

THE RHODE ISLAND DRIVING CLUB, INC

MAY NEWSLETTER

<http://www.ridridingclub.org>

May 6, 2008

Past Meeting: The April meeting of the RIDC was held at Henry and Virginia Tinkham's home in Norfolk, MA. 15 members were in attendance. The Tinkham's had quite a spread set out for the membership and the meeting finally got underway around 8:15 PM. Cat Luce read the Secretary's Report and it was accepted as read. Treasurer Beverly Willard reported a balance in the RIDC treasury of \$5,890.60. This report was also accepted as read.

Rhode Island Carriage Days PDS: Janice Meszoely reported that the information for the upcoming Rhode Island Carriage Days Pleasure Show was into the Omnibus and she also passed out copies of the ADS Omnibus listing.

The Rhode Island Federation of Riding Clubs is the caretaker of the Conestoga Wagon. It was recently moved from the Sprague Mansion to Clouds Hill Farm. The Farm will be open and the Wagon will be on display during May, National Carriage Month (dates to be determined), Governors Tourism Day on May 3 and National Tourism Week on May 10th. Directions to Clouds Hill can be found at <http://www.cloudshill.org>. Clouds Hill Victorian House Museum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and a Rhode Island nonprofit corporation operating an historic Victorian home located in Warwick, Rhode Island as a museum for the public. The house is an important part of the history of the City of Warwick and the State of Rhode Island. William Smith Slater built it in 1872 for his daughter, Elizabeth Ives Slater, on her marriage to Alfred Augustus Reed, Jr. It has remained in the family since it was built, passing from female to female until reaching the current owner, Anne Holtz.

Next Meeting: The next RIDC meeting will be held at Peter von Halem's New England Carriage Imports, 279 Bozrah Street, Bozrah, CT 06334 (860) 889-6467, at 7:00 PM, business meeting 7:30 PM. Please bring a pot luck dish. After the business meeting, Peter will be more than happy to show his carriages and answer any questions members may have. Directions: From I-395 in CT; Route 2 W via exit 81W toward Hartford; take the Route 163 exit, exit 23, toward Bozrah/Montville; turn sharp left onto Haughton Rd / Route 163; Turn right onto Bozrah St / Route 163 for 2.8 miles Peters place is on the right at 279.

June 14 Clinic in Foster: There will be a hitching and fitting and cde gator clinic at Dottie Billington's farm in Foster, RI from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM. There will be a General RIDC meeting at 12:00 along with lunch until 1:00. There will be no charge to club members. The local 4-H group will be invited to attend and Cat Luce will bring Corey as our demo horse. This will be an on the ground clinic with no other horses

Two Phase Event/Clinic on July 5: Bob Koopman will run a two-phase combined driving event /clinic at his farm on July 5th. Vivian Creigh of Vermont will be the judge. The entry fee is \$30 and all entries must be RIDC members. Three dressage tests will be offered, Training 2, Preliminary 2 and Intermediate 4. Participants will drive their chosen test, receive a critique and then drive the test again. Beverly Willard has offered to scribe, but if someone else is also interested, a split day might be better. A cones course will also be set up for participants to drive after their dressage. The cones course will be judged. The event/clinic will be limited to 20 participants. There will also be a club general meeting there that day from 12:00 to 1:00 with "Burger Bob" cooking hotdogs and hamburgs. Club members are asked to bring potluck sides. Entries will open on May 9, 2008 on a first / come first served basis. See attached entry form.

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2008 Calendar of Upcoming Events

MAY

10 10:00 AM "Plowing the Garden" with the Eastern CT Draft Horse Association

Wilbraham, MA Contact: Elaine Keeley (860) 376-8110

11 GMHA Two-Phase Driving Event, So. Woodstock, VT

13 7:30 Rhode Island Federation of Riding Clubs meeting, West Greenwich Town Hall, West Greenwich, RI

17 & 18 Recreational Drive and Campover,

LeGrand Reynolds Horsemen's Area, Escoheag, RI Contact: Cat Luce (508) 384-5190

24 Mass Carriage & Driving Society driving clinic with Vivian Creigh, Highland Hill Farm,

Berlin, MA Contact: Kate Bushman kate4055@yahoo.com

29 - June 1 Garden State CDE, Allentown, NJ

JUNE

7 (rain date June 8) Connecticut Valley Driving Trial, Haddam, CT

8 Pleasure Driving Clinic & Show at Hollis Equestrian Park, Hollis, ME

Contact: Elizabeth Tewksbury moonstonefarm@msn.com

10 7:30 Rhode Island Federation of Riding Clubs meeting, West Greenwich Town Hall, West Greenwich, RI

14 Saturday 10:00 AM RIDC Harness Fitting, Ground Driving, Gator Training, Foster, RI

14 Saturday 12:00 Noon RIDC General Meeting & Cookout Lunch, Foster, RI

21 - 22 Orelton Farm, Eden Hill 10th Annual Pleasure Driving Show, Stockbridge, MA

27 - 29 Bromont International Driving CDE, Bromont, Quebec, Canada

JULY

5 (Saturday) 2 Phase Driving Event & Clinic with Vivian Creigh, Northbridge, MA \$30 per participant,
12:00 - 1:00 PM General Meeting & Cookout by "Burger Bob" Koopman, Northbridge, MA

8 7:30 Rhode Island Federation of Riding Clubs meeting, West Greenwich Town Hall, West Greenwich, RI

19 - 20 Lorenzo Driving Competition Pleasure Driving Show, Cazenovia, NY

26 - 27 32nd Annual East Aurora Carriage Drive & Competition, NY

The complete Rhode Island Driving Club Calendar is on the website: <http://www.ridrivingclub.org>