

Mid-Hudson Driving Association

News Notes

Jan. thru June 2021

Volume 47 No.1

Kieran Conway with MHDA's Lovey Ladies!



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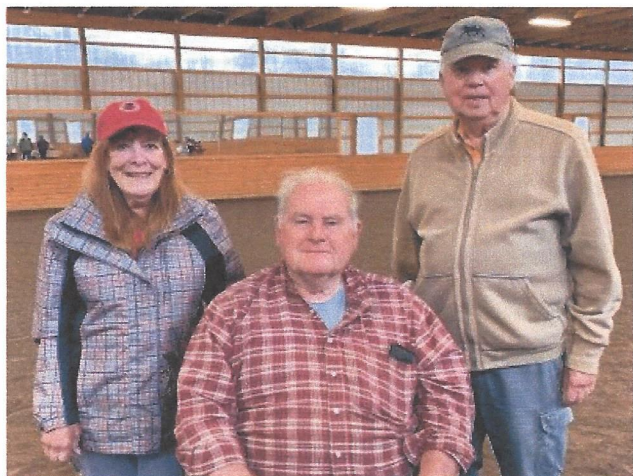
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"Horse Showing Tips" by Donna and Mindy!

April 12, 2021

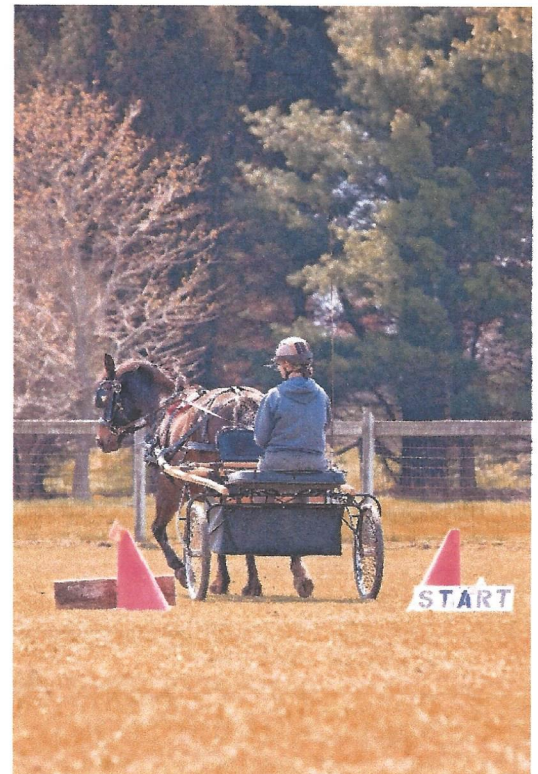
Creative and fancy hats = fun prizes!



Margaret Beeman “Cones” clinics

Submitted by Chris Schilling

A few MHDA members have been taking advantage of local midweek clinic opportunities with Margaret Beeman at her farm in Millerton NY. On April 20, she hosted the first of three “Cones” clinics at Sovereign Hilltop farm. Gaby and Kieran Conway and Chris Schilling participated while Joan and Cosmo Bartoli volunteered and audited. We acquired a new member in participant Beth Podhajecki as well. This first clinic featured a simple pattern of cones and gave us the opportunity to learn to navigate turns and patterns while keeping in mind our different horse and vehicle sizes and configurations. Photographer Jenna Nicol took some beautiful photos of the day. The second clinic took place May 18 and amped up the challenge for us beginners to cones. The pattern was intricate, with 10 gates and many options to work out based on your teams strengths and weaknesses. This time Cosmo and Joan joined us with Boo really shining at something that she likely has never done before. We are looking forward to the next clinic on June 22 where Margaret intends to answer my question “What exactly is a hazard?” Check out the website for more information on this one as well as information on four upcoming events that Beth will be hosting and Margaret will be teaching.



Glossary

Apron – a cloth worn to keep the wearer, clean, dry and warm while driving.

Blinkers – leather-covered metal plates attached to the cheek-pieces of the bridle to prevent the horse from seeing behind. Also known as blinders or winkers, they can be several shapes, and must fit properly.

Box – the seat from which the driving is done.

Breeching – the harness apparatus by which the horse holds back the vehicle when there is no brake.

Cart – generally name after the region from which it came, or its builder, or the purpose to which it was put. They can be either two-wheeled or four-wheeled; however, they are always open and considerably simpler than the open carriages.

Collar- the padded harness which goes around the horse's neck accommodating the hames where traces are attached.

Crupper – the harness piece that secures the saddle pad from the rear. The dock (tail)-piece runs under the tail and attaches to the saddle through the backstrap.

Cut under – a type of vehicle construction allowing an arch into which the wheels can turn.

Driving reins – the reins by which the driver directs the horse or team.

Four-in-hand – a popular term for a four-horse team.

Gig – a light, rather elegant two-wheeler with a forward-facing seat generally for two.

Hames – the steel arms fitted to the horse's collar.

Leader(s) – the two forward horses in a team; the near leader being the left-hand horse, the off-leader the right hand.

Liverpool bit – a curb bit with five degrees of severity, the Liverpool is one of the most popular pleasure driving bits.

Long Lining – a training exercise to help prepare the horse to be directed by reining from the rear rather than by the usual more immediate riding aids.

Phaeton – a now almost all-encompassing term covering a wide range of four-wheeled open carriages designed to be driven from a forward seat. There were once phaetons of almost every size, shape and function.

Pole – a wooden member with metal fittings to which the horses for pair driving are hitched on either side. It is through the pole that the vehicle is steered and braked, if no brake is available.

Presentation – judged at the halt or on the move in dressage area. Points awarded based equally on the driver, the groom, the horse or horses, the vehicle and the general appearance.

Putting to – attaching the harnessed horse or horses to the vehicle.

Randem – three horses harnessed one in front of the other.

Shaft(s) – the two longitudinal timbers between which the single-harness horse is harnessed. With the two-wheeled vehicle, the shafts provide both the balance and the steering. With four-wheeled vehicles and sleights, the shafts prevent the vehicle from running up on the horse and also aid in the steering.

Single, or swingle, tree – the bar sometimes used to transmit the draft, or pull, from the traces to the vehicle.

Sulky – a low single-seat vehicle built of steel with pneumatic tires used for trotting and pacing races. Sulky were once built on a high framework above large wheels and so, the story goes, due to the solitary perch of the driver.

Surrey – a four-wheeled vehicle with two identical forward -facing seats placed one behind another in a shallow box-shaped body. Some surreys feature a fringed canopy, others a fold-back top.

Tandem – two horses harnessed one in front of the other; the rear horse (wheeler) to the shafts and the leader harness in front of him.

Terret – the ring on the hames, pad, or saddle through which the rein passes.

Traces – the leather bands by which the draft is transmitted from the horse's collar to the vehicle. Most traces are made of two layers of leather sewn with two or four rows of stitches.

Trandem – three horses abreast harnessed with two poles.

Trap – a vehicle that features a divided front seat that could be folded forward to allow access to the rear seat.

Tugs – a strong buckle-topped, oval-shaped band made of two or three layers of stitched leather through which the shafts on the single-horse harness pass. Tugs keep the vehicle from tipping up or down once the bellyband is fastened.

Unicorn – a team of three, made up of two wheelers and a leader.

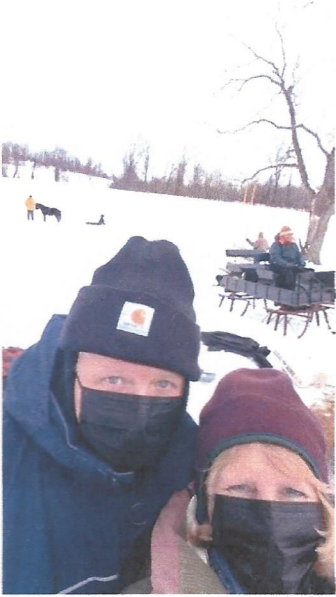
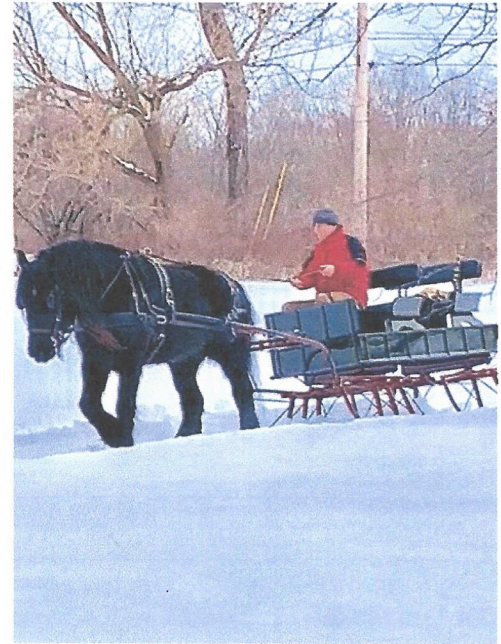
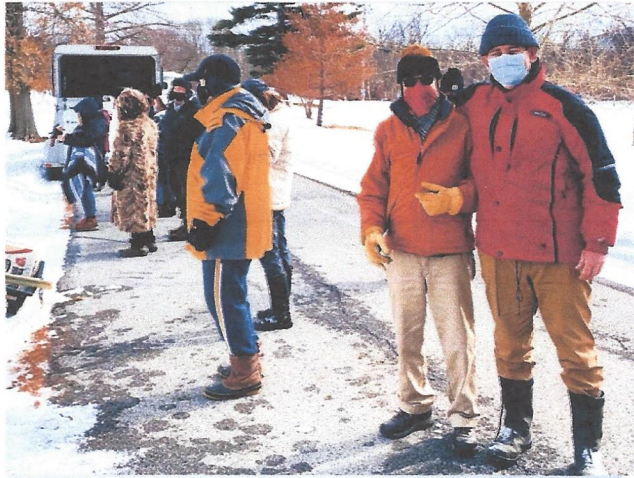
Wheeler – one of the pair nearest the vehicle when a four-in-hand is driven.

Whip, a - the hand-held aid used by the driver to create the necessary impulsion. Whips vary in length and type depending on the purpose they will be put to and the vehicle being driven.

Whip, the person who drives the vehicle.

Stonykill Environmental Center

February 13,
2021



Tentative Calendar of Events

June 18 Auction 7:00 pm

Lawrence Farm
39 Colandrea Rd.
Newburgh, NY

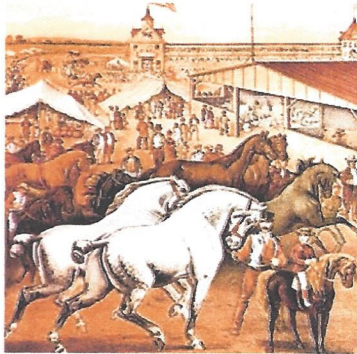
Benefit
Mid-Hudson Driving Association
Hudson Valley Draft Horse Association

Look around your farm, barn, and home and bring those horse items you no longer need or use!!!

Strawberry dessert generously provided by Lawrence Farm !



Dutchess County Fair – Open Driving Show – Sunday - August 29



There will be a required pre-registration for this event.

Coggins and rabies certificates are mandated.

More detailed information to follow.

The Ulster County Fair is scheduled for August 3-8 2021

MHDA DRIVING TRIAL – OCTOBER 9, 2021

TYMOR PARK, LaGRANGEVILLE, NY

Save the date for a fun day!!!

