

# THE Wheelhorse

NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN DRIVING SOCIETY, INC.

April 2019

*In celebration of winter's end, ADS members have shared with us photos from their drives this spring, some of which are included below. Do you have photos or videos to share with us for possible publication? Email them with horse and driver names and permission from the photographer to: [media@americandrivingsociety.org](mailto:media@americandrivingsociety.org).*



*ADS Member Suzi Romine drives leader Clyde, right wheeler Barney, and left wheeler Lotti around their country lane in LaGrande, Oregon.*

## Update from Spring ADS Board Meeting

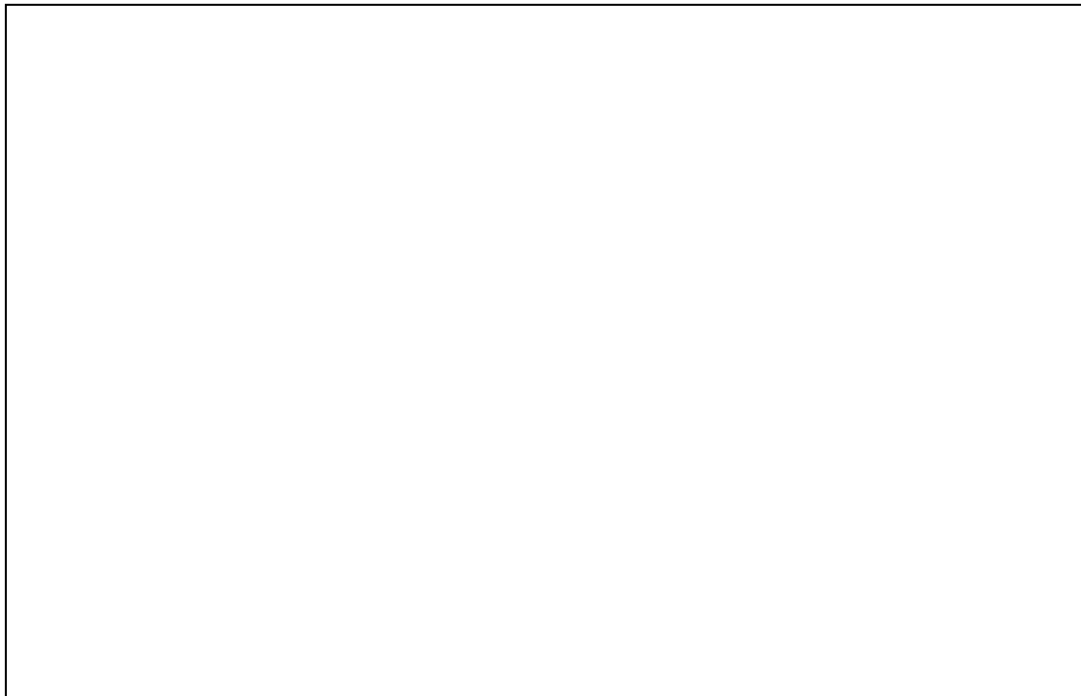
Dear ADS Members,

This past weekend was my first full in-person Board meeting as President of The American Driving Society – a role in which I feel both honored and privileged to serve. Over the course of the two days, your elected Board engaged in discussion on a range of topics, from policy and governance, to our relationship with USEF, to how to improve the functionality of our website and database. As a long-time fellow Board Member said toward the end of the meeting: I am proud to be serving on this Board. Our conversations were respectful, thoughtful, carefully considered; Board Members came prepared, asked important questions, and had insightful discussion. What a testament to the commitment of our members that we have 26 dedicated people willing to share their time, money, and ideas with our organization. Truly, we are stronger together. Whatever the future may bring, I can confidently report that your Board of Directors is united, working well together, making careful and thoughtful choices about our future, and representing you and the sport we all love.

WE are the ADS!

Daniel M Rosenthal

President – The American Driving Society, Inc.





*ADS Member and President Dan Rosenthal drives his Dartmoor pair (Kris on left, Skip on right) down the lane on his Green Gallery Farm in Milford, New Jersey.*

### **45th Anniversary Hours to Drive Challenge**

Are you an ADS Member?

Then YOU are eligible to compete in our Hours to Drive program. This year we've added a 45th Anniversary Challenge for the ADS Regions across the country to compete for the most logged hours driving in 2019. The winning region, that with the most Hours to Drive hours logged by ADS members, will be announced at the 2019 ADS Annual Meeting in December at The Grand Oaks Resort. Simply log your hours for 2019 and submit them to the office ([info@americandrivingsociety.org](mailto:info@americandrivingsociety.org)) by September 15. Download your Hours to Drive Log [HERE](#).







*ADS Member Leslie Seidel driving her miniature horse, Sapphire. This is one of the vistas Leslie can drive to from her home in the Allegheny Mountains of Pennsylvania.*

## From Between My Blinders

By Hardy Zantke

In many parts of the country you are getting out again with your carriages and hitting the trails where you meet other equestrians. Some of those seem quite afraid when they see you coming around the corner. I have written about it before - but as we have new drivers coming to the sport, they face the same issue. So I think it's a good time to cover it once again.

During all my years sharing our trail network with riders it was always clear to me that we are in the minority. It only takes a couple of them to complain about us and how dangerous we are to City Hall to get us banned from the trails. So we must bend over backwards to always be extra polite to the riders rather than trying to take a stand that we have as much right to using the trails as they have.

Therefore, as a first step I think it is important that we only go out on public trails when we are confident enough about our abilities and our horses behavior to be able to always STAND quietly when needed! That should be *a clear must* in our training goals. If our horse is not ready for standing quietly on her own, then at the very least she should be with a header (Then we should not go without one who can get down and stand with our horse.).

When we see a rider approaching, I think we should always pull over and stand quietly and let the rider pass. Make sure to lower your whip to the opposite side of where the rider passes you, so her horse doesn't get afraid of your whip either. Talk to the rider and her horse. Hopefully that helps both. Calmly assure both that they can take their time and we don't bite.

My horses would stand calmly, so my groom could also try to help the rider if she needed and wanted such help by calmly leading the riding horse by. We also tried to talk the rider further into introducing her horse to us. Let her come up from BEHIND, let her sniff the carriage, let her TOUCH the carriage with her nose. That would usually be a good step in breaking the ice.

If the riding horse was not comfortable enough to come that close from behind, then let her stay back a bit, but try to have also the riding horse stand calmly - even if in a distance, but make sure it's BEHIND the carriage. Horses are afraid when something comes towards them, not so, when the "danger" moves away. After establishing a calm halt - even at a little distance - we then would tell the rider, we'll now take just one step forward (away from her - with the carriage) and then halt again, and get it all calm again in case the riding horse might have lost some of her calm. Next we would take a few more steps forward and ask the rider to also make similar steps forward. After a while we would ask her to just follow us at the walk. It always worked out that way.

After walking for a while that riding horse (and her rider!), who was afraid of the carriage before, was happy to follow us. So much so that the horse didn't even want to leave us again when our paths then parted. She had bonded with us, she was now part of our herd!

As in all training, we'd take as much time as needed for each small step, and only do one step at the time. We did entire "getting to know each other" or "introducing your horse to a carriage" sessions in our local horse park and actually made a lot of friends under the local riders that way. They came in handy in the rare couple of times when we (or another carriage driver not so considerate) were not able to convince a rider of our innocence, and still had somebody complain at city hall wanting to get carriage driving banned from the local trails. With enough friendships built up among the local riders and those testifying for us at City Hall hearings we were always successful keeping the local trails open for driving.

It's up to you to work on the same in your area. Good luck & happy driving your trails.

Hardy





*ADS Member Sheri Haviza driving Sami at home, Glacier Farm in Whitewater, Wisconsin, for their first spring drive.*

## **NEW ADS Member Benefits**

The ADS is adding value to their Individual and Family memberships. Two new exciting offers now apply; Accident and Excess Medical Insurance that automatically covers ADS members, ADS officials, and volunteers, and an Excess Liability Insurance available for ADS members to purchase.

Now ADS members, ADS officials, and volunteers are covered by **Accident and Excess Medical Insurance**. It's a member benefit at no additional cost! Coverage is for members, licensed officials, and volunteers of the ADS while participating in ADS events and clinics.

***Tell your friends to renew their membership and your event organizers to make their events ADS-recognized so they realize this incredible ADS member benefit!***

Accident Policy Benefit Maximums:

- \$25,000 EXCESS Accident Medical Expense Benefit

- Accidental Death and Dismemberment and Paralysis Benefit, up to \$10,000
- \$2,000 Deductible (per accident)
- Aggregate Limit of Indemnity \$500,000 All Conditions of Coverage

ADS members can sign up for \$1,000,000 in **Excess Liability Insurance** through Equisure. Available immediately, the ADS is offering its members \$1,000,000 in excess liability insurance through Equisure for their equine activities in the United States.

The policy will run from 1/1/19 to 12/31/19 and costs \$25 for an individual and \$45 for a family.

You must be a current ADS member in good standing to purchase the insurance through Equisure. Coverage will commence with your payment. Coverage ends on December 31 at 12:01am of each calendar year.

Log into or purchase a membership from [americandrivingsociety.org](http://americandrivingsociety.org) and follow the insurance link under members to sign up for your coverage today.



*ADS Member Krisa Ziec drives five-year-old Morgan, Bucksnots Special Dark, in the hay field on the first weekend of spring, owner Tammy Carlo as navigator. Location: Prairie Oaks Farm in McHenry, Illinois.*

## **This Just In: 2019 Super Clinic Schedule for ADS Licensed Officials**

**Where:** Parker, Colorado

**When:** July 25-28, 2019

**Nearest airport:** Denver International Airport

**Shuttle:** No hotel shuttle. Use ride share or rental cars.

**Host Hotel:** Holiday Inn, Parker. See below

**Thursday,**

**July 25:**

5:00pm Evening cocktail party

Dinner on your own (steakhouse in hotel, restaurants locally)

**Friday, July 26:**

7:00-8:15am Breakfast Buffet

8:30- 12:00 Noon Educational Sessions for all LOs

12:30-1:30 Lunch

1:45-6:00PM Educational sessions for all LOs

7:30 - Dinner on your own

**Saturday, July 27:**

6:30-7:30am Breakfast Buffet

Pleasure

(PDJ &PDTD)

9:00-12:45PM Pleasure Driving Classes

1:00-2:00PM Lunch

2:15-5:15PM Pleasure Driving Classes



CDE (CDJ & CDTD)

9:00-12:00 Noon Dressage

12:00-1:00PM Lunch

1:15- 5:00PM Marathon & Cones

7pm Dinner for all

**Sunday, July 28:**

7:30-8:30am Breakfast Buffet

8:45-12:00 Noon Educational Sessions for LOs

**Hotel information:**

**Although classroom sessions will be held at the Holiday Inn, the sister hotel (Hampton Inn) is also housing officials and is within walking distance.**

**Holiday Inn Parker & Hampton**

**Inn Parker-** \$114.00 plus tax and fees, this rate includes breakfast.

Please note---these rates are only available for a limited time – book before JUNE 26TH, 2019 to take advantage of the discount! After that cut-off date all reservations will be at regular rates.

[Click here to book at the Holiday Inn](#)

Hotel address: 19308 Cottonwood Drive. Parker, Colorado 80138

[Click here to book at the Hampton Inn](#)

Hotel address: 19010 East Cottonwood Drive. Parker, Colorado 8013



*ADS Member Suzanne Smith and dog Maggie driving First Strike, a seven-year-old Hackney, in the Dog to Ride class at the Pot O Gold Pleasure Show in Luling, Texas. Photo courtesy of Alice George.*