



# VIEW FROM BEHIND THE DASH

Newsletter of The Florida Whips

Promoting all aspects of equine harness driving, by encouraging good will and emphasizing safety and education

April 2010

## 2010 STEEPLECHASE FUN DARBY



Barbara Roberts & Toby Take 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
in Training Horses Division

See page 11 for article and more results from  
March's Steeplechase Fun Darby.

1<sup>st</sup> place Training VSE -  
Sharon Knecht



Audrey Kitchens Places  
1<sup>st</sup> in Open Ponies



Julie Anthony & Toby Take  
1<sup>st</sup> in Open Horse Division



1<sup>st</sup> Place in Training Level Ponies  
Goes to BB Blackwelder

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## View From Behind the Dash,

Newsletter of The Florida Whips, is published ten times a year, September through June.

**Submissions** are welcome! They may be edited for length and clarity. Articles, letters, and hardcopy photos should be sent to the Editor. Email photos should be sent to both the Editor and Website Magician. Please identify all people, animals and the photographer. Send permission for use of any copyrighted photos.

**Advertising** copy and payment should be sent to the Advertising Manager.

**Deadline** for articles, letters, photographs, and advertising is the 15th day of each month preceding month of issue. Issues will be mailed on the last day of the preceding month.

## FOR ADVERTISERS

### Business

Annual Business Card .....\$70  
Full Page (one issue) ..... \$40  
Half Page (one issue) ..... \$25  
Quarter Page (one issue) .....\$15  
Back Cover(one issue, 1/2pg). \$40

### Events

Sponsored by FL Whips .....Free  
Other than Whips 1/2 Business Rate

### Classified Ads

**Florida Whips members:** First ad up to 100 words free for 2 months, additional ads \$10 (text only); photos free on web page.

**Other than Whips:** \$10 per ad

**Advertising payment must be received before printing.  
Make checks payable to:  
Florida Whips, Inc.**

**Send Ad and Check to:**

**Jeanne Abbott  
14305 NW Gainesville Road  
Reddick, FL 32686**

View your newsletter  
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[www.flawhips.org](http://www.flawhips.org)  
and  
catch us on YouTube  
[www.youtube.com/flwhips](http://www.youtube.com/flwhips)



## President's Corner



We are almost to the end of a very busy year. As I look back on participation in events it seems that our club is moving toward more competition based events. When I joined the Whips so many years ago, picnic drives were very large events with long lines of drivers.

We do not seem to be able to attract anyone to these types of events. Lots of other changes are coming with election of a new president and vice president coming up. Planning meetings are one other event that do not seem to draw many people. The summer planning meetings will determine if we are moving in the direction that most people want.

Please give a lot of thought to our new officers, Dede has not gotten much input so far. Try to attend your regional planning meetings and consider hosting an event to make sure that the present trends are what you want. Happy driving to all.

~ Lynda Jowers



## Editor's Notes ...

Wow what a busy month this has been!

I just got back from the Live Oak International and really enjoyed seeing friends and hanging out at the Whips tent under the beautiful old oaks. Although the day started out a bit cool I think we all really appreciated the shade as it warmed up fast.

This month's newsletter is just stuffed full of info and photos—so much so I had to add a few more pages. Check out the page index on the cover and let me know if you like it or not. I think it adds a bit of anticipation to the read.

Francine sent a lovely article about the Whips Live Oak tailgating party along with a few photos. If anyone would like to put together an article about the competition for next month that would be great!

Check out Dona's great article and Pam's photos from the Steeplechase Fun Darby and find results and photos from the Florida Carriage Museum & Resort's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Florida Carriage & Horse Festival starting on page 14.

If you haven't already checked out the FL Whips Facebook page please visit. Feel free to add info about your driving news and events to the Wall.

~ Deby

**PS - Please check the [www.flawhhips.org](http://www.flawhhips.org) website for news and dates for the May General Meeting! Date was not yet finalized at press time.**

### **Attention Novice Drivers**

This time of year driving opportunities abound in Florida. What many aspiring Combined Driving participants may not be aware of is the availability of many top drivers as mentors at events. I recently competed at Black Prong in my first HDT and was surprised to discover at the Driver's Meeting that this help existed.

I was doubly surprised at how few drivers took advantage of this wonderful program. Ellen Ettenger, Show Secretary, took time out of her busy day to review scoring and answer questions from new Training Level Drivers. Marc Johnson, Course Designer, was continually available. Bob Giles, Mark Navratil and Dona Love offered their expertise as mentors.

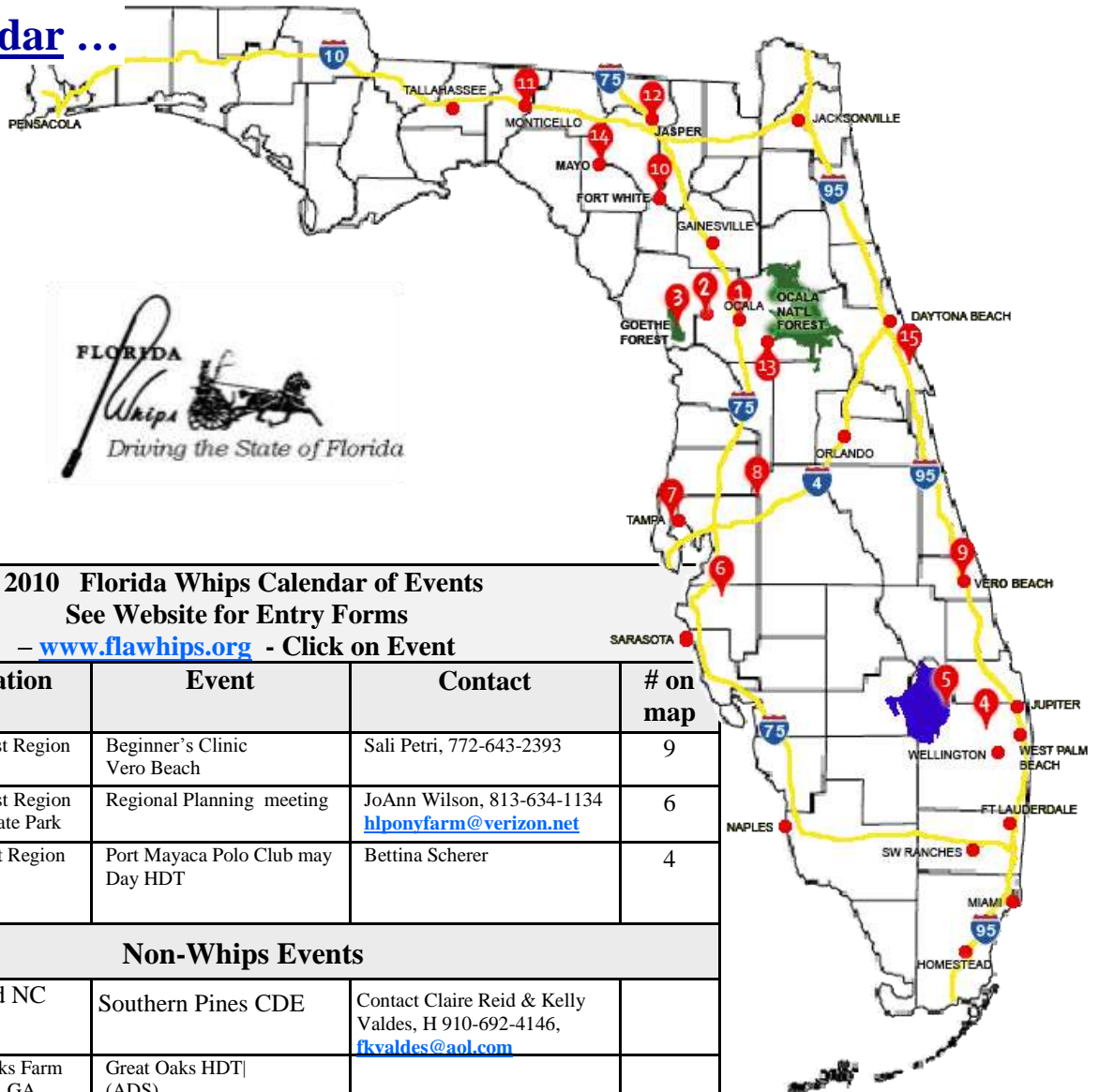
They and other top drivers were extremely generous with their time and knowledge. It can be daunting doing this on your own so I hope more novice drivers will take the big step to enter these competitions and take advantage of this tremendous learning experience.

Thank you all!

~ Polly Butterworth & Lucas



# Event Calendar ...



**2010 Florida Whips Calendar of Events**  
 See Website for Entry Forms  
 – [www.flawhips.org](http://www.flawhips.org) - Click on Event

Date	Location	Event	Contact	# on map
April 3, 2010	Southeast Region	Beginner's Clinic Vero Beach	Sali Petri, 772-643-2393	9
April 10, 2010	Southwest Region Alafia State Park	Regional Planning meeting	JoAnn Wilson, 813-634-1134 <a href="mailto:hlponyfarm@verizon.net">hlponyfarm@verizon.net</a>	6
May 1-2, 2010	Southeast Region	Port Mayaca Polo Club may Day HDT	Bettina Scherer	4
Non-Whips Events				
April 9-10, 2010	Raeford NC	Southern Pines CDE	Contact Claire Reid & Kelly Valdes, H 910-692-4146, <a href="mailto:fkvaldes@aol.com">fkvaldes@aol.com</a>	
April 10-11, 2010	Great Oaks Farm Newman, GA	Great Oaks HDT  (ADS)		
April 17-18, 2010	FCMR, Weirsdale FL	Spring Fling (ADS)	Erika Matulich, 813-765-7162	13
May 2, 2010	Boars Head Ranch Dade City FL	Hunter Pace put on by South Creek Foxhounds		8
May 22, 2010	New Smyrna Beach FL	Silver Sands Bridle Club	Contact <a href="mailto:drivingshows@silversandsdrivingclub.org">drivingshows@silversandsdrivingclub.org</a> or call Sandy 386-345-3460	15



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## Upcoming Events

### Lecture Schedule for April 2010 At The Florida Carriage Museum & Resort (FCMR) (Free Two-hour Lectures)

Polo has been part of our history

**Monday, April 5, 2010- 10 AM – Noon:** Stewart Campbell of Villages Polo—Rules, Equipment and a demonstration.

**Monday, April 12, 2010- 10 AM – Noon:** Linda B. Norman Rockwell

**Monday, April 19, 2010 – 1 PM – 3 PM: Docent Meeting with Round Table Discussion.**

**Monday, April 26, 2010 – 10 AM – Noon:** Wendy Yang, DVM and homeopathic practitioner for horses

**Please note: Above lectures are free.  
Call Rita at 352-705-5500 X248 for event tickets.**

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### Morgan Horse Show in Newberry FL has All Breed Carriage Driving Classes April 14 - 17, 2010

The Florida Morgan Horse Association regional horse show April 14<sup>th</sup> through the 17<sup>th</sup> in Newberry, Florida has opened its Carriage classes to all breeds.

Carriage classes start on the 15<sup>th</sup> with Pleasure Driving Working and Carriage Driving Reinsmanship.

On Friday the 16<sup>th</sup>, morning session: Carriage Driving Dressage-Training Level Test 4, Carriage Dressage Preliminary Test 2 and Obstacle Driving, evening session Carriage Pleasure Turnout.

Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> morning session: Obstacle Driving Fault and Out, and Obstacle Driving Double Jeopardy, evening session is the presentation of the Carriage High Point Award (C. Brad Hammond Memorial Trophy.) In addition, on the 15<sup>th</sup> there is an in-hand Sport Horse suitability class.

**For more information or entry form contact Alicia Davis 352-472-6727, [emailalicia@raindropfarm.com](mailto:emailalicia@raindropfarm.com)**

~ Pam Stephenson



Connie Thoreson takes a break to visit with Margie Cox in front of the FL Whips tailgate party at the Live Oak International on Saturday March 27<sup>th</sup>.



Connie and Linda Evans organized the very successful tailgate party and with the help of Whips volunteers served over 100 BBQ sandwiches.

*See article on page 12 ...*

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# **Beginners' Driving Clinic**

## **Vero Beach, Florida**



Curious  
about  
driving?

Does your  
horse need  
a job?

Saturday, April 3, 2010

Bob Giles

Nationally Renowned Clinician

Cost: Individual lessons, \$60.00 for 45 minutes

Audit fee: \$15.00.

Location: Double Brook Farm

7745 Polo Square

Vero Beach, FL 32969

Time: 8 A.M. to 6 P.M.

To reserve a time for a lesson, contact Sali Petri:

772 643 2393 or [salipetri@gmail.com](mailto:salipetri@gmail.com)

**Beginners' Driving Clinic  
Vero Beach, Florida  
April 3, 2010  
Registration Form**

Bob Giles, renowned driving clinician, is coming to Vero Beach on April 3, 2010! This event, sponsored by the Florida Whips Southeast Region, offers you the opportunity to learn the basics of driving. Drivers of all skill levels are also welcome to learn more, refine skills, or have Bob figure out why the heck your horse is behaving as if possessed by demons. Learn how all those straps, buckles, and thingies go together to make your horse comfortable and to ensure safety.

Book a 45-minute private lesson with Bob for only \$60, or just hang out on the sidelines and soak up the teaching for only \$15. For more information contact Sali Petri, [salipetri@gmail.com](mailto:salipetri@gmail.com).

You can also fill out and return this form, if you want to book a lesson. Hurry up, the word's already out and slots are filling up!

Pack a lunch, bring a chair, and come up with questions for Bob.

Location: Double Brook Farm  
7745 Polo Square  
Vero Beach, FL 32969

Time: 8 A.M. to 6 P.M.

**Fill out and return the entry form**

(Fill out this MS Word form and return as an e-mail attachment to [salipetri@gmail.com](mailto:salipetri@gmail.com) or mail it to the address below. )

<b>Name:</b>					
<b>Address:</b>					
<b>City:</b>		<b>State:</b>		<b>Zip:</b>	
<b>Phone:</b>					
<b>E-mail:</b>					

<b>Tell Bob about :</b>		
<b>Yourself:</b>	<b>Experience:</b>	
	<b>Goals:</b>	
<b>Your Horse:</b>	<b>Age:</b>	
	<b>Type:</b>	
	<b>Training Issues:</b>	
	<b>Other:</b>	

**Send to:**

**Sali Petri  
2188 42<sup>nd</sup> CT SW  
Vero Beach FL 32968  
[salipetri@gmail.com](mailto:salipetri@gmail.com) / 772-643-2393**



# PORT MAYACA MAY DAY HDT

**Port Mayaca Polo Club**  
**27005 Chukker Circle, Okeechobee, FL**

**May 1-2, 2009**

**Nonrated**

**Entries Open March 1**  
**Entries Close: April 15**

**Method of Accepting Entries:** Limited number  
First come, first served.

**Levels/Divisions:** Training, Prelim. & Intermediate  
**Classes:** Single, Pair, Tandem, 4 in hand, VSE  
**Prize List?** No

**Organizer:** Bettina Scherer & Port Mayaca Polo Club  
**Mail Entries to:** B. Scherer, 4656 South Shore Blvd,  
Wellington, FL 33414. For info call 561-301-9548 or  
[bascher@bellsouth.net](mailto:bascher@bellsouth.net). also Peg Belvin 561-798-  
1718

## OFFICIALS

**Show Secretary:** Ellen Marie Ettinger;  
**Course Designer:** Barry Hunter;  
**Judge:** Shelly Temple, USEF and ADS "R";  
**Veterinarian:** Palm Beach Equine On Call;  
**EMT:** Tim Boyd **Announcer:** Alyce Michelabrink

## FEES

**Entry/Class Fees:** \$100; **Post Entry:** \$50 additional  
to the above; **Entry Fee Refund Policy:** Entry Fee  
will be refunded prior to closing date. After closing  
date entry fee only will be refunded, with a vet certifi-  
cate, minus an office fee of \$50. **Stall Fee:** \$60. No  
deposit, no separate check, no refunds on stalls. **RV**  
**Hook-ups:** \$35; **Make Checks Payable to:** Bet-  
tina Scherer

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

**Stable & Office Opens :** Friday, April 30 1:00pm;  
**Course Walk & Briefings:** Friday, 5pm; **Dressage**  
starts at 9am on Saturday, **Cones** after dressage.  
**Marathon** starts 9am on Sunday. Saturday 6pm BBQ.  
Briefing prior to BBQ.

## DRESSAGE

Rings 80x40 & 100x40 on Grass Polo Fields - Train-  
ing – Test 4 (1994), Preliminary – Test 6 (2005), In-  
termediate – Test 2 (1994).

## CONES

Grass Polo Field - Training Level Clearance: 40 cm;  
Preliminary Level Clearance: 35cm; Intermediate  
30cm;

## MARATHON

Polo fields, farm fields, gravel roadways, mostly flat  
terrain - **Training Level** - 4 - 5 km with 4 obstacles;  
**Preliminary Level** - 4- 5 km with 4 obstacles; **In-**  
**termediate Level-** 5 -6 km with 5 or 6 obstacles;  
**VSE Course** - 2 -3 km with 3 obstacles

## CLINICS AVAILABLE

Mr. Hunter will offer private and group lessons.  
Please contact him directly for times: 352-629-0862

## MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

**COGGINS** will be required  
**HELMETS** will be required for Marathon;  
**ATTIRE** - proper dressage/cones attire marathon at-  
tire, as appropriate.  
**PNEUMATIC WHEELS** permitted in training level,  
single only.  
**AWARDS** - Ribbons, Championships & Special  
Awards.  
**DOGS** permitted. Leashed during competition.  
**NAVIGATORS** are permitted twice around.  
**FOOD CONCESSION** - Breakfast and Lunches  
will be available. Saturday Night BBQ – Pay as you  
go.  
**STABLING:** Permanent Stalls with Gates.  
**HAY & SHAVINGS** will be available for purchase.  
**VOLUNTEERS:** Please e-mail Bettina Scherer.

## LOCATION

Port Mayca Polo Club, 27005 Chukker Circle, Okee-  
choobee, FL **Physical location:** Off of Conners  
Highway (441), on eastern shore of Lake Okeecho-  
bee. North of Kanner Highway (76) and South of  
SW Martin Highway (710) **GPS DOES NOT**  
**WORK**

## ACCOMODATIONS

**RV PARKING** - 8 spaces available first come first  
serve basis. \$35. per space. Additional Hook-Ups 1  
mile away no services. Rustic Camping Permitted.

**HOTEL CENTRAL** – Okeechobee Travelodge  
Suites. Continental Breakfast, Pets welcome with De-  
posit. . Contact General Manager Laura Parker 863-  
824-3431. Mention Port Mayaca Driving Trials for  
\$59. rate.

## LINKS TO

**ENTRY FORM, INFO FORM & RELEASE FORM CAN**  
**BE FOUND ON**  
**THE WHIPS WEBSITE -CALENDAR.**  
**WWW.FLAWHIPS.ORG**

**PORT MAYACA MAY DAY DRIVING TRIAL (HDT)  
ENTRY FORM One Entry Per Driver  
May 1 & 2, 2010**

**Driver Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Navigator will be:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Level                      Training                      Preliminary                      Intermediate**  
**(Circle One)**

**Division: (circle choice)**

**Single VSE  
Single Horse  
Pair Ponies  
Multiple VSE  
Multiple Horses**

**Single Pony  
Pair VSE  
Pair Horses  
Multiple Ponies**

<b>Entry Fee</b>	<b>\$ 100.00</b>
<b>Late Entry Fee of \$50 if after April 15th</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>
<b>Stabling (\$60 per stall @ ____ of horses)</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>
<b>RV Hook-up \$35.00 (first come basis)*</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

**There will be a BBQ on Saturday night.  
Pay as you go. Please let us know how  
many to expect with your party** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send this Entry Form, Info Sheet,  
Check (made payable to Bettina Scherer), liability release, & copy of coggins to:**

**Bettina Scherer, Event Secretary  
4656 South Shore Blvd.  
Wellington, Fl 33414**

For info call 561-301-9548 or [bascher@bellsouth.net](mailto:bascher@bellsouth.net). Also, Peg Belvin 561-798-1718

## Looking Back ...

### Steeplechase Fun Darby

Between the dismal attendance of Florida drivers at events this year and the fact that a HUGE FEI endurance ride was happening right next door to Steeplechase Farms, I tried to design an event that could function without our usual plethora of Steeplechase volunteers since many of them were helping the endurance ride.

Well, I took 41 entries expecting half to not show up..... but ..... all but 4 did. The day was great weatherwise and almost everyone came out to play and many to watch. As the organizer, I had to get quite creative because of the time constraints. We ended up just running the VSE's and Opens for the 2 morning runs (actually afternoon by the time they were done) The 15 Training Ponies and 9 Training Horses ran 3 times. The volunteers did not take a lunchbreak, just rotated out to eat, and come back. We awarded ribbons to 6th and Leslie King and Mark Navratil of Pony Express Farms donated the gifts they had for the Poker Drive in December that no one came to. Ribbons winners could come up and pick out a present. We started at 8:30 and everyone had left by 4:00.

This was an extremely easy event to run and could be done with 8 or even less volunteers. I have made notes on how to improve things for next year. I would like to specifically thank Lynda Jowers for judging, Art and Pat Bissell for timing, Bob Giles for working the back gate and getting entries in and out in a timely manner, David Griffiths, Kathryn Powell, and Pam Knisely for being the hazard judges, and Dede Connor for supervising the tack sale. Everyone took their turn setting cones and putting balls back. Mark Navratil, Bob and Diane Koopman were also a great asset and the show could not have happened without them. Louisa Emerick, Robin and Wilson Groves, Gina Murphy, Mark Navratil, Bob Koopman and Bob Giles were all available for mentoring. Thank you also to Judy Fryer and Philip Needs for allowing us to use their property for this event.

The object was to have a fun event and to give training level drivers a place to come play and get positive experience. From the comments at the show and the emails I have received since, I think the Steeplechase community succeeded.

~ **Dona Love**

~~~~~ FUN DARBY RESULTS ~~~~~		
<b><u>Training Ponies</u></b>	<b><u>Training Horses</u></b>	<b><u>Training VSE</u></b>
1st BB Blackwelder	1st Barbara Roberts	1st Sharon Knecht
2nd Joanne Wilson	2nd Helen Tolmach	2nd Carolyn Britt
3rd Bettina Scherer	3rd Nancy Ziegler	3rd Sali Petri
4th Claudia Cordiero	4th Margy Cox	4th Rachel Carroll
5th Janet Sizelove	5th George Gutierrez	5th Margaret McMurray
6th Cheryl Cearly	6th Gina Gutierrez	6th Emily Phelps
<b><u>Open Ponies</u></b>	<b><u>Open Horses</u></b>	
1st Audrey Kitchens	1st Julie Anthony (Toby)	
2nd Shelly Oats	2nd Julie Anthony (Spenser)	
3rd Dori Morgan	3rd Carolyn Lemoine	
	4th Dan Evans	
	5th Kendall Jones	

### Nature Coast HDT—My Weekend of Didn'ts

After more than three decades of showing award-winning Persian cats, I never thought I'd enter a horse show. Recreational riding/driving with our aged Arabian was enough. But a new Mini joined our family and this was about to change.

Marcia and Gary Yeager helped me get him started. Friend and neighbor, Francine Arrington, planted the seed by mentioning VSEs were doing HDTs. During a lesson, Barry Hunter asked what I wanted to work on. I said I might someday, kinda' sorta' want to think about entering a show ... but

*I didn't think we were ready.*

He watched us warm up and said "Your pony looks ready, why aren't you?"

*I didn't have a good answer.*

Finally, after listening to a million excuses why I wasn't ready to show, Francine said, "If you really WANT to do this, just write the check and DEAL WITH IT."

*I didn't have a good comeback.*

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



Judi, Francine and Leif at Nature Coast HDT



## Region News

### South East Region News ...

Equine Driver's Ed in Vero Beach on April 3

Lately, if you have been fighting that wild notion that Silver ought to learn how to drive, then give in to it and come check out how it's done. When you turned 16 and learned how to drive, you were the only one who had to learn all those rules and develop that spatial awareness that keeps more than one vehicle from being in the same place at the same time. On the other hand, driving your horse, mule, or donkey is a shared undertaking. You have to know what you're doing, and Mr. Ed also has to know what you're doing. It's not difficult, but it is a challenge, and more than anything, it's fun. So, do it! Come to Vero Beach, the town that is close to everything, and learn from nationally-renowned driving clinician, Bob Giles when he visits on April 3.

We are encouraging beginners to leave Secretariat at home, hop in their cars, and come to Vero Beach to audit Bob's driving clinic.

Bob is going to be giving lessons all day and he is shaping the day's teaching for beginners. Unfortunately, all the day's lesson slots are already booked, but you can still come and check it out. If you're a newbie, this is your chance. If you don't know what a breeching is, and you don't know the difference between a carriage and a cart, this is the event for you.

Bob will explain how a harness works and show you make all those buckles and straps go together to actually fit Seabiscuit so that it is safe and comfortable to drive him. Pack a lunch, bring a chair, and think of some questions to ask Bob. We will start at 9 AM on Saturday April 3, and we will go until approx 6 PM. Admission is \$15 per person for the entire day. The day's events will take place at 7745 Polo Square, Vero Beach. Feed that address into Google Maps and you'll be able to find it.

If you or Cracker have questions, feel free to contact the event organizer, **Sali Petri** at **772-643-2393** or [salipetri@gmail.com](mailto:salipetri@gmail.com).

~ Peg Belvin & Jan Petri

Bob Giles & Gypsy Vanners take Pair Horse Pleasure Driving Championship at Florida Carriage & Horse Festival.



### North Region News ...

### Florida Whips Tailgate Tent a Huge Success!



Linda, Leslie, Diane & Connie are still smiling after all their hard work at the Whips tent.

I don't know who came up with the idea of the "tailgate tents" for marathon, but it was brilliant! And as for the Florida Whips participating, well –again, brilliant!

This was my first time attending Live Oak when I wasn't an event or ADS volunteer which meant that this

was the first time I actually was able to be a spectator – very different perspective. I have to clarify this part, I wasn't exactly a spectator, I was still a volunteer. But, this time I was a volunteer for the Florida Whips helping to staff our tailgate tent with appointed hours of 1 to 3. When accepting the assignment I wasn't real sure what this meant?

I arrived at our tent about noon to find Linda Evans and Connie Thoreson hard at work handing out pulled pork sliders, miniature pastries, strawberries, and cold drinks – oh and Nancy Ziegler had made brownies for the cause (yummy!). And the best part was the company. So many Whips members enjoying the hospitality, camaraderie, and event from the sidelines. Our tent was right in front of the Eagle's Nest hazard. Those present at the time were able to watch Mike McLennan take out two posts and a board. Then we got to watch the hazard repair crew sprint into action as they reset the posts, cut a new board, took out the broken one, nailed up the fresh one and voila' – all in about 5 minutes, hazard good as new!

Throughout the afternoon, I visited with so many members and several future members. Several of our Florida Whips members who were competitors stopped by after their run to visit and refuel.

I took some time to walk around the course and checkout the other tailgate tents. Some were pretty lavish, some missed the whole concept of "tailgating", and some were downright snooty, with barricades, ropes, bouncers . . . I am proud to say that NONE enjoyed the level of social activity that we had throughout the day – we're such a welcoming group!

Well, once the last competitor crossed the finish line the crowd thinned, and we were left with the challenge of cleaning up and packing up. With Linda Evans as the crew chief, those around all pitched in to accomplish the task. Linda Shakelford, Dede and Gary Conner, Joyce and Jere Clayton, Cathy Reynolds, and Francine Arrington.

Live Oak tailgating was done – it was a wonderful activity and I hope one that continues next year!

~ Francine Arrington

## South West Region News ...

Time for our planning meeting! April 10th @ 10 am at Alafia State Park (horse entrance). Bring chairs and plan to drive after the meeting.

If you are a member of the South West Region please join our yahoo chat group. Stay up to date on info and ideas.  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/southwestregionwhipsmembers>

~ JoAnn Wilson  
[hlponyfarm@verizon.net](mailto:hlponyfarm@verizon.net)

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### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11 ...

First stop, the Halloween Driving Classic—great fun, thanks Connie! Next stop, Port Mayaca? Francine said if I entered Dandy, I could also navigate for her ... an offer I couldn't refuse. (Thanks ADS for the navigating Webinar!)

*I didn't know what I didn't know.*

Despite an off-course error, we had the best VSE dressage score, and went double clear in cones. Confusion at an obstacle resulted in an EL, but we finished within our time. I had a e-ticket ride navigating with 16+h Leif powering around the course, but

*I didn't understand how obstacles that looked so BIG in the morning with Dandy, could look so SMALL later in the day with Leif.*

What's next ... how about the Nature Coast HDT? Sure, why not.

Novice error. I hadn't read the showbill carefully and

*I didn't realize I'd entered a RATED show.*

Upon arrival at Black Prong, my heart sank ... this is the real deal—lots of big, scary obstacles and hills and woods ... how the heck did we end up HERE?

*I didn't know how I'd remember it all.*

While walking the supersized cones course and trying to focus on the task, I noticed two young men kept jogging past me and disappearing from my peripheral vision, only to reappear from "way out somewhere" and pass me again. When they took a break, I asked them what they were driving ...

"Four-in-hand. What about you?"

"VSE." ... ah ha, that explained the different routes we were walking!

And course designer Marc Johnson had a challenge—obstacle #7 had only one row of fence boards. Worried that the VSEs might go UNDER the fences, he added an alternate #7A. (Good call—driving my "escape artist" it would have been ... turn left to A, right to B ... then oh @#\$ ... DUCK!) But during the course walk there weren't any signs directing us to 7A. Polly (Butterworth) and I kept

asking him how do we get enter this obstacle ... he said don't worry, he'll put up signs. But on my Sunday morning walk ...

*I didn't see any signs.*

I tracked him down and he said "TRUST ME, you'll be able to find your way ... I don't want to confuse 50 other competitors doing their course walks, with signs only meant for the VSEs"—who were going first. Upon arrival at 7A, I nearly fell out of my cart laughing ... there were a billion cones, signs and arrows pointing out the mysterious route to 7A. (Thanks Marc!)

Navigating was even more fun on this course with Leif raring to go. Kept telling myself if the four-in-hands fit through here, so will we; at least I could see OVER the fences this time.

After the dust settled, I was able to reflect on the weekend at my first rated show.

*I didn't go off course in dressage* (and bettered my Mayaca score)

*I didn't forget my route in cones* (and went double clear)

*I didn't get lost, or miss a turn, or drive the wrong letter, or miss my time in marathon*

After a weekend full of didn'ts, I realized we DID it!

And I highly recommend it for anyone else out there sitting on the sidelines. Everyone we've met at these events has been helpful and willing to share their knowledge, from fellow VSEs to show officials like Ellen Ettenger, who patiently answered lots of novice questions.

Finally, thanks to Francine and Jon for their guidance and to my hubby, Chuck, for fetching, toting and cheering me on in this great adventure. So go ahead and "write the check."

~ Judi Tintera



Judi and Dandy on the marathon course at Nature Coast HDT

Photos by Chuck Tintera:

## Florida Carriage Museum & Resort's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Florida Carriage & Horse Festival

Sunny weather and mild temperatures in Central Florida drew large crowds to the Florida Carriage Museum & Resort's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Florida Carriage & Horse Festival, February 19-21. The three days of activities featured horses, horses, and more horses and included something for everyone. An American Driving Society (ADS) Pleasure Driving Show was the highlight of the event with competitions among various carriage classes that even included very small horses (VSE). The main arena was the focal point of the activities where daily performers in fancy or period costume demonstrated their skills between the exhibitors competing in the Pleasure Driving competition. Another area of the campus showcased exhibits including art and craft displays, children's activities and vendors.

Since this weekend was all about horses, following the National Anthem, Gloria Austin, Founder and Owner of the Florida Carriage Museum and Resort, welcomed the participants and audience each day and gave a demonstration on her Paso Fino. This set the tempo for the carriage show, exhibitors, and almost 4,000 spectators, who enjoyed the horses being driven and ridden to music.

The Lake County Sheriff's Posse was enthusiastically welcomed by the watchers as they gave an impressive demonstration of their horses' abilities in obstacle training and crowd control techniques. A Renaissance Performance by the Fantasy Arabian Drill Team dressed in beautiful costumes was much enjoyed by the audience. They also gave an Arabian Native Performance and featured the ever-popular Black Stallion.

Quite an exciting performance was delivered by resident Australian Horse Whisperer, TJ Clibborn, with his American Mustang and his quarter horse. A thrilling performance was also given by The Mounted Archers of Central Florida. The three archers, one an 11 year old girl, loped their horses around the arena and drove their arrows into stationary targets with impressive frequency. This was followed by an amazing demonstration that involved shooting their arrows at a rolling disc.

Other exhibitors in the arena included a jumping demonstration, a dressage performance, and a carriage dog performance. Nancy Lagasse came from New York to give a demonstration with two Canine Companions for Independence (CCI) dogs trained to help the handicapped.



Gloria Austin presenting the Trade & Commercial Pleasure Driving Championship Ribbon to Bob Koopman

The prestigious Pleasure Driving show brought exhibitors from 14 states and as far away as Canada and Australia to strut their stuff before judge Toddy Hunter. The entries in the competition came dressed in their finery. Ladies in hats of all colors and design were in evidence as they drove their horses around the arena and the grounds. Top hats on the gentlemen drivers were much the thing, and of course, all wore gloves and dressed appropriately for their rig.

The Gypsy Vanners, a breed relatively new in the United States, attracted much attention. Winners in the arena included Fresians, Welsh, Warmbloods, Morgans, Gypsy Vanners and VSEs, and it was fun to watch the miniature horses 'strutting their stuff' just like the much larger Fresians and Warmbloods.

The youngest competitors were in The Junior Driver Single Horse/Pony Pleasure Driving Division. The Division Champion was sixteen year old Katelyn Egyed driving Alphamore Virgil Hawk, a Morgan gelding horse. 12 year old Laney Egyed won Reserve Champion with Windchime, a Morgan pony mare. Both are from Parrish, Florida and they drove a two-wheel Country Road Cart.

The entries in the Trade & Commercial Pleasure Driving category were colorful and crowd pleasing. The Division Championship of this event was won by Bob Koopman, of Northbridge, Mass. driving Whipporwill's Keep Dancing. He was the owner and driver of a "dog catcher's cart" that he made to the exact specifications of the original. His own dog, an Australian Shepherd, riding in the enclosure at the back of the covered cart, added interest to the exhibit. Bill Ricci of WR Ranch received Reserve Champion, driving a brightly colored Turkish Potter's cart with fine baskets for sale. Pulling the cart was Esmeralda, one of the first Gypsy Vanners to be imported to the U.S. from Great Britain.





The VSE Champion was Nancy Brandtjen driving Bay Watch who was pulling a pleasure cart. Reserve Champion VSE was Polly Rogers-Butterworth driving Oak Hollow Lucas, who was pulling a natural wood Amish road cart.

The Single Pony Pleasure Driving Champion was Kate Whaley and her horse Cumberbund, a 13 year old Welsh gelding. She was driving a park gate gig. Reserve Champion was Jessica San Diego-Brister driving Goldhills Musketeer, a 5 year old Section B Welsh Pony. She was in a country gig.

The Single horse Pleasure Driving Championship went to Nicole Cable, driving Gordon, a 16 year old Fresian. Gavin Robson was Reserve Champion with his 12 year old Fresian, Rochus. He was driving a Brewster carriage, 1890-1900, which is used for tandem or single horse driving.

The Pair Horse Pleasure Driving Champion was Bob Giles who was driving a pair of Gypsy Vanners. Darryl Billing won the second place position with Victor and Viceroy.

The Division Multiple Horse Pleasure Driving Champion was Joe Yoder. His team included 3 German Warmbloods and 1 Belgium Warmblood.

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Florida Carriage & Horse Festival  
2/19-21, 2010  
SHOW RESULTS

Judge: Toddy Hunter  
Technical Delegate: Craig Kellogg  
38 total entries

**Division Championship combined with Florida State Fair Pleasure Driving Pony**

1. Jessica San Diego Brister driving Goldhills Musketee
2. Linda Fritschie driving Goodnight Moon, pulling a Phaeton body show cart. Goodnight Moon is an 11 years old Welsh Cob/DartMoor



**Division Championship: Combined with Florida State Fair Pleasure Driving VSE**

Barbara Young, driving 12 Oaks Red Corvette

**Division Championship: AMHA Morgan High Point Award**

Bob Koopman, driving Whipporwill's Keep Dancing

Division: VSE Single Pleasure Driving  
Class Name: Turnout Class #2  
Polly Rogers-Butterworth  
Class Name: Reinsmanship Class #11  
Polly Rogers-Butterworth  
Class Name: Cross Country Class 19  
Polly Rogers-Butterworth  
Class Name: Pick Your Route  
Nancy Brandtjen  
Class Name: Town & Country  
Nancy Brandtjen  
Class Name: Fault & Out  
Nancy Brandtjen

Division: Single Pony Pleasure Driving  
Class Name: Turnout Class #5  
Kate Whaley  
Class Name: Reinsmanship Class #14  
Jessica San Diego-Brister  
Class Name: Cross Country Class #22  
Linda Fritschie  
Class Name: Pick Your Route Class #35  
Jessica San Diego-Brister  
Class Name: Town & Country Class 43  
Kate Whaley  
Class Name: Fault & Out Class #51  
Jessica San Diego-Brister

Division: Pair Pony Pleasure Driving  
Class Name: Turnout Class #7  
Elizabeth Keathley  
Class Name: Reinsmanship Class #16  
Elizabeth Keathley  
Class Name: Cross Country Class #24  
Elizabeth Keathley  
Class Name: Pick Your Route Class #35  
Elizabeth Keathley  
Class Name: Town & Country Class 45  
Elizabeth Keathley  
Class Name: Fault & Out Class #53  
Elizabeth Keathley

Division: Single Horse Pleasure Driving  
Class Name: Turnout Class #4  
Gavin Robson  
Class Name: Reinsmanship Class #13  
Gavin Robson  
Class Name: Cross Country Class #21  
Linda Evans

Class Name: Pick Your Route Class #34  
Bob Koopman  
Class Name: Town & Country Class 42  
Nicole Cable  
Class Name: Fault & Out Class #50  
Nicole Cable

Division: Pair Horse Pleasure Driving  
Class Name: Pair Horse Turnout Class #6  
Steve Wilson  
Class Name: Pair Horse Reinsmanship Class #15  
Bob Giles  
Class Name: Pair Horse Cross Country Class #23  
Darryl Billing  
Class Name: Pair Horse Pick Your Route Class #36  
Darryl Billing  
Class Name: Pair Horse Town & Country Class #44  
Bob Giles  
Class Name: Pair Horse Fault & Out Class #52  
Bob Giles

Division: Multiple Horse Pleasure Driving  
Class Name: Multiple Horse Turnout Class #8  
Deb Laderoute  
Class Name: Multiple Horse Reinsmanship Class 317  
Joe Yoder  
Class Name: Multiple Horse Cross Country Class #25  
Joe Yoder  
Class Name: Multiple Horse Pick Your Route Class #38  
Deb Laderoute  
Class Name: Multiple Horse town & Country Class 46  
Deb Laderoute  
Class Name: Multiple Horse Fault & Out Class #54  
Joe Yoder  
Division: Trade & Commercial Pleasure Driving  
Class Name: Trade & Commercial Turnout Class 59  
Bob Koopman  
Class Name: Trade & Commercial Working Class 60  
Bob Koopman  
Class Name: Trade & Commercial Performance Class #61  
Bill Ricci



Nancy Brandtjen VSE Champion  
Gloria Austin Presenting

Division: Junior Driver Single Horse/Pony Pleasure Driving  
Class Name: Junior Driver Turnout Class #1  
Katelyn Eged  
Class Name: Junior Driver Reinsmanship Class #10  
Katelyn Eged  
Class Name: Timed Obstacles  
Katelyn Eged

Division:  
Class Name Lady to Drive Horse Working Class #27  
Francine Arrington  
Class Name: Lady to Drive Pony Working Class #28  
Elizabeth Keathley  
Class Name: Gentlemen to Drive Horse Working Class #29  
Bob Koopman  
Class Name: Gentlemen to Drive Pony Working Class #30  
Bill Hunt  
Class Name: Drive and Ride Class #56  
Linda Fritschie

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Barabara Young  
Gloria Austin Presenting



Polly Rogers-Butterworth  
VSE Reserve Champion  
Gloria Austin Presenting

Steeplechase Fun Darby photos courtesy of Pam Knisely.

Florida Carriage & Horse Festival photos courtesy of Florida Carriage Museum & Resort, Weirsdale FL



Bill Hunt - Winner of  
Gentlemen to Drive Pony

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[claudia\\_cordeiro@bellsouth.net](mailto:claudia_cordeiro@bellsouth.net) March '10

**Welsh Ponies:** 55" black 9 year old mare. Two hind socks and star. Well broke to drive single or pair. 53" light grey 2 year old gelding. Two hind white socks, green broke to drive single and pair. Bernard Hefner, Ocala, FL 352-351-3028 March '10

**For Sale: WCC Mustang** - Excellent Condition, 4-wheel Dual Purpose horse sized vehicle. Dark blue, brakes, 2 sets of shafts, (1) Stainless Steel, (1) Steel plus Pole for Pairs, Spare Tire & Wheel. Large storage box under seat. All stainless trim. Very nice everyday carriage, weight 600+ lbs. Located in Ocala FL, Price \$6,500. March '10

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Apr '10



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 Do you have an alternate address? If so, from \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mo Day Mo Day  
 Alternate Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Type of Membership:  Individual  Family  Farm  Business  Organization

If Family, name of additional adult member: \_\_\_\_\_

Junior members in family: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name DOB  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
Name DOB

Tell us which other associations you belong to:

- American Driving Society  USEF
- Carriage Association of American  Breed Association \_\_\_\_\_
- Other Carriage Driving or Equine (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Tell us what you are most interested in:

- Pleasure Driving Competitions including Traditional Driving, Obstacle & Turnout classes
- Combined Driving Events & Horse Driving Trials
- Arena Driving Trials
- Driven Dressage
- Trail Driving including campouts, pace events, and day distance trips
- Clinics & General Driving Education
- Volunteering at Events
- Programs for Junior Drivers

Check here if you do not want to be included in the Florida Whips Membership Directory  Yes  No

### SAFETY RULES OF THE FLORIDA WHIPS, Inc.

- Vehicle and harness must be serviceable and in good repair.
- Horses must have bridles on with reins attached prior to hitching to a vehicle
- Vehicles must be unhitched prior to removing reins and bridles.
- Never tie a horse or leave it unattended when hitched to a vehicle.
- Driver must always have a whip.
- Never pass another carriage at a fast trot or drive too close to another carriage.

I have read and understand the safety rules listed above. I further understand that under Florida law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for injury to, or death of, a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risk of equine activities. This document is meant to be a full, and complete release from any and all liability that may arise from participating in Florida Whips, Inc. equine activities. This release is given freely and voluntarily by the participating members and is meant to remain in existence throughout the duration of membership.

Signature of Member \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Family Member \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Dues are \$30 per year, and the membership year begins September 1<sup>st</sup>. New memberships received after April 1<sup>st</sup> will be good until September of the following year. Please make checks payable to the Florida Whips, Inc. and return with this form to:

Francine Arrington, 4200 Alan Shepard Avenue, Cocoa, FL 32926

The Florida Whips, Inc.  
7230 NW 60th Street  
Chiefland, FL 32626



**Parting Shots from Black Prong Driving Trials ...**

**Photos by Vic Suller**

