look forward to hosting the ADT June 19th! Hope to see you all there!



Peppy, Dave, Grace and Libby Butler

Peppy Butler
615-812-3728

Don't forget to visit <http://www.midtenncarriageclub.org> for the most current news and classified.

My Name is Bud Miller.

By Brenda Sweeney

My name is Bud Miller, and I am the best Haflinger Pony to ever trot down the road. How do I know this, you ask? Well, I have heard the talk! Here is my story, and I am sticking to it!

Born on an Amish farm in Ohio, I spent my early years learning to be a good Amish work pony. I learned stuff like this. If the human looks your way, run the other way. If you must go in a stall, hide in the corner until the human leaves. You must always wiggle and worm while being harnessed to show how eager you are to get on with the day. Once you are in harness, lunge forward with all your might and haul butt down the road as fast your feet will beat! You get the picture - and, I was good!

One day my mate, Merlin, and I found ourselves in a big barn tied with many other horses, ponies and mules. There was excitement in the air as well as too many people starring at us, poking at us and whispering about us. Next thing we knew, we were in a ring with lots of yelling. That is when I saw him. The human of my dreams. He was standing near the ring with these two female humans that I could tell thought they knew everything about horses. Seems that my mate Merlin and I were on the auction block and no human wanted to pay our Amish human what we were worth. Back to the barn with us. My dream human came by to talk to me. He is so slick! He ditched those two female humans, slipped around to my Amish human, and made a deal that would take me to Tennessee. If you could have seen the looks on the faces of the two female humans when my dream human hugged me and told them - "my pony!"

So, it was off to Tennessee for me and now to live with the English. I was so proud to show off my Amish lessons. These English humans of mine were not very smart and so slow. I had to learn to stand still to be harnessed,. It is even OK to nap! Good things happen when you come when you are called. My stall is my own and it is shelter from the storm, the heat and pesky flies. We don't seem to be in a hurry for anything, so I walk instead of lunge and wait for my favorite words, "and trot."

As Bud Miller, the English Haflinger Pony, I have competed in a Middle Tennessee Carriage Club's One Day Event, and I have attended three National Drives. Did I mention human grandchildren? I have had the honor to teach both Raigan and Graison to ride and drive.



My human's granddaughter, Raigan, takes a lesson on me.

My life with the English is good. Lots of hugs and treats from my dream human and oh - those two female humans. Well, they are some of my biggest fans!

So-trot on! My Name is Bud Miller! And this is the rest of the story!

WE ASKED AND YOU ANSWEREDTHE RESULTS ARE.....

Quick Member/Guest Survey from the Annual Meeting

At our Annual meeting held in November four questions were asked of those in attendance. Members and guests in attendance were asked to “brainstorm” answers to complete their lists. Here is a quick (non-scientific!) culmination what those in attendance had to say:

What would each of us say about his/her driving?

Good company of folks	Get togethers usually involve food
Don't drive enough	Need more clinics
Getting spouse ready to go to events	I am an interested observer
Assist w/ chores associated with driving	Assist paying for this hobby
National drive	Dinner
Meeting people my wife has met at lessons	Have fun!
Learn all I can	Do my best
Learning	Fun & eating and friends
Lessons with Johnny	Fun
Challenging	Training mule
I like to learn more about driving	I like to drive across country
Fun with horses	Friends
Competition	Pleasure
Friends	Being outside
Safety	Have fun
Enjoy my horses	Cleaning harness/carriage or not
Bad driver	Fun
My wife is the driver	
I enjoy driving with the club and having fun with my horse	
Great dinner at annual meeting and dinner party	
Most exciting way to handle a horse	

What would each of us say about our club (Middle TN Carriage Club)?

Who are all those members that we never meet?
Meetings usually too far away
Nice folks/ Great friends over time
Fun activities/ Fun event locations/ Well run events/ Very user friendly
Trophies
I love to see everyone hitched up and having fun (especially kids driving)
I appreciate opportunities the club gives/ Learning (education)
Meet like-minded people/ Friends/ Great friends/ Good people/ Friendly people/ Friendly
TDD (Traditional Day of Driving)
A little clickish
Fun/ Fun times/ Fun to be there
Activity-events/ Fun driving for pleasure and competition/ Opportunities to drive
It is a great group of people who are fun to be around
Good fun and good food/ Great food/ Food/ Good food

Lack of membership involvement
Travel

What would each of us say about our driving goals?

Do more CDE competitions
Get into better shape
Enjoying watching my sweetie with her driving
Get a 40 on a preliminary dressage test
Compete in Indiana CDE
Get to drive 3 days a week
Improve driving knowledge in our area
Promote safety
Support related activities
Participate in community events to make the club known to the public
To learn all I can to make driving fun for me and horse
To do some showing just for fun
Go to national drive and take advantage of opportunities these
Get a great driving horse
Make more friends
Getting better with animals
Training new animal
Events
Drive more/ Get better/ Be a better driver/ Drive in more places
Learn more
Have fun/Enjoy driving more
Intermediate level
Pairs driving
Driving destinations
Drive Achenbach
Spend less

What would each of us say about our club's goals?

More members more regularly involved/ Increase membership/ More members
Try to find a way to do more fun day and get-togethers/ Have fun safe events
Meeting more people possibly clinics with nearby clubs
Move meetings around/Educational membership meetings/Meeting place convenient to most
More clinics/ More clinics if possible/ Clinic w/ Johnny Ruhl
Dressage show
Driving opportunities and events
Recreational drives/ More trail or pleasure drives/ More fun events (not necessarily big)
Fun activities/events/ Have more fun drives/ Fun show/ Have more clinics/ Group drives
Good calendars to schedule/ Provide learning opportunities
Food.

Special Announcements

Cones Fun Day

Saturday, March 13

Beechgrove Cattle Company
(just off I-24)
1023 Norton Branch Road
Beechgrove, TN 37018
931-394-4242

Contact Rebecca Jones with questions:
615-969-3822, mrebeccajones@gmail.com

Plans are now underway for our spring Cones Fun Day!

- 10:30 - Competition information available and first cones courses available to walk
- 11:00 – 12:00 join us for a pot-luck picnic lunch (drinks provided)
Following lunch, more course walking, warm-up, etc.
- 1:00 – Competition begins

So what is a Cones Fun Day? We want it to be just this – a focus on cones and other obstacles that might be seen in various cones courses, and we want it to be FUN! NO ENTRY FEE, although we do ask that you let us know you plan to come by entering on the club's website. We plan on having several types of cones courses/competitions throughout the afternoon and time will be kept on all competitors. As we get closer to the event more information will be available (check the website) about the different cones competitions we plan to have and basic instructions for each type of competition. Haven't ever driven cones before? This is a GREAT opportunity to see what the fun is all about! No particular vehicle requirements, although we will have a safety check to ensure that all turnouts are ready for the day's activities. A few of things that we do ask for all to carry or have is 1.) a cavesson or noseband on your horse's or pony's bridle, 2.) carry a whip, and 3.) wear gloves. If the weather looks "iffy", we will make a determination by 9:00 that morning, call or email Rebecca for verification if needed. Check the website closer to the date for more information; we look forward to seeing you!

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Quiet Moon

*A Traditional **Fun** Day of Driving*
MoonShadow and Quietude Farms
2909 Beech Log Road
Watertown, TN 37184
May 1, 2010

Event will be held rain or shine.

Entry Closing/Postmark Date: **April 24th**

Organizers: Laura Nuessle quietudefarm@aol.com
615-237-9099

Brenda Aiken Brenda@moonshadowfarm.us
615-336-8994
Limited to 25 entries
You may enter this event by going to:
www.midtenncarriageclub.org

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Horse Stuff Consignment Sale

Come Consign your "stuff" ANY THING HORSE RELATED!!!!!! This was the best sale in OCTOBER.... We sold over \$25,000 worth of peoples "stuff" in 2 days. We had such a GREAT response that we wanted to do it again before the show season and trail season. Peoples tack was turned into cash and put back in their pockets! We sell your stuff for you! I know that in your tack room or trailer there is "stuff"dust it off...clean it up....tag it and bring it! It is easy! Drop off dates:

Sunday Feb 21st 12:00 pm– 5:00 pm

Monday Feb 22nd 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm Open to the Public February 27th and 28th

4175 Trinity Road; Franklin , TN 37067

Trinity Road intersects Hwy 96--5 miles east of I-65 and 6 miles west of Triune
Turn south onto Trinity Road ; the sale will be 1.8 miles on your right.

Peppy Butler ; (615) 812-3728; Pwbutler@hotmail.com

Beth Bankemper; (615)364-7525; bbankemper@bellsouth.net

Seller Information

- Email name, address & phone to Pwbutler@hotmail.com to obtain a seller #.
 - Items Accepted: Western & English-Anything horse related; blankets, bridles, bits, saddles, pads, clothing, chaps, jackets, buckets, saddle racks, trailers, horse decorations, horse prints, etc. Show clothing must be current and not outdated.
 - We even have room to park Trailers that are for sale!
 - Clothing must be facing left on hangers with cards safety pinned to upper right corner (NO straight pins)
 - All cards should include seller number, brief description, size (if applicable) and priced (See diagram below). Please use 3x5 index cards.
- | Seller # | Size | Description | Price |
|----------|------|-------------|-------|
|----------|------|-------------|-------|
- You will receive 70% of items under \$200, 80% of items \$200 - \$1000, and 90% of items over \$1000.
 - Bulletin Board available to advertise horses, trailers and services for a \$5.00 fee.
 - There will be \$5.00 advertising fee per consignor. Please bring this with you when you drop off your consignment items.
 - We will advertise on Craigs List and The Tennessean.
 - Please pass this along to all of your organizations and friends.

Drop off dates:

Sunday Feb 21st 12:00 pm– 5:00 pm

Monday Feb 22nd 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Pre-Sale: Consignors Only to Shop

Thursday February 25th 5:00 pm– 8:00 pm

Open to the Public Sale:

Friday Feb 26th 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday Feb 27th 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Pick Up Date/ 1 Day ONLY!:

Sunday February 28th 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Any items not picked up by 5:00 Sunday will be considered a donatio

Peppy Butler

615-812-3728

pwbutler@hotmail.com

Location: 4175 Trinity Road Franklin Tn 37067

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**MTCC to Host Clinician Bob Giles
May 22 & 23**

Lazy AO Farm, Shelbyville, TN

It's not too soon to be thinking about signing up for the MTCC clinic with Bob Giles! Many members highly recommend Bob and are looking forward to his coming to Middle Tennessee – he works with all skill levels of both drivers and horses and ponies. The clinic will be held at the Lazy AO Farm, home of Ron & Ardeth Obenauf in Shelbyville. Reservations are now being taken for the clinic – contact Rebecca Jones at mrebeccajones@gmail.com for more information, (mail clinic fee to 5679 Oak Grove Road, Christiana, TN 37037), slots are reserved on a first-come, first-paid basis. Some stabling will be available, contact organizer for more information. Cost of a lessons are \$65 for MTCC members/\$75 for nonmembers, auditing fee is \$20. We tentatively plan to have lessons on Saturday and Sunday, but could possibly add Friday as well; reserve early to have your choice of days and times. Want to find out more about Bob? See the Winter Hill Driving Center's website (www.winterhilldrivingcenter.com).

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Let's Go - Road Trips.....

March 30 – April 5 – Black Prong Recreational Drive and day trip to Live Oak CDE

Road Trip coordinator Laura Nuessle quietudefarm@aol.com

Black Prong is located in Bronson Florida just west of Ocala and backs up to the Goethe State Forest. There are miles and miles of carriage trails. Bob Giles may be available for lessons and a clinic if enough are interested. There is a planned evening trip to the coast on Cedar Key for dinner for those interested. The Live Oak CDE will be March 25-28 and some of us will be making a day trip to watch the show.

Approximate cost for one week including 1 stall and 1 campsite with electric and water \$320.00 . For detailed list of accommodations see the web site.

Contact : 352 486 1234 you will talk to either Stephanie or Bill

Web site is: www.blackprong.com

July 5-11

Recreational Drive

BLOWING ROCK EQUESTRIAN CENTER

Blowing Rock N.C.

MTCC road Trip Coordinator Laura Nuessle

Quietudefarm@aol.com

Contact: Collette Mc Nell 828-295 4700

Web site: www.blowingrockquestrian.com

This will be our 4th year going as a group to Blowing Rock . What a great place to relax and drive. Escape the hot weather and breathe the mountain air. The town of Blowing Rock is only 2 miles away, a lovely tourist town filled with shops (don't miss the ice cream shop!) The trails are some of the nicest in the country, comparable to Acadia in Maine.

Cost for this trip will be about \$300.00 for 6 nights one horse and a campsite with water and electricity.

Check out their website for all the details.

To all the Black Prong campers! I thought you might like to see the schedule for the fabulous Live Oak CDE! It should be less than an hours drive from Black Prong to get there. Will be a great day trip! You can find more details at www.liveoakinternational.com

Laura Nuessle

Tentative Schedule

Entrance: \$5 per day per person

PLEASE NOTE DATE
CHANGES

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

Stables Open

**9 am DO NOT ARRIVE
SOONER**

Wednesday, March 24

FEI Competitor Packets available

11 am

**Intermediate Competitor Packets
Available**

12 pm

FEI Pony Measuring - Stable Area

2 pm

Thursday, March 25	Veterinary Inspection (FEI Only)	4 pm
	FEI Dressage	9:00 am
	Official Course Walk, the only time you will be allowed on the track except the immediate hazard area.	5 pm
	Course Briefing and complimentary Welcome BBQ	6:30 pm
Friday, March 26	Intermediate Dressage	9:00 am
<i>Saturday, March 27</i> <i>Concessions on site and lawn chairs suggested</i>	Cross County Marathon	9:00 am
	Approximately 4:30 after the marathon at Obstacle 7, Gene Dunbar, Farm and Ranch Group Executive, Presentation entitled Legacy or Lunacy (you choose) Passing the Farm down to the next generation(s).	4:30 pm
	Competitor's Party Reservations required	7 pm
Sunday, March 28	Obstacle Competition	9:00 am
	YMCA 5 and 10K race	
	Coaching Drive	All Day
	Classic Car Show	All Day
	Brunch starting at 9:30am followed by a luncheon in the Sponsor's Tent.	9:30 am
	Pat Parelli Demonstration	11:00 am - 1:00 pm

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The National Drive - HOOSIER HORSE PARK, SEPTEMBER 14-19, 2010

<http://www.nationaldrive.net/nationaldrive/index.html>

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American Driving Society Webinars – a great education tool!

By Rebecca Jones

ADS Webinar (information found and used with permission from CD-L lister in CA)--

ABOUT WEBINARS:

A webinar is a live seminar broadcast over the web. Just like a normal seminar, there's a visual presentation (like Power Point or slides) with a speaker and a moderator. The speaker talks and runs the visual presentation, the moderator (Susie from ADS) fields the questions and hands them over to the speaker, and all of this is happening through your computer rather than in some stuffy auditorium. It's cool.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

1. You sign up ahead of time by clicking on a link on the "webinars" page on the ADS website.

2. ADS then sends you a link with a code that allows you to join the webinar when the time comes. optional: You note the date/time on the calendar on your fridge, and put a sticky note on your computer screen - this is optional because ADS even sends you a reminder email.
3. Fifteen or so minutes before the start of the webinar, you hit the link to join, and the program downloads to your machine. (note: dialup won't handle it, go to a friend's DSL-equipped house with dinner and/or a bottle of wine and tell them it's a party) None of this requires any technical expertise on your part. Also, at the ADS site there may be a handouts file to download and print out if you want to take notes. During the webinar you can also type in questions, and they'll answer them as they go along.

This is such a great concept. It's useful, it's easy, it's free. There are no excuses for not giving this a try. This is a wonderful service that ADS is doing for us, and I sincerely hope that they can really expand on this program. I understand that they're even going to record the webinars and make DVDs for people who can't attend on the day/time. I would say that this is a lovely benefit of being an ADS member, but heck, you don't actually have to be an ADS member to attend. Hmmm - this is why you should become a member - support ADS! This is an excellent example of some of the great stuff they're doing for you!

The next thing you should do is go to the ADS website and click on the webinars link at the bottom of the navigation bar and check out the schedule - there's a good looking one coming up Feb. 11.

p.s. I just thought of another benefit - you know how sometimes in a regular seminar you're too chicken to raise your hand and ask your question? Here you can ask it (no matter how dumb it might be!) while staying in the safety and comfort of your own little space...

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Have Driving Stuff to Sell?

Did you know that the MTCC website (www.midtenncarriageclub.org) has a "Classified" section with contact links on who to get the information to? Also, at a recent meeting it was suggested that at our club functions throughout the year members might want to have their sale items available to others to see. If you have something to sell at an activity display it in a prominent location with pricing information and other details, and even better - if you need something to complete your driving turnout maybe you'll find just what you're looking for!

(If you are viewing this newsletter over the internet, you can [click here](#) to view classified advertising,ed.)
