

2009 ADS ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING MINUTES
MORVEN PARK, LEESBURG, VA
AUGUST 8, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Keathley at 4:15 PM EDT.

Secretary's Report: Secretary Ann Davis reported that a required quorum, one hundred ADS members plus proxies signed by ADS members giving voting representation to a ADS member, was present so the meeting could be convened.

President's Comments:

President Keathley reported that the ADS is doing well despite the weak economy. Further, the ADS Board of Director's committees are functioning as well as they ever have with plans proposed and implemented.

Executive Director's Comments:

ADS Executive Director, Susie Koos Acker highlighted a report that was submitted to the membership. (See attachment A). She commented that there are some show cancellation, casualties of the weak economy, but there are many people working to make a comeback. She has worked with the Marketing Committee to create Breed agreements with several breed organizations, to include the American Morgan Horse Association, the Friesian Horse of North America, the American Haflinger Registry, and has several others in the working stages. The ADS has been advertising in several magazines, to include the Equine Journal, the Carriage Association, and the Driving Digest. Other than the magazines with reciprocal advertising (such as the Driving Digest), all magazine advertising will be reviewed for the future for their usefulness in growing the ADS membership.

The Executive Director also explained the membership graph in the executive report, showing the growth in new membership but now the decline attributed to the poor economy. The decline is not significant but if the trend continues we will be potentially 80 members short of last year's numbers. She reported on the a very successful youth camp in the Midwest that has produced some a "cookbook" for how to do similar camps in other parts of the country and hopes to have that information online b the beginning of 2010. And last, it was reported that the ADS has cut costs on publications, by sending the Omnibus and the Whip together which save the society 1,400.00 in postage per issue.

Treasurer's Financial Update: Treasurer Bill Lawson highlighted a report submitted to the membership. (See attachment B) He emphasized the fact that the ADS operating loss compared to budget is down \$9500. Membership revenue is the largest single item driving these numbers. The other factor is the results of changing to a rolling membership. This means that some membership revenue received in 2009, other than January, will be shown in 2010 rather than 2009.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Combined Driving

The report was made by committee member Merridy Hance, highlighting the written report submitted by Chairman Tom Knicker. (See attachment C) She commented upon the proposed national championship for intermediate, the track width rule change, other rule changes, the organizer's kit, and the ADS representation on the USEF Technical Committee.

Pleasure Driving

Chairman Jeff Morse made brief comments on the submitted written report. (See attachment D)

Education Committee

Committee member Holly Pulsifer reported, highlighting the submitted report (see attachment E), but stressing that this is a new committee that is just beginning.

Rules Committee

Committee Chairman Simon Rosenman reported using his written report (see attachment F). He reported that the revision process has worked well with forty-five revisions for the July 31 deadline. Corrections will be taken to the Board of Directors at its meeting in October. The FEI has no new rules planned but there will be some clarifications.

Governance

Chair Mary Jo Stockman reported that most of the changes being submitted to the Board of Directors are mainly housekeeping. (See attachment G) A major change includes a process for sharing ADS rules with other organizations. This committee continues to work on formats for the committees.

Licensed Officials

Chair Dana Bright reported that this is a great committee. The purpose of the committee is to serve the needs of officials and membership. In its role, it networks with different committees. A current emphasis is the development of procedures for licensed officials. At this meeting, the committee completed a successful LOC training. Further training will take place at Shady Oaks, CA in September and a super clinic in Florida in February 2010. (See attachment H)

Marketing

Ann Davis, a member of the Marketing Committee, made a brief report. It included a report on the progress of committee members marketing the ADS to each of the several breeds, to include Morgans, Haflinger, Friesians, Fjords, Saddlebreds, and Arabs. Ann reported on her marketing efforts with completed strategies that include a Breed Agreement, an article in The Friesians, and the development of a booth at the FHANA show in Reno, Nevada next October. She reported also that the Marketing Committee is working with Accor Travel and US Rider on possible new member benefit programs. The committee is also working with Jeff Morse of the Pleasure Driving committee to create a forum for the USEF affiliate breed organizers at the next USEF / ADS meeting in January 2010.

WEG Ad Hoc Committee

John Frieburger and Jack Goodman of Kentucky have agreed to be co-chairs, and will begin work for an ADS presence at the WEG competition in the fall of 2010.

Event Standards

Chair Boots Wright stated that she has nothing to report. She further stated that there are some issues that will be coming up.

Dressage Committee

Members of the committee present referenced the written report. (See attachment I)

Development Committee

Members of the committee present referenced the written report (see attachment J)

Drivers with Disabilities Ad Hoc Committee

Debbie Banfield reported that she is putting together this committee with ADS members who have disabilities

Regional Representatives

Chair John Frieburger reported on several projects, to include: a successful Youth Clinic establishing a template for future clinics; a successful two day driving clinic, again establishing a template for future clinics; a reconsideration, by regional directors, of the regional websites; and a program to contact non-renewed members in each region. (See attachment K)

ADS Events

This is a new committee chaired by Holly Pulsifer. This committee is trying to develop ADS activities other than Pleasure Driving Shows and Combined Driving Events. Examples include: Continual Day of Driving, TREC Driving, Distance Driving, and Traditional Day of Driving (a CAA activity). The committee is working on packaging these events into an ADS activity with ADS safety standards. (See attachment L) While having the floor, chair Pulsifer mentioned that she is now the chair of the USEF Technical Committee and hopes to be able to find ways to tap into USEF resources.

ASK YOUR BOARD...AN OPEN QUESTIONS SESSION

President Keathley answered questions on the following subjects: standardizing of the safety check, the ADS booth; and activities in 2010.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM EDT.

Submitted by Secretary Ann Davis



Executive Director's Report

ADS Annual Members Meeting/Board of Directors Meeting
Leesburg, VA August 8, 2009

The health and welfare of our shows seems to be holding steady even in this difficult economic time. We had two shows cancel this spring season because of low entry numbers and have added one new event. Entry numbers have for the most part been running steady with small declines at some shows and increases at others, concluding that if shows are located in concentrated areas of drivers they remain viable. For this fall season we have the return of Maine Carriage Days after several years of lapse in ADS membership. We have experienced an increase in interest in having unrecognized club events become ADS recognized.

We have begun implementing the approved marketing plan in two areas. One is our Breed Partnership program. Our first responses have been very positive and we have three active partners already and two more interested organizations. The American Morgan Horse Association, the Friesian Horse Association of American and the American Haflinger Registry are our current partners. The objective of these partnerships is to initiate low cost or no cost opportunities to cross market the sport of driving to specific breed owners. We have run reciprocal ads in the AHR and Friesian magazines as well as doing reciprocal e-mail press releases with the Morgan Horse Association all with positive results.

The second area has been in placing ads in CAA, Driving Digest, Equine Journal, and the Massachusetts Horse Journal, that have been specifically targeted to new drivers. To date we have been able to track back the membership data directly back to these ads. Some Preliminary conclusions are that this type of advertising is not hugely productive for us, yielding just one or two new members each. The CAA and the Driving Digest ads do not cost us anything as we have a trade agreement with them. However the Equine Journal and the Massachusetts Horse Journal are ads we pay for. We seemed to yield the best results from ads placed with clubs or at regional events.

New membership numbers have declined a bit this year which is no real surprise considering the economy. The following table reflects our numbers since 2006

members	2009 (july)	2008	2007	2006
new members	261	426	454	391
non-renewing 06				117
non-renewing 07			109	53
Non-renewing 08		122	116	29

Currently we are averaging about 4 new members a week. If this trend continues we should end the year about 80 members short of last year's numbers. We may see an increase in memberships later this year due to the change from a yearly based membership to an anniversary based membership as the

southern show circuit begins and people renew their memberships. The top five states/Canadian Province for membership are:

- CA- 270
- PA-191
- FL-160
- NY-153
- WI-137

The ADS fund helps support many programs within the ADS, including young driver's camps. However, the Fund has had a difficult time in finding requests for support in this area. In 2006 an ADS member in Wisconsin passed away leaving the monetary gifts from his memorial to the ADS fund in support of a young driver's camp in the state. In June of this year the camp became a reality. Seventeen campers spent three days with nine volunteer mentors, and three instructors honing their competitive driving skills. Not only was the camp highly successful, but by its creation has produced a manual for driving, written for kids and a "cookbook" for clubs to use, to help them get started in their own areas. The organizers of the camp and in feedback from the parents feel that the format developed would also work exceedingly well for adults. All the documentation produced is in an editable format and can be modified to fit the needs of the adopting organization.

Like most horse organizations across the country the ADS has felt the pinch of our lack lustre economy. Our advertising dollars have declined over the past two years, at a rate near 16 percent, much lower than national average but still painful for our small organization. To adapt to this decrease in advertising revenue, we have had to streamline our publication production even further in order to continue to make it affordable for the organization to produce our magazines, without compromising on quality or content. This year we began mailing both the Whip and the Omnibus together, thereby saving more than 1000.00 dollars on postage for each mailing. This change in mailing has required a change in the Whip production schedule. This change has give us an opportunity to do a November "holiday gifts drivers must have" section that Sandra Cooke our Whip editor has begun working on. We hope to entice more advertisers with this special section and increase our advertising revenue for the 2009 year.

The bottom line for this organization remains the same....For the ADS to continue its mission, the membership must grow. In order to accomplish this goal, we need ALL of our members to help us bring more horsemen and women in to the sport of driving. This can be accomplished in a variety of ways, from simply taking a friend driving, thereby, peaking their interest in the sport, to maybe supporting a membership for a fellow club member that just couldn't renew this year. Consider volunteering a little time and effort to the sport, whether it be at the, local, club or ADS level. Write an article for your breed magazine about your ADS driving activities or send a picture of you driving to your regional equine publications to help spread the awareness of the sport beyond your backyard. These small gifts of time and a willingness to share your knowledge can have a bigger impact on a person than you might think.

TREASURERS REPORT - ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AUGUST 2009

I am pleased to be able to report that the American Driving Society completed fiscal year 2008 with a small operating gain reversing a string of several years with operating losses. In addition no funds donated to the ADS Fund were used to achieve these results. Several factors came together to make this possible and it certainly represents a significant turnaround but with that said we must realize that it is a small step on the road to a more secure financial condition. While we maintain adequate cash reserves to carry on our normal operations great care and caution should be exercised to keep us moving in the right direction. This is especially true in light of the current economic conditions.

Some highlights comparing 2007 and 2008 results.

Our total revenue from advertising in our publications fell by about \$37,000 but with a change in publisher, shifting some functions back in house and other savings we were able to reduce production costs by \$86,000 while maintaining the quality we all enjoy.

2008 gave us a growth in total memberships and improved revenue by \$15,000.

The net cost of operating meetings throughout the year increased by about \$5,000 but through careful management cost savings of \$15,000 were achieved in our general office operating expenses. On the other hand Employment related costs were up by about \$24,000.

A printout of our 2008 Income statement and Balance sheet follows this report.

If we turn our attention to 2009 the numbers are available through June. After excluding all activities of the ADS Fund we show a 6 month operating loss of \$8,713.05 or about \$9,500 worse than budget projections. There are pluses and minuses that make this up for example advertising revenue continues to feel the pressure of our times and is running below budget and in other areas we have managed to improve.

Membership revenue is by far the largest single item driving our numbers and it's effect can be broken down into two separate issues. A comparison of the total dollars received through June of 2009 and 2008 shows we are down just under \$13,000. This is a fairly small percentage of our membership revenue but it is down and not up which hurts us. The remaining 6 months of the year will tell the final story.

The second issue is more technical in nature and in accounting terms is called an "extraordinary item". It also represents an adjustment that affects the current year but will not have the same effect next year. The ADS made a decision to change from calendar year to rolling membership terms. Terms will run for 12 months from the start date regardless of when during the year it begins. As a result if a membership begins in July 2009 only half of the membership fee will be counted as 2009 revenue. The other half will become 2010 revenue since the membership does not expire until June 30, 2010 in this example. The bottom line is that following last years rules I would be reporting a gain of a couple of thousand dollars rather than a loss for 6 months.

In conclusion I will repeat something I have said before. You, our members are by far the greatest single asset of the American Driving Society. Only with your support can we carry on our support of the sport of driving.

William W. Lawson Jr.
Treasurer



American Driving Society

Combined Driving Committee

Report to Board of Directors

August, 2009
Morven Park, Leesburg, Va

Committee Chairman: Tom Knicker

The Combined Driving Committee has once again continued to refine the rules published in current rulebook – 2009 version. We have also been working on several other tasks including:

- a) Rule Change Proposals – We currently have several rule change proposals published on the website for membership review/comment. One of those proposals involves the standardization of cones settings. We expect to bring the final versions of these proposals to the board for approval at the October meeting.
- b) ADS North American Championship Program – We have continued to develop criteria to establish an awards program for Combined Driving to recognize the accomplishments of our competitors – See attached program summary submitted by Ellen Ettenger. While we initially proposed to use this program at the intermediate level, we anticipate including the preliminary level once the program is established.
- c) Rule Book Clarifications – The committee has also been addressing rules clarifications as they arise during the course of the year. Current issues include penalties regarding Section start times, scoring of the two section Cones Competition, breaks of pace at the end of Section E.
- d) Organizers Kit – The Organizers Kit has been updated and is going through a final review by the committee before we post the final version to the website.
- e) USEF Technical Committee – With the repopulation of this committee this past winter, the ADS Combined Driving Committee will working more closely with the national federation to review the sport of combined driving on a national level. This may involve the rulebook and licensing of officials.

Respectfully Submitted
Tom Knicker

The ADS Pleasure Driving Committee Report ~ Summer 2009

The ADS Pleasure Committee has primarily been focused on Rule Change Proposals since the last Board meeting. Many changes have been made and rules for Sleigh Rallies and Continuous Driving Events have been created and submitted. We are pleased to have had a Continuous Driving event conducted under these proposed rules at the meeting in Morven Park.

We have answered questions from several Pleasure Show organizers and reviewed several show prize lists. Organizers seem to be very thankful they can access this kind of resource. The desired effect is a reduction of confusion among officials and competitors and we think that is being realized.

Work continues on an online version of the Pleasure Show Organizers Handbook. A beta version is now online here: <http://pleasuredriving.blogspot.com/>

Submitted by:

Jeffrey Morse, Chairman

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Report—July, 2009

1. Learning outcomes for each category of officials were created and forward to the LOC. ADS Officials learning process and suggested mentoring program was outlined and submitted to that committee.
2. A comprehensive bibliography of books on driving, competing, training, and related subjects has been collected.
3. A video on cone setting requested by the Pleasure Driving Committee is being completed.
4. We were requested to write an examination for Pleasure Judges for the upcoming clinic. This was completed and submitted.
5. Our intent to provide electronic access to materials, experts, and interfacing is pending due to inadequate software capabilities. The ADS staff is researching software which would satisfy our goals.

Submitted by gerry pearson

ADS Rules Committee Board Report – August 9, 2009

The Rules Committee is pleased to report the revision process is working as envisioned. With the cooperation of the membership and the various technical committees, the deadlines for the 2010 edition as posted on the website (copy below) have been met this date.

A number of suggestions for changes were received by the June 1 submission deadline and subsequently forwarded to the applicable Technical Committees for their review. The Rules Committee was sent those accepted; prepared a consolidated document and arranged for posting by the July 31 deadline. There are 45 RCPs being circulated for member comments through the August 31 public review period.

The FEI is not planning any significant rule changes as of this date; however we are to expect a number of error corrections and clarifications that should not require ADS exceptions. We will not have a copy of any changes until after the FEI Driving Committee meeting in late August.

Comments received on the RCPs will be forwarded and considered by the appropriate Technical committees prior to the final change document being prepared and submitted for Board approval in October. An advanced copy of the completed Rulebook will be posted by December 1 for an effective date of January 1, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,
Simon Rosenman, Chair
ADS Rules Committee.

Members are:

Combined Driving – Merridy Hance
Competition Officials – Marcie Quist.
Driven Dressage – Hardy Zantke
Education -- Marc Johnson
Event Standards -- Boots Wright
Pleasure Driving – Jeff Morse
Recreational Driving – Pat Cheatham

Annual Deadlines	Requirement
June 1	change proposals send to rules@americandrivingsociety.org Rule Change Proposal Form
June 30	Tech committees review, comment and forward to Rules Committee
July 31	All RCPs posted to website for member comments
August 31	Member comment – send to rules@americandrivingsociety.org
September 30	Technical committees review comments and finalize language
Fall Board meeting	Rules committee final review, submit to Board for approval
December 1	Advance copy posted to ADS website
January 1	Effective date

Current Chart on Website:

Publications	(pages) 1/sheet	(pages) 2/sheet	(pages) 1/sheet	(pages) 2/sheet
2009 Volume I				
Updates / revisions				
Updates / revisions				
2009 Volume II				
Updates / revisions				
Updates / revisions				
ADS Competition Guidelines				
Updates / revisions				
Updates / revisions				
Handbook for Recreational Driving				
Updates / revisions				
Updates / revisions				

Revised Chart for Website:

Publications	Updates/Revisions					
2009 Volume I	(170) 30Jun09 (6.8 MB)	(85) 30Jun09 (4.5 MB)	(168) 30Jun09 (6.7 MB)	(84) 30Jun09 (4.4 KB)	(7) 30Jun09 (59 KB)	(4) 30Jun09 (48 KB)
2009 Volume II	(162) 30Jun09 (1.8 MB)	(81) 30Jun09 (1.6 MB)	(138) 30Jun09 (1.4 MB)	(69) 30Jun09 (1.3)	(7) 30Jun09 (59 KB)	(4) 30Jun09 (48 KB)
ADS Competition Guidelines			(16) 23Feb08 (137 KB)	(9) 23Feb08 (115 KB)		
Handbook for Recreational Driving			(10) 30Nov08 (72 KB)	(5) 30Nov08 (56 KB)		

Table reference file names:

Changes Illustrated:

- Volume I – 1/sheet = ADS Rulebook-2009-30Jun09-Vol-I-illustratedx1
- Volume I – 2/sheet = ADS Rulebook-2009-30Jun09-Vol-I-illustratedx2
- Volume II – 1/sheet = ADS Rulebook-2009-30Jun09-Vol-II-illustratedx1
- Volume II – 2/sheet = ADS Rulebook-2009-30Jun09-Vol-II-illustratedx2

Changes Incorporated:

- Volume I – 1/sheet = ADS Rulebook-2009-30Jun09-Vol-I-Incorporatedx1
- Volume I – 2/sheet = ADS Rulebook-2009-30Jun09-Vol-I-Incorporatedx2
- Volume II – 1/sheet = ADS Rulebook-2009-30Jun09-Vol-II-Incorporatedx1
- Volume II – 2/sheet = ADS Rulebook-2009-30Jun09-Vol-II-Incorporatedx2

Updates/Revisions:

- 1/sheet = ADS Rulebook-2009 (update)-30Jun09x1
- 2/sheet = ADS Rulebook-2009 (update)-30Jun09x2

Report of the Governance and Bylaws Committee
By Mary Jo Stockman, Chair
August 9, 2008

The Committee recommends the following amendments to the Bylaws:

Article V Directors

Section 3

(d) Resignation of Board Members. Any Officer or Director may resign from the Board of Directors by written notice, delivered by first class mail to the Society's Office. The resignation shall be effective upon receipt. In the event of long term or permanent disability, the spouse or guardian of the Officer or Director may resign on the Officer or Director's behalf.

An Officer or Director who fails to participate in any Board of Director or Committee meetings, without notice, in any 360 day period shall be deemed to have resigned."

Housekeeping Matters

Elaine Kendig has taken the responsibility for reviewing the Bylaws for editing and typing errors and we thus propose the following amendments that have no or minimal substantive effect but should be made in the interest of good governance:

CORPORATE ION BYLAWS

(as ~~approved~~ adopted by the Board of Directors ~~on July 13, 2008~~) October 2, 2005
Amended August 9, 2009

1. Change Corporation to Corporate. - *The society is a corporation, but these are the Corporate Bylaws.*
2. Strike "as approved" - insert "adopted" -
3. Strike "on July 13, 2008" replace by the date the totally rewritten Bylaws were adopted October 2, 2005
4. Add "Amended July 13, 2008" - this gives the date of the last "individual" change(s) Note: *If these changes/corrections are adopted the amended date will automatically become the date the amendments were adopted.]*

ARTICLE I: OFFICES

Section 1 Registered Office. The registered office shall be in the location provided by the Secretary to the Department of State of the State of New York from time to time, with the authorization of the Board of Directors.

[Restructure wording to make less awkward.] Amend to read: The registered office shall be at the location authorized by the Board of Directors. The location of the Registered Office shall be reported to the Department of State of the State of New York by the Corporate Secretary whenever the location is changed.]



Section 2 President. The President is the Chief Executive Officer of The American Driving Society, Inc. and a member and presiding officer of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors and Board of Directors.

Duties of the President

The President shall:

- a) ~~shall~~ preside at all meetings of the membership, the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors and the Board of Directors; *[Strike the word "shall" it is redundant]*
 - d) ~~together~~ with the Secretary, set and/or approve the agenda of any membership, Executive Committee of the Board of Directors or Board of Directors meeting; *[add the word "together" which was erroneously left out]*
- ~~~~~

ARTICLE VII: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall ~~elect~~ select an Executive Committee of the Board of Directors each even numbered calendar year of no more than ten (10). This committee shall include the President as Chairman, the Vice-President, the Secretary and the Treasurer. *[Change the word chairman to chair to make it gender neutral. Strike the word "elect" and insert the word "select". This was a typo. There was never any intent that another election take place.]*

Amendments to Policies & Procedures

The ADS has received a number of requests to use our rules for non-recognized competitions. Primarily these come from breed and foreign equestrian organizations. The Executive Committee has determined that because the rules are widely available it is necessary to develop a policy for their use that credits the source, keeps them current, and encourages the use of trained ADS officials. To that end, the Chairman of the Governance and Bylaws Committee recommends adoption of the following:

Article XI Rules

Section B. Use by Other Organizations

In order foster goodwill between equestrian organizations, promote the sport of driving and encourage the safe conduct of the sport, the ADS will, under the circumstances listed below, permit the use of the ADS rules as provided in the rulebook, by other organizations.

1. Who May Request

The President or Chief Executive Officer of any breed organization or club or the Organizer of any equestrian event that includes driving, in any nation, may request permission to use the ADS rulebook.

2. Form of Request

The request must be in writing and shall include:

- a. The name of the requesting organization

b. The address of the requestor

c. The following:

The American Driving Society, Inc. (ADS) grants to _____ (borrower) a limited license for the use of its rules. Borrower agrees that it is solely responsible for the application of the rules and understands that the rules, by themselves, are not a replacement for ADS officials who undergo extensive training in the operation of the rules as well as safety and emergency procedures. Borrower accepts all liability for the consequences of its use of these rules.

Borrower agrees to print the following statement on the front of all printed and electronic versions of the rules, or any part thereof, which the borrower creates by any means:

“The Carriage Driving Rules are made available through the courtesy of the American Driving Society, Inc. which has developed and promulgated rules for the sport of driving since its inception in 1975.”

Further, borrower agrees to footnote all changes borrower may make as follows:

“(Insert Name of Organization) has amended the American Driving Society, Inc.’s Rules as follows: (insert change of wording and date of change).”

Borrower agrees to keep the rules current with the changes provided on the American Driving Society, Inc.’s website and to make the changes to its own version of the rules in timely manner.

- d. The agreement shall be signed, dated and include the printed name and title of the person executing the agreement.
- e. All agreements shall be kept on file in the office of the ADS.

The Executive Director has requested that the Personnel Manual be included in the P&P. We will be reviewing it and will make a recommendation to the Board.

The Committee continues to work on the policies and procedures for the standing committees. We appreciate the committee chair’s cooperation.

Respectfully Submitted

Mary Jo Stockman

August 2009 Report, Licensed Official's Committee

The Licensed Official's Committee continues to be active in serving the interests of our official's and the rest of our membership. We network with the Dressage Committee, Combined Driving Committee, Pleasure Driving Committee and Education Committee to develop our curricula and evaluation process. Since the January 2009 meeting, we have written an expanded description of the learner application process, as well as the promotion application process. The office continues to receive applications that are not complete. Documentation of required activity is not given. We are also working on checklists for each category so that applicants and the office can be sure forms are complete, before they are ever passed to the LOC for review. These documents will be on the website after the August LOC. Regardless, it is the responsibility of the applicant to make sure their application is complete.

Two clinics have been planned for 2009 : Pleasure Driving Official's will be completed this weekend (with 15 officials and learners registered) , and Combined Driving Official's will take place Sept 12 - 13 at the Shady Oaks CDE in California. Both of these clinics will contain the Introductory Seminar to Judging Multiples, which was first presented at the May 2008 Pleasure Driving Official's Clinic in Pennsylvania. The next Super Clinic will take place for all officials at the Florida State Fair in February of 2010.

The LOC is also working with USEF LOC as the Discipline Affiliate. Many USEF Breed Shows are including Carriage Pleasure divisions; the ADS conducts the training for all driving judges. USEF judges must go through our training program to first obtain ADS licenses before they apply for USEF licenses. This way, we can be sure that these officials have a strong background in our sport to take to the breed shows.

We have also prepared an expanded document detailing the job description of the LOC to be included in the ADS Policies and Procedures Handbook. After final review, this will be available on the website.

It is encouraging to note that we have a steady flow of applicants entering the learner program. We realize the process of becoming an ADS officials is lengthy and expensive. Our duty to our membership is to provide strong training for officials, and our officials need peer interaction and support as they progress in their careers.

Dana Bright
Chair, ADS Licensed Officials Committee

Use of Jan forum for driving Jan 2010
Super Clinic - show standards - BRINDA & ADS general

2009 Dressage Committee Report
American Driving Society
July 2009

Chairperson: Larry Brinker

Committee Members: Hardy Zantke, Boots Wright, Dana Bright, Holly Brinker, Mary Harrison, Deryn Stewart, Shelly Temple, Kelly Valdez (and Marcie Quest not a official member but an outstanding voice in the wilderness)

Since the AGM in 2008 where only a couple our Committee members were present, the Dressage Committee has not officially met face to face. BUT the wonderful sunsets that we have been enjoying this year I am sure are the result of the sun reflecting off the cyberspace dust created by the Committee members constantly on the e-mail waves.

To date this year we have created a new ADT Dressage Test at each of the 4 levels, all including the incorporation of movements driven with the reins in one hand. Each of these tests have been tested at several different venues and reworked and reworked until they worked. Currently they are in the capable hands of Linda Yutzy who is putting the corresponding diagrams to the movements so the tests are ready for the soon be to be upon us indoor season. (East Coast that is ... as we on the West Coast are graced with sunshine and no snow 12 months of the year....and if you believe that.....)

We have also developed a new Intermediate CDE Dressage Test 6 for Singles and Pairs for a 40 X 80m ring (or 40 X 100m ring) that also uses one handed movements.

All of the above tests were put together and then given trial runs in a competition setting which seems to be a departure from what has normally been the status quo, with great results, as it has given a good many people input into what works and what needs work. I especially thank those of you that drove these tests and took the time to communicate back to the Committee; these tests are only as good as they are because of your input.

Here I must put in a special thank you to my wife Holly Brinker, who spent countless hours formatting them onto a template she devised. Roughly speaking I think it is safe to say each test took a minimum of 25 hours of computer time to do, redo, rework, redo... you get the picture. Amazingly our marriage still appears to be holding! Thanks Holly!

Each of the Committee members put in the effort, I tended to sit back and encourage and collate and keep the conversations going ... then take the credit.

In the works for next year is an Intermediate CDE Dressage Test 7 for Tandems and 4's, we had opportunity to talk with a couple 4-in-hand drivers and put together a pattern and actually have a team test drive it. They stayed on course and enjoyed the test so now the fun starts. As well, on a particularly boring stretch of West Coast Highway, Holly and I roughed out a Training level CDE Dressage test for outdoors that includes the use of one hand and a couple other fun things, stay tuned.

Too, we have been busy churning out questions for the LOC Committee to use on the Officials' written exam for the upgrading and updating clinics. Each committee member was charged with submitting 10 questions (with the answers and the rule) to the LOC. Dana Bright has been keeping track and since she is not screaming for more I will assume that all is well in LOC land as far as test questions are concerned.

Hardy has been tireless in writing articles for the Whip and the Wheelhorse, many of which have a decided Dressage slant. Thank you Hardy! You're opinions are always well thought out and strongly rooted in the classical arts.

I have written a couple things for the Whip as well, and I thank the editor for taking the time to edit and publish them, even though they may not be as classically correct as Hardy would like. (But they work.)

As well we have found time to update all the ADS Dressage Tests bringing them in line with the FEI by including the penalties for Disobediences. ADS has also incorporated the use of the term Marginal for the mark 5 (replacing sufficient).

And to think that on top of it all most of the Committee was actively competing and officiating as well. We need more hours in the day and more days in the week!

We leave you with thought for the coming season..... If you win the dressage you just have to make fewer mistakes than everyone else to win.... Not hope that they make more mistakes than you! Happy driving!

Development Committee Report

Submitted by: Jennifer Matheson, Chair
July 27, 2009

The Development Committee met via conference call in July to review the second round of grant applications. To date we have received 13 grant applications.

Financials as of July 22, 2008:

Funds raised:	\$41,519.00 (1)
Grants requested:	\$30,653
Grants approved:	\$17,945
Grants paid:	\$ 5,607

Expenses as of June 30, 2009: \$17,387

(1) There will be a difference between those funds recorded by the ADS Fund and those recorded by the Treasurer. This reflects differences as to where the funds are collected and report sharing. There is a complete reconciliation at year end.

The funds raised in 2009 reflect a **57% increase** over the same period last year. The majority of the funds raised in 2009 (58%) have been allocated to **unrestricted** funds.

Expenses are in line with last year.

51 % of the Board has made a donation as of June 30, 2009

The ADS Fund Executive Director, Jamie O'Rourke, has made monthly reports to the Chairman on his contacts on behalf of the Fund. The ADS Fund has started to make some of the changes based on recommendations from the Rutolo Study. We have started exploring the procedures required to establish an endowment fund.

The ADS Fund and USEF hosted a long-listed drivers and junior driver camp at Claire Reid's Big Sky Farm in July. The Fundraiser held Saturday evening netted over \$7500 for both the ADS Fund and 2009 World Championships.

Regions report

1. Education is the focus of the first part of the year. A successful youth driving clinic in the Midwest Region is being templated, complete with available personnel, budget and other details for distribution to all regional directors. Goal: Provide an easy tool for regional director or ADS affiliated clubs within a region to provide a youth clinic.
2. A template is also being prepared, complete with personnel, schedule, alternate schedule, budget, etc for a regional or area driving conference. Goal: Provide an easy tool for regional directors or ADS affiliated clubs within the region to organize and hold a conference.
3. We are analyzing the regional directors websites and will be discussing websites at the Virginia meeting. Goal: Describe minimum standards for material included in the ADS Region's website. Second goal: Discuss with staff whether hits can be counted to determine the value of the regional areas on the ADS page.
4. Membership non-renewals will be discussed at the Virginia meeting. Goal: Discuss approached and levels of commitment by regional directors top regain lapsed members and/or determine what caused the member to not renew.

New ADS Events- Holly Pulsifer

The ad hoc committee to develop alternative driving activities under the ADS banner has been moribund - I can't even think of a viable name for it - but it is not without results anyway!

Jeff - has successfully developed and submitted rules for the Continuous Driving Events -

I have gotten the rule book for TREC's from England, and read those Simon wrote for Canada. I think this should be our next development for ADS.

Distance Driving is thoroughly covered by the national organization for distance riding. We can reference their rules in our rulebook.

Similarly, we can reference the CAA for A Sporting Day of Traditional Driving. Their support CD is excellent, and I would like to see similar materials available from the ADS for ADT and HDT - probably working with the Education Committee on those.

I must admit I have not put the time into this that it deserves, and hope that we can make this group more productive in the future, and a responsive destination for suggestions for "other sanctioned activities" from the membership.

I envision a booklet with information and schedules, for example. The ADS rulebook can contain links to other organizations and their rules - and the requirements for doing these under the ADS "banner"

Holly Pulsifer, chairman
Jeff Morse - PD
Tom Knicker - CD
Larry Denny - Recreation
Gerry Pearson - Education