



Brass Oak Driving Society

May 2023

Corral 14 Poppy Drive

By Lilla Thomason

I have been "stalking" Corral 14 on Facebook for several years. They are a driving group based in the high desert of Southern California. Their group enjoys trail driving, including a two-week, wagon train near Death Valley. On April 16th, they had a drive near the Poppy Preserve in Antelope Valley, toward Lancaster. My husband and I had backpacked this section, six years ago, on the Pacific Crest Trail and it had been a beautiful flower year then. With the "Super Bloom" this year, I knew that I needed to go and see it in person. I decided to take my Morgan, Jacopo, because he likes nothing more than to mosey along, and he has been on the back burner with my focus being on my pony, Concho.

I went the day before the drive and camped for the first time with a horse tied to the trailer. I gave Jacopo plenty of hay and he was as happy as could be; he only woke me a few times while I slept in the back of my truck.

Thankfully, the wind settled down and drive day was a perfect day. There were 8 to 10 drivers, mostly mule teams, but there was a team of Haflingers, a three abreast of minis, a donkey, and my Morgan. A few others joined on horseback, including B.O.D.S. member Lori Weiss on her Fjord 'Arnie.'

We drove mostly on sand roads and quickly moved away from the homes. About midway in our 10-mile drive, the group took a break along the Los Angeles aqueduct, which takes water from Owens Valley. Here, the water travels through a concrete tunnel which is level with the ground. The club has a trailer that carries water and porta potties, and it met us there. Up until then, we had seen some beautiful flowers, but the real "show" came after our break when we did another loop that took us through a blanket of poppies. Jacopo kept traveling off the roadway because I was too busy taking pictures to drive correctly! We were all amazed. On our return trip, we passed a Joshua Tree forest. Jacopo did a great job and hardly broke a sweat; everyone complimented him and my cart.

They were a welcoming group and enjoyed seeing new faces. It was a driving experience that will stick with me for a long time, and I hope to join them again.



Hi club members,

I'm Gloria Walter and I am your 2023 BODS Secretary (actually I've been your Secretary and Membership Chairman for "decades")! My husband and I have lived in North County for over 20 years. We have raised Registered Miniature Donkeys for almost 30 years, showcasing our Champion Jack "Elvis" many times. Before Mini Donkeys, my first love was Arabian Horses. I was delighted when my Half-Arabian mare was named National Champion in Native Costume some years ago.



Since Elvis was trained to cart, it was fun to drive him in the club's shows and on pleasure drives. Of course, we always had to play 'catch-up' because everyone driving big horses stretched out way ahead of us.

It has been my pleasure to keep our members informed of upcoming activities, meetings, and special announcements. Since I keep our membership list current, I'm the one who 'bugs' you about paying your dues each year too.

Have an Idea?

Anyone can organize an event or activity!
Simply write out your idea and send it to a board member for board approval. Include what is requested of the club (insurance, seed money, etc.). We can help hash out the details
Questions? Please reach out!

We have a wonderful group of members, from our longtime 'mature' drivers to a number of recent 'younger' members. Hopefully, many of you will be able to enjoy club activities this summer.

2023 Board

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lillathomason@gmail.com

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kateyv33@yahoo.com



HUGE AUCTION - TAKE A LOOK!!!!

During the month of May USDFD is running an auction to benefit Team USA. The FEI Para Driving World Championships for Singles is August 23-27, Exloo Netherlands
See link for Auction.

<https://www.32auctions.com/TeamUSA2023>

We are adding adding items daily. If you would like to help by donating an auction item, please contact:

Diane Kastama at dkastama@verizon.net

Phone: 805-458-2428

Event Report

Members came out to show their love of equines at the "Love of Equine" valentine drive held at Linda Fairbanks' place in February. The mini and small ponies were well represented with nine in attendance, plus, one horse. Just as many members (and guests) attended to enjoy the day. Diane Kastama was our Super Reinsmanship Judge and did a great job helping members get through the test and offering some suggestions. Aleks Hewitt was the cones judge and timed for anyone who chose to drive any, or all, of four different cones games. We finished just before the rain and hail arrived.

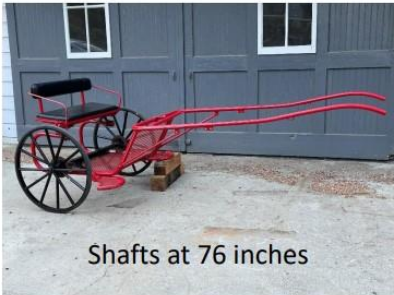


Members' Marketplace

FOR SALE \$900

Heavy Duty, Powder Coated Steel, Adjustable Horse Cart

- Safety Step-Out Design
- Adjustable Shaft Length, Axel & Seat height
- 32" Steel Wheels. Will take up to 50" wheels
- For use on rough ground and parade ground
- Indestructibly Built by the "Carriage Barn" in Camarillo, CA



Shafts at 76 inches



Axel invertible, to take up to 50" Wheels



Springs on axel and on seat

FOR SALE \$3,500

7 Foot California Ranch Wagon
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- "Safety-Under" design for safe, tight maneuvering.
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- Used exclusively in Parades and Shows.
- Suitable for small horses and ponies.
- Rear Disc brakes.
- Meticulously Built by the "Carriage Barn" in Camarillo, CA



Rick Waltonsmith

408 656 8565

waltonsmith@comcast.net

More photos available.

For Sale:

4-Wheel Marathon Cart – \$2,500 obo
The 5th Wheel has new Teflon inserts.

Two horse-sized harnesses:
one Zilco, black with stainless and
one Smuckers russet. Open to offers.

Contact Barbara Meek at 805-369-9601



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Smucker's Synthetic Harness \$400

Black. Excellent condition, lightly used, and just cleaned. This was purchased to fit a Friesian, but has been used on my much smaller mule in recent years, so it adjusts over a wide range. Smucker's quality and very sturdy. Truly easy care, just hose off to clean.

Contact Lil Clary

805 937-3811

Newsletter Advertising –

Advertising of horse/driving related items/services is free for BODS members.

Non-members may advertise in one month's issue for free.

Contact Kathy or Gloria for more information or to run an ad.

Ride/Drive horses for sale

Contact Wendy Parkison. parkison309@yahoo.com

(928) 300-9197

Through no fault of their own I have two ride/drive horses for sale. They are currently in the Verde Valley (Cornville). The owner has had some major medical issues and has been in a rehab since August of 2022. He had been driving them each about once a week in addition to having a young gal come over to his place and ride them. He drove them both single with a 2 wheeled cart out into the desert behind his house, to a neighborhood with barking dogs/traffic etc. I have driven them both in the past and they are nice. However they have not been driven since I brought them over to my place in August. They have continued to be ridden by the gal on a somewhat routine basis. Due to the mismanagement by the owner they were both obese and had laminitis when I got them. The vet took x-rays to confirm, there was some coffin bone rotation. They were both put on a slow steady diet and good farrier care and both have come around very nicely. It has just recently been decided that the owner cannot have them back. The gelding has only had shoes on the front but should have them on the back if used more than in the arena. The mare has always been barefoot. They both stand for the farrier.

Bosley-sorrel with a white patch on his forehead, white socks. He is a 15 yoa Morab gelding, 15.1hh. He had not been in a trailer for many years and got right in when I went to pick them up. He is a food hog and would be better off housed alone or with a horse that is assertive. He is lovable. I have driven him in the past but personally never ridden him. The gal that does ride him likes him and says he is good on the trail but when riding with others he wants to be ahead. \$1500.

Neva-solid sorrel mare. She is 6 yoa and was believed to be a MorganX, 14.1hh. She is also very sweet. She had 30 days with a professional riding trainer prior to the owner buying her. The owner got her when she was around 3 1/2 and began working with her. I helped him train her to drive and she was very easy. She has only about 2 years of driving but was doing very well. I would say she is more green broke to ride just because of the shorter time he had her and his focus was driving. The gal that rides her says she is nice. I have only seen her ridden in my arena so I don't know about out on the trail. I do believe the gal had taken her out a couple of times before we picked her up. \$1500.

Update as of April 17, 2023. Both horses front hooves were x-rayed Friday April 14. The vet thinks the mare has improved tremendously and does not foresee any issues. The gelding has also improved but still needs about 6 months for the hoof wall to grow out. He does recommend doing some therapeutic/corrective shoeing again to alleviate toe pressure. My farrier did this when the gelding first got here for about two shoeing's and it helped. He would like to continue. He said he is okay to ride/drive but wouldn't work him too hard, trail ride etc, not barrel racing or hard core riding. The x-rays from August of 2022 and the ones just taken can be emailed if anyone is interested or wants to ask their veterinarian's opinion. These horses had not been driven for 10 months. My friend and I hooked each of them up and drove them and they acted like there had been no break. I have video of them being ridden from months ago and I have video of them being driven April 17, 2023.



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.

**2023 Dues are Due!
Please Renew!**

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):
STREET ADDRESS:
CITY, STATE, ZIP:
Email:
TELEPHONE(S):

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: Contact venues for current information.

- June 24 & 25 Summer Festival CDE, Claystation Horse Park, Wilton, CA.
Contact claystationhorsepark@frontier.net
- July 8 & 9 Freestyle Double D, Sargent Equestrian Center, Lodi, CA
Contact sargentequestriancenter.com
- August 4 & 5 Ventura Co. Fair Carriage Show, John Freiburger, judge, Ventura Seaside Park
Contact Jennifer Russell 44jrusell@gmail.com
- August 6 & 7 Summer HDTs, Claystation Horse Park, Wilton, CA.
Contact claystationhorsepark@frontier.net
- October 6 – 8 CA Fall Classic CDE, Claystation Horse Park, Wilton, CA.
Contact claystationhorsepark@frontier.net
- October 28 & 29 Halloween HDT, Claystation Horse Park, Wilton, CA.
Contact claystationhorsepark@frontier.net

Gina Miner is our Pacific Region ADS representative.
Gina can be reached at vwminer@me.com

Next Meeting:
TBD



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.