



June 2017

BRASS OAK DRIVING SOCIETY



Thank you Linda for the cones series! The results are found on page 6!

Also this month:

Trailer clinic

Lilla and Jacobo's adventures at Clay Station



Brass Oak Driving Society has a Facebook Page! Please like our Page if you are a Facebook person. If you aren't a Facebook person, you can still view the page by going to www.facebook.com/brassoakdriving/. It is a work in progress but the idea of it is to be one more place to reach current and prospective members. Content will include club event announcements, other driving events in the state, and a place for club members to post photos of their latest horse escapades. There is also a link to the clubs website so that prospective members can find out more information about the club.

www.brassoakdriving.com

Our trailer towing clinic was a success! Lots of good information on what to carry with our rigs, information on what NOT to do, and other tips which could be lifesaving.

Laurel

Thank you to

Officer Bill
Strathman and
Diane Clark who
presented the
trailer towing clinic .



2017 Officers

President

Lilla Hewitt

805-463-2342

lillathomason@gmail.com

Vice President

Judith Baron

805-466-7787

Championspirit@aol.com

Treasurer

Linda Fairbanks

805-237-8476

lkfairbanks@gmail.com

Secretary/Membership

Gloria Walter

805-467-9204

elvis1@wildblue.net

Newsletter

Kathy LaChaine

805-703-0743

klachaine@charter.net

Directors at Large

Jackie Pamplona

805-481-8154

jpamplona@earthlink.net

Deb Hilberg

805-610-5938

d.hilberg@att.net

Stephanie Szabo

805-460-0242

chiropetdc@aol.com

BRASS OAK DRIVING SOCIETY MINUTES

Golden China, Atascadero May 17, 2017

Members: Liz Miller, Gloria Walter, Ann McClure, Disa Thorensen, Lilla & Aleks Hewitt, Debra Hilberg, Bryce Baker, Shawn Hester, Nance Schmidt, Jackie Pamplona, Natalie Cohen, Rachel Nolan, Kay & Larry Weeks.

President Lilla Hewitt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Lilla welcomed our new members in attendance and stated we were glad to have them actively participating in our events, particularly the ongoing Cones Series at Overlook Driving Center.

Minutes – The minutes from the April 19th meeting were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report – Gloria presented the Treasurer's Report prepared by Linda Fairbanks, on file.

Old Business –

Club Jackets – Kay and Larry presented details about the San Mar jackets and stated they would prepare copies of the catalog advertisements for distribution. They urged members to study the choices and, if interested, get the information to her in about 2 weeks so that the order can be placed. A sample of how the logo looks on a piece of material was passed around and members thought it looked very nice.

New Business –

July 9 - Driving Derby at Ann's – This date is changed from July 2 so as not to conflict with other events. This is a combination Derby and Buddy Buggy Days. Lilla will set up a derby course on Saturday the 8th. Volunteers to help would be appreciated.

Cass Winery Drive – Kay and Gloria will visit the site to check on the terrain for driving and report back.

Calendar of Club Events –

April 25 for 6 weeks – Cones Course competition at Overlook – Participants have just finished Week 3 and results have been posted and distributed. Reminder that the cones course is changed each Monday and volunteers are always welcome to help.

Lilla and Aleks reported we now have a club Facebook page and we have posted this event on Facebook to spread the word and will also note other events and information.

May 27-28 – Memorial Day Drive at Twin Rivers – Stephanie reported they would set up the course on May 27th and drive on May 28th. Twin Rivers charges a fee of \$60 per animal on the grounds and there is a \$5.00 fee for club insurance. Anyone wishing to attend to have lunch and visit is welcome.

June 3 – Trailer Handling clinic at Fairbanks' Overlook Driving Center – There are two spots left for anyone wishing to bring their trailer to participate. Please let Linda know if you wish to sign up. There is a \$30 fee to attend, either with a trailer or as an auditor. No fee will be charged by the clinician or Overlook. We will provide a deli tray, bread and drinks for lunch.

November – Turkey Trot Drive in Parkfield – To be finalized later.

Other Driving Events –

June 3-4 – Whip R Snappers Pleasure Days, Lakeview Terrace, CA. Dressage classes will also be held at this event. BODS plans to sponsor classes for this event.

July – Dressage Festival – Whip R Snappers has cancelled this event.

September 28-Oct. 1 – Shady Oaks CDE

Announcements/Reports

May 4-7 – HDT & Super Clinic, Clay Station – Lilla, Diane, and several of the mini horse group attended the HDT (condensed CDE) and all had a great time. Anne and Lilla stayed on for the Super Clinic which they felt was an excellent event with great information and certainly a good value for all that was offered. Free videos were provided, paddocks, and three excellent clinicians. They urged members to consider attending this event next year.

Next Meeting – The next meeting will be at Margie's Restaurant in SLO on June 21st.

Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Gloria Walter, Secretary

What a great couple of weeks Jacopo and I had at the end of April and first week of May.

It began with the start of the cones series. I went out on a Wednesday as I was going to be gone to Clay Station, for the Horse Driving Trial (HDT) that coming weekend. We did well; coming in under time and only had a few balls down. I was really glad to get that practice in before heading up to the competition.

That Friday evening I packed for Clay Station and hooked Jacopo up to my two wheel cart to give some visiting friends a ride. They had wanted to horseback ride so I put one on my good ol' horse, 'Pip' and the other rode with me, then they switched after a while. I really liked poking along enjoying the setting sun and not having a plan. Just having someone to talk to about my horses and (mainly) driving.

Aleks, Jacopo and I left early that following morning to get up to Clay Station in time for lunch and to volunteer for the afternoons marathon portion of the HDT. There were SO many horses. We found an end pen to put Jacopo in and he went straight to work eating the knee high grass that was in it.

After our lunch we took our positions at obstacle #5. We were the last obstacle so it took a while for the drivers to reach us, but from where we were, we could see #2 and #4. Obstacle 4 and 5 were right next to each other with just a very short loop to drive between the two. This ended up tripping quite a few of the drivers up because they were not expecting one to be right after the other (?). We had drivers leave #4 and drive the wrong way, then realize that they were missing something and come back, do the short loop, and still PASS our obstacle! Never making it in and, therefore, eliminated. I felt so bad for them because they were almost done and then to be eliminated. But it allowed Aleks and I to see what the course really was so that we wouldn't mess up at that interchange on Sunday.

Sunday morning I dressed for dressage and cones (In an HDT, cones are run right after dressage). Jacopo did really well at the safety check which he has not been very patient with in the past. For me that was a great start to the day! Our dressage test felt really good and I received several complements from those who were watching. I ended up with a 52.5 which is by far the best score we have received. The usual comments of "need more energy" were written all over it but he WAS more forward then he has been in the past.

Cones went okay, with a few down balls and a few parts where we walked. In this HDT the cones are set a very generous distance apart so running them over does take some "talent" and having the horse have to walk kills all forward momentum which takes time to get back into it.

Late afternoon was our marathon start time. At our first HDT, last August, we had come in 2 seconds over time, so I really hoped to make the time this drive. Jacopo headed out of the start very nicely and the course had a nice distance before the first obstacle. I was very excited to drive the trees (obstacle 1) and that there was a photographer. I was so excited that I almost messed it up, but we came out okay. #2 was about another kilometer and was their cute "western town" obstacle. I was right on point with that one and kept it fairly smooth and used a nice tight line thru it. We were feeling pretty good but it was along way to #3, some of it on the semi gravel driveway. It was pretty warm and I have Jacopo barefoot so he had a few "outchi" steps on the driveway, and by this time he was starting to think that he had trotted far enough. Didn't help when I had to pull him up because of a kitty who decided to hunt its diner right in the compulsory flag that we had to go thru. One of the best parts was that we got to drive their rock bridge and the covered bridge as part of our route. We finally reached #3, the water obstacle. This one was more spread out and didn't have the tight turns of the others. Jacopo didn't go thru the water, but as Training Level, we didn't have to. He did break into a canter around one of the turns which was crazy fun, but training level can not canter so I had to bring him back down before we got in trouble. Looking back, I should have let Jacopo have a short walk break after getting out of the obstacle. He had earned it! But I was determined to be within time, so on we went to #4. I kind of forgot where I was going in #4 and so that broke our momentum and we walked a little. We did trot the short "tricky" loop to #5 but by then he was tired and #5 was very tight thru the poles. We ended up waking most of 5 and I was worried that I had asked too much, but after we got out on the straight away for the last kilometer, he picked the trot up again and headed for the finish. We ended up coming in within our time and ended up in first place out of 4 training level horses! Two of those had eliminated but at least there was competition!

Continued next page...

Continued from page 4

Jacopo got washed off and acted like nothing had happened, and we loaded up and headed home. It was a long day but we learned some and had a great time.

I left the truck and trailer hooked and packed and Jacopo got 2 days off (well he had to go get my calf out of the neighbors field, but it was an easy ride) before turning around and heading back up to Clay Station for the Super Clinic. We arrived just as the sun was disappearing but it was easy finding parking and corral. Thursday afternoon we had our cones lesson with Scott Monroe. And so I was able to watch some of the other lessons as we waited. I was relieved to see that Scott broke down his CRAZY cones course into different exercises and worked parts individually before putting it all together. Our lesson went well and we worked on my rein handling and keeping Jacopo trotting. By the end of our hour we did the course with only a few dropped balls and getting lost once or twice.

Friday morning, we went to obstacle training with Sterling Graburn. He was very nice and we worked the #4 and #5 obstacles from the weekend before. He helped me see some tighter lines and how to drive them more efficiently. And he really liked my heavy boned Morgan horse and my little marathon carriage.

We also got an early time for dressage on Saturday. Megan Sibiga was the dressage clinician and she was SO good. I had watched many of her lessons for the first two days and she treated every driver like they were the first that she had seen all day. We did a lot of work with outside/inside rein and when to apply my whip to the inside/outside of Jacopos body. We did a lot of circles of various sizes and got nice shape going both directions. Megan said that I should start looking at the Preliminary dressage tests as we weren't too far from having some of its requirements.

One of the best things about the clinic (besides the food) was that Ride On Video was there and recorded our lessons so that we can review them later. I would take more lessons with all of the clinicians, if I could, and hope to go back next year.

It was a great few weeks of driving and I can already see some of the things that I learned at the clinic helping us out in the last two cones series courses.



Disa, Ann and Jackie
From the cones series



CONES SERIES SUMMARY

NAME	HORSE OR PONY NAME	WEEK 1 POINTS	WEEK 1 TIME	WEEK 2 POINTS	WEEK 2 TIME	WEEK 3 POINTS	WEEK 3 TIME	WEEK 4 POINTS	WEEK 4 TIME	WEEK 5 POINTS	WEEK 5 TIME	WEEK 6 POINTS	WEEK 6 TIME	TOTAL POINTS	TOTAL TIME
TR. VSE															
Bryce Baker	Kachina	0	2:12	5	2:30	0	2:13	0	2:34	0	2:39	0	2:10	5	14:18
Shawn Hester	Ciroc	0	2:13	0	2:23	0	2:20	0	2:37	3	2:42	0	2:13	3	14:28
Natalie Cohen	Dino	0	2:42	0	2:48	0	2:32	0	2:47	3	3:16	0	2:28	3	16:33
Natalie Cohen	Andi	6	2:41	3	3:00	0	2:43	3	3:06	0	3:08	3	2:45	15	17:23
Nikki Ryan	Star	0	3:15	5	3:37	0	3:05	9	3:33	3	3:25	3	2:57	20	16:55
Nancy Schmidt	Valentino	6	3:03	3	3:33	-	-	3	3:37	6	3:09	-	-	18	
Rachel Nolan	Shadow	26	2:32	0	2:46	5	2:29	3	2:51	6	2:49	0	2:42	40	16:09
Karri Graves	Dakota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3:03	0	2:27	3	
Regina	Golden	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TR. H/P															
Liz Miller	Biscuit	19	3:48	21	4:00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Disa Thorensen	Fjola	—	-	-	-	58	4:48	15.5	3:55	-	-	26.5	4:04		
Lilla Thomason	Jacopo	3	3:01	—	-	11.5	3:13	0	3:22	—	-	3	2:57		
Jackie Pamplona	Aimie	E	—	—	-	E		20.5	4:21	—	-	8	3:33		
Kay Weeks	Kaloo	103.5	6:43	176	6:18	E		E		—	-	—	-		
PRELIM. VSE															
Stephanie Szabo	Buddy	3	2:51	0	3:15	3	2:46	0	3:33	3	3:30	0	2:41	9	18:36
Linda Fairbanks	Jonathan	3	2:39	0	3:01	1.5	3:06	0	3:13	0	3:17	0	2:53	4.5	18:09
PRELIM. H/P															
Diane Kastama	Cavalier	16	3:16	3	2:40	0	2:24	3	2:51	3	2:46	0	2:32	25	16:29
Cathy Riple	Ted	10	3:16	7.5	3:18	8	3:00	11.5	3:23	12	3:24	12	3:14	61	19:35
Ann McClure	Mark	0	2:41	—	-	0.5	2:45	0	2:50	0	3:01	0	2:36		
Eli Decker	Romey & Emmet	3	2:31	3	2:53	0	2:42	6	3:11	3	3:11	0	2:56	15	17:24

Total Time and Total points are only shown for turnouts who drove the courses all six weeks. All turnouts improved as the weeks went along, with lower point totals and better general performance of the horses. Almost all the drivers commented that the series had been fun and helpful. All the courses were difficult in at least one way, with many different elements which can be used by course designers to test horses and drivers. None of the courses was designed to be easy. I enjoyed watching all the turnouts and congratulate all who took part. Six weeks is a long commitment and for those who were not able to come each week, thank you for coming when you could.

Lost & Found:

Found at Ann's" small heart embossed hardware piece ———>



"Lost or loaned"

<————Ann is missing a set of Tedman shaft loops like the ones shown. They are black with white metal (not brass as pictured) :


"I've lost perhaps lent a pair of black with white metal shaft loops. It could have been years ago since I haven't driven a single 2 wheel in years. It could be in someone's tackroom?"



WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS

Regina Arons, Bryce Baker, Natalie Cohen, Eli Decker,
Karri Graves, Shawn Hester, Rachel Nolan, Nikki Ryan,
Nance Schmidt, and Tasha Wilkie.

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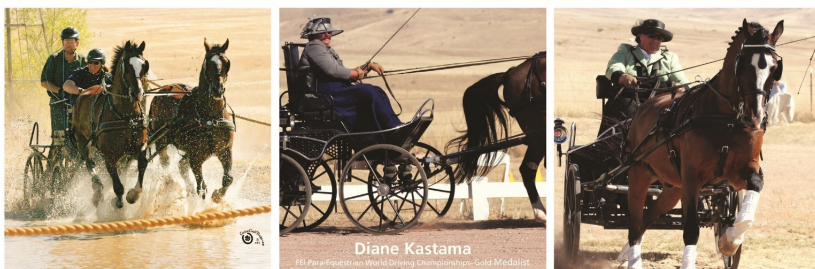
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Pamela Miller-Mitchell is our Pacific Region ADS rep.

Pamela can be reached at 818-899-0211 or pam.hei@verizon.net



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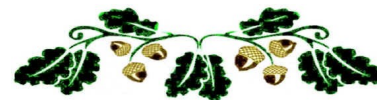
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS – BODS – 2017



(Needed: organizers and co-organizers at events).

Nov—Parkfield Turkey Trot Drive (details tba)

About Brass Oak Driving Society

The Brass Oak Driving Society exists to encourage, educate and inspire its members in the world of carriage driving. We recognize that every member has different goals, and we are committed to providing opportunities for every member to participate, learn and grow in a safe, friendly and fun way.



Brass Oak Driving Society Membership Form

Yes, I/we want to join the Brass Oak Driving Society. Memberships are for one year beginning January 1st and ending December 31st. New subscriptions or renewals paid after November 1st will apply to the following year. No refunds on membership. Make check payable to BRASS OAK DRIVING SOCIETY.

Please mail to:

Gloria Walter

6268 Hog Canyon Rd.

San Miguel, CA 93451

☐

\$35 membership with newsletter via email

☐

\$50 membership with newsletter via USPS

NAME(S):

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Check here if you do NOT wish to be included on the club roster. This roster is distributed to club members only.

BODS Newsletter Advertising Rates

CLASSIFIEDS (3 ISSUES): *No charge for members. \$5 for non-members with a 25 word maximum.*

BUSINESS ADS (6 ISSUES): *No charge for members. Non-members: \$25 business card ad*

\$50 quarter page ad

\$75 half page ad

Driving Events around the region:

July 15-16 Driving Trials @ Sargent Eq. Ctr

Aug 5 Triple Crown Clinic www.shadyoaks.com

Aug 12-13 HDT at clay station

Aug 25-27 CDE @ Sargent Eq Ctr

Sept 28-Oct 1 Shady Oaks CDE www.shadyoaksevents.com

Oct 28 Halloween Hustle www.whiprsnappers.com

Oct 29 Dressage Fest to follow Halloween Hustle

Oct 28-29 HDT Clay Station

Pacific Region ADS calendar:

http://www.americandrivingsociety.org/regn_pacific.asp

Next meeting Wednesday, June 21st At Margie's in SLO

6pm no host dinner, 7pm meeting

Diane, Eli, and
Cavalier driving to
a score of 39 on
their Preliminary
Dressage test at
Clay Station HDT

