

**Middle Tennessee Carriage Club  
Newsletter**

**September/October 2007**

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Notes from the September 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, at the home of Jeanette & Ronnie Haislip

Members present: Brenda Aiken, Victoria Bramblett, Jeanette & Ronnie Haislip, Leslie & Rebecca Jones, Roger McDonald, Jane Muir, Brooke Newell, Donny & Laura Nuessle, Jim Sweeney, Sarita Tudor, Deborah Wray

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved

Old Business:

The Nominating Committee reported that they have not been successful in getting any nominations for the office of Secretary for the upcoming term.

Possible meeting and tour of the Cannon Carriage Driving Center was discussed; Brenda is to continue to explore the possibility of the group going for a tour of the Keathley's carriage collection, and to hear from our ADS president.

Rebecca read a note from Tammy Speakman saying she hopes to volunteer at a function in the future, as well as extending an invitation to the club to come to Beech Grove for a pleasure drive sometime.

The Fall Frolic, October 20 - There was much discussion about whether or not there would be enough volunteers to offer anything other than the Scavenger Hunt. Sarita said that she would time cones with assistance in setting them up and getting all set for running a cones course. Several in attendance said they would help as needed, and all felt confident that the day would be lots of fun, and there would be plenty of driving opportunities for everyone!

New Business:

No location was set for the October 2 meeting, thereby the meeting is assumed to be cancelled.

The Annual Meeting & Cones Fun Day in November 2 at Donny & Laura Nuessle's - LOTS of planning is already underway. There will be a variety of cones classes offered, and more. Be watching for upcoming information!

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**Make Plans to join us at the *Fall Frolic***  
**Saturday, October 20, hosted by Ardeth & Ron Obenauf**  
**Lunch at 11:00, then we hook-up and drive following**  
**Be ready for the Scavenger Hunt, Gambler's Choice, and more!**  
**Details to follow by email as the date approaches**  
**Not driving? There will be lots of opportunities for volunteers, and there are**  
**usually some vehicles that need a passenger!**  
**Rain date Sunday, October 21**

**The Indiana CDE -- 2007**  
**by Ardeth Obenauf**

Every year the Indiana Combined Driving Event is held over Labor Day Weekend at the Indiana Horse Park in Edinburgh, Indiana. The IHP is constructed on part of an army base left over from World War II. They have done a wonderful job of creatively using the old facilities and adding new where needed. Old barracks have been converted into barns. A large open plan building that may have been a garage or factory is now an indoor arena. What looks like a training ground for combat is now part of the cross country course and used for combined driving as well. The new facilities include extensive camping, several large outdoor arenas, barns, and dressage arenas. They have enough space and facilities to hold several equine events at one time.

The CDE is sponsored by the Indiana Whips and Wheels, which seems to be a very active driving club. David Sadler from Illinois is the organizer, and he keeps everything running smoothly. Judging were Mary Ruth Marks, Marybeth Goree and Marsoe Larose. The technical delegate was Penny Nicely. The entries were full to overflowing--at one time 65 which became 61 actual entries. The large number of entries had dressage and cones going from 8 a.m. to 5:30 pm on Saturday. In spite of the large number of entries, there were no accidents or injuries reported during the event.

This year three entries from the Middle Tennessee Carriage Club went to the Hoosier State to compete: Brooke Newell drove Marquis at training level in their first CDE with Jane Muir navigating; Jeanette and Ronnie Haislip took Tapper in preliminary for the first time; and Mary Ellen Vance navigated for Lena and me also at preliminary. Dressage went well for all the MTCC entries and we all had double clear rounds in cones. Going into the marathon, Brooke was in third place in training. In preliminary, Jeanette was in 7th and I was in 3rd. The marathon course was great, no hills, great footing and beautiful hazards. Brooke and Jane took a wrong turn coming out of one of the hazards and repeated part of the course. They didn't incur any penalties for this other than the time penalties caused by the additional ground they covered, and they finished 8th. We maintained our third place and Jeanette had a great marathon and finished in fourth.

I can only report on my own marathon experience, but we had some great hazards and two could have been better--in one the route we planned was not the best and in another I midjudged a couple of turns, tangled with a couple of posts and cost us some time. Our water hazard was the best--Lena finally caught on that galloping through water is easier than trotting! I also took Jayne this year to compete in the combined test which is only dressage and cones. She was the only one in her class, so of course she was victorious, but she did have the 4th best dressage score of all the preliminary horses and we went double clear in cones again, so I was happy with her effort.

**A question for the group from member Maggie Melton, south of the border (the TN border!). . .**

Maggie would like to have some resources available when people ask her about someone to teach a horse or pony to drive. Please contact Maggie with name(s) of people that are available in our area or in Northern Alabama that can take a horse and start it for recreational driving. Contact Maggie at [mymyrdin@aol.com](mailto:mymyrdin@aol.com) and she will gladly pass along the information to those who inquire. Also, Maggie would like to know where people can find mule and donkey tack? Thanks in advance to those who pass along this information to her!

CONGRATULATIONS TO MTCC MEMBERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN  
THE  
NASHOBA CARRIAGE CLASSIC & ARENA DRIVING TRIAL  
SEPTEMBER 14-16, 2007  
GERMANTOWN, TN  
WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING ALL ABOUT THE SHOW!

**ATTENTION ALL DRIVING DUDES. . .**

New competition amongst your ranks! - Jim Sweeney is now the proud owner of a Halflinger pony named Bud Miller- and, according to Brenda, "He is way cool!" Could that be interpreted to mean he is a going to provide some tough cones competition in upcoming Dudes Classes?! Congratulations to Jim and Brenda! Brenda also sends word that her young Arabian is also doing well and that she and Jim are looking forward to doing some driving together.

**Dayton, TN Horse & Carriage Christmas Parade**

Saturday, December 1, Line-up begins at 4:00 p.m.

\$10.00 entry fee

Entry deadline, Tuesday, November 27

Cash Prizes awarded:

Best Christmas Spirit/Theme (\$100)

Best wagon or buggy (\$50)

Best caroling Group (\$100)

Best critter (\$50)

Best costumes (\$50)

**This year's theme: Christmas Past**

For more information, contact Kathy Griffin, 423-775-8385

Or [kgriffin@robinsonmfg.com](mailto:kgriffin@robinsonmfg.com)



**The Lazy AO Farm, Shelbyville, TN**  
**Featuring one of Brooke's famous Scavenger Hunts (promises to be the best yet!)**  
**Details to follow – not driving? Plan to come and help with the fun, plenty of**  
**volunteer opportunities for all!**

October 8 – 13  
October 26 – 28

National Drive, KY Horse Park, KY  
Partridge Hill Farm (Rebecca Billard) Centered Driving and Riding Clinic. More  
information to follow. Rebecca Billard, [partridgehill@earthlink.net](mailto:partridgehill@earthlink.net)

**November 3**

**MTCC Annual Meeting & Cones Fun Day (rain date 11/10)**

**Laura & Donny Nuessle's, Lebanon**

December 1

Dayton's (TN) Horse & Carriage Parade, "Christmas Past" Kathy Griffin

[kgriffin@robinsonmfg.com](mailto:kgriffin@robinsonmfg.com), 423-775-8385

**December 9**

**MTCC Christmas Party hosted by Victoria Bramblett, Fayetteville, TN**

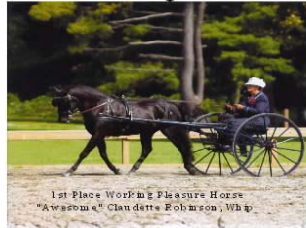
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**Classified Ads**

**Have Something to Sell? Contact Rebecca at [MTCCNews@aol.com](mailto:MTCCNews@aol.com)**

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