



DRIVING NEWS

Spokes & Spurs Inc Newsletter



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In this issue:

- President's Message
- Treasurer's Report
- 2025 Spokes & Spurs Calendar
- 2025 Membership
- Spokes & Spurs Library
- Hay Tips from AAEP

Happy New Year!!

We had a wonderful luncheon - Thank you once again to the Whaley's for opening their barn to our group. For those of you who were unable to attend, we had a few changes to our board. I'm still your President; Doug Lindsey will be our Vice

President; Joan Thompson will be our Secretary; Hugh Bellis-Jones will remain as Treasurer; Jen Harber is now putting out the Newsletter (please forward any news/information to Jen) and Kathi Davis will take on renewals at the end of the year.

I hope that you have sent in your membership renewal for 2025. Please find the [Membership Form here](#).

We have a fun schedule in place with a few more details to work out for a couple of the events. One important idea that we will be working on is education for young drivers and others in the horse community who may not realize the full spectrum of the driving world. A sub-committee has been formed. If you have any interest in helping with this please let us know.

I have been reading over some new regulations:

Starting February 1, 2025, new regulations for the Horse Protection Act (HPA) will require that only APHIS Veterinary Medical Officers (VMOs) and Horse Protection Inspectors (HPIs) conduct equine inspections. I'm not quite sure how this will affect those of us in the driving world. I certainly welcome any information from any of you who may know more about these regulations as we investigate further.

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/hpa>

Don't forget that we will be meeting at the CAA Office at the KY Horse Park on Sun Feb. 9, 2025 at 1:00PM. I will send out a more detailed email about this fun day of harness care and cleaning. I will also be asking for an RSVP, so I can arrange for drinks and snacks.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Ann



2024 Spokes and Spurs Treasurer's Report

With a membership of approximately 100 riding and driving enthusiasts, your club continues to provide a full calendar of events. As a small not for profit organization, the board carefully manages club finances so that expenses are generally offset by income. This was the case in 2024.

As of January 1, 2024 the club's balance with WesBanco was \$4,336.17 and at year's end, after hosting a number of club events, the bank balance stood at \$4,778.08. The club is therefore on a sound financial footing and the club's finances are essentially the same as 12 months ago.

Member events in 2024 included a Muffy Seaton clinic and a mini CDE. Once a clinician or judge has been engaged, flight booked, accommodations arranged, etc., the club is obliged to proceed even if projected entries prove less than anticipated. The club did subsidize both of these events; the clinic incurred costs of \$831.33 while the mini CDE expenses totaled \$501.27.

Most of the club's revenue is derived from membership dues which are then used to fund the club's activities and also cover routine expenses such as insurance (\$507.30), annual meeting food and drink (\$617.44), website hosting (\$186.86), and ADS membership (\$60.00, paid December 2023).

The club received 57 memberships in 2024, 34 family and 23 single for 99 actual members. These figures are virtually identical to the previous year.

17 checks were issued in 2024, including:

Ann Katona reimbursement (office supplies & Muffy Seaton clinic) \$831.33

Kathi Davis reimbursement(1/2024 AGM food) \$582.96

American Reliable Insurance Co. (liability insurance) \$507.30

Lydia Gray (mini-CDE judge) \$405.89

Ann Katona reimbursement (12/2024 AGM food) \$262.63

Old Friends (in memory of Linda Sudduth) \$150.00

Jack Goodman reimbursement (Bluehost website hosting) \$143.88

CAA (2024 room rental fee) \$100.00

CAA (2025 room rental fee) \$100.00

National Drive (2024 donation) \$100.00

ADS (2025 club membership) \$60.00

Jack Goodman reimbursement (Bluehost domain name) \$42.98

Hugh Bellis-Jones reimbursement (KY Secretary of State filing fee) \$15.00

Because of weather-related issues, the club actually held two annual general meetings in 2024. The 2023 AGM at the CAA office was held over until January 2024, while the 2024 AGM was held in December as scheduled and graciously hosted by Kate and Katie Whaley at their Coach House Farm.



Spokes and Spurs 2025 Calendar

Date/Time	Description of Event	Location
Feb. 9 - 1pm	Harness Care & Cleaning by Terry Shaw	CAA Bld, KY Horse Park
Mar 13-16	Live Oak International	Live Oak, FL
April 3	Southern Pines CDE & CT	Raeford, NC
April 12	Aiken Carriage Classic	Aiken, NC
April 17-20	Katydid CDE	Tryon, NC
April 24-27	National Drive Spring Fling	Edinburgh, IN
April 12	CAA Driver Proficiency Program Level 1 and Road Driving	Valkyries Haven Paris, KY
May 10	Carolina Carriage Club DT & CT	Mooresboro, NC
May 16-18	Charlotte's Creek CDE & CT Www.charlottes-creekfarm.com	Charlotte's Creek Farm Georgetown, KY
June 7	MHDVA Blue Ribbon Driving Show	Ionia, MI
June 13	Midwest Carriage Festival & CY	Elkhorn, WI
July 19	Spokes and Spurs Fun Drive & Cookout	Charlotte's Creek Farm Georgetown, KY
Summer TBD	Spokes and Spurs Pleasure Fun Show	Coach House Farm Paris, KY
Summer TBD	Spokes and Spurs Youth Drive	TBD
Aug. 29 - 31	Suzy Stafford Clinic Www.charlottes-creekfarm.com	Charlotte's Creek Farm Georgetown, KY
Sept 5-7	Villa Louis Carriage Classic	Prairie du Chien, WI
Sept 18-21	Tryon Fall CDE	Tryon, NC
Oct 7-12	National Drive Fall Drive	Edinburgh, IN
Oct 17-19	Nashoba Carriage Classic	Germantown, TN
Oct TBD	Halloween at the Haven DT & CT	Valkyries Haven Paris, KY



2025 Membership Drive

Don't forget that memberships are due for 2025. Please fill out the Membership form & Mail check made out to: Spokes and Spurs (\$35 family, \$30 individual) and this membership form to: Hugh Bellis-Jones, 1145 Hill Rd., Paris, KY 40361 Link to Membership Form www.spokesandspurs.com

Spokes and Spurs Library

Spokes and Spurs has a nice little library available to our members. Let Ann Katona know if you would like to check-out anything.

*American Carriages, Sleighs, Sulkies and Carts 168 Illustrations from Victorian Sources! Edited by Don H. Berkebile

*American Horse-Drawn Vehicles - Being a collection of 218 pictures... Jack D. Rittenhouse

*Bending the Driving Horse Muffy Seaton

*Breaking a Horse to Harness - A Step by Step Guide Sallie Walrond

*Bristol Wagon & Carriage Illustrated Catalog, 1900 Bristol Wagon & Carriage Works Co. Ltd.

*Carriage Driving - A Logical Approach Through Dressage Training Heike Bean and Sarah Blanchard

*Discovering Horse Drawn Carriages D. J. Smith

*Driven Dressage with the Single Horse Sandy Rabinowitz

*Driver Proficiency Program - Level I and Road Driving Syllabus The Carriage Association of America

*Driving a Harness Horse - A Step by Step Guide (A sequel to Breaking a Horse to Harness) Sallie Walrond

*Driving for Pleasure or The Harness Stable and its Appointments Francis T. Underhill

*The Encyclopedia of Driving Sallie Walrond

*The Essential Guide to Carriage Driving Robyn Cuffey and Jaye-Allison Winkel

*Fundamentals of Private Driving Sallie Walrond

*Horse-Drawn Vehicles at the Shelburne Museum Kenneth Edward Wheeling

*Illustrated Catalogue of Carriages and Special Business Advertiser / G. & D. Cook & Co.'s Forward by Paul H. Downing

*Walnut Hill: A Grand Celebration of the Horse & Carriage Robert Lannazzi; Photographer. Bill Remley; Commentator

WINTER SLEIGH RIDE PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GREENBRIAR RESORT



Shared from the AAEP Facebook Page

As the source of 50 to 90% of a healthy horse's nutritional needs, hay warrants careful consideration as a precious commodity. This becomes especially true during the winter, when roughage in the diet is the main source of heat for the horse.

Generally, horses at rest in ambient temperatures of 70°F consume 2% of their body weight in roughage (hay) per day. A 1,100-pound horse will eat approximately 22 pounds of hay per day. A horse with a moderate hair coat starts requiring additional calories for body temperature regulation at approximately 50°F. Add about 2 pounds more hay for every 10-degree temperature drop. With wind and rain at near-freezing temperatures, the feed required increases by approximately 10-15 pounds to 32-47 pounds of hay per day!

If you're purchasing hay for your horse this winter, remember that there's no such thing as "the best hay" when it comes to the nutrient value. That all depends on your horse's protein and energy requirements, which are ultimately determined the individual's age, stage of development, metabolism and workload. If you think your horse is too fat or too thin (or even if you are unsure), discuss the appropriate feeding recommendations with your veterinarian; they can help you formulate a balanced and cost-effective diet that meets your individual horse's dietary requirements.

Finally, always keep in mind that water is critical for digestion, so be sure to monitor your horse's water intake to minimize the chance of intestinal impactions!

8 TIPS FOR EVALUATING HAY

Keep the following points in mind when purchasing hay for your horses:



- 1** Choose hay that is **fine-stemmed, green and leafy as possible**. It should be soft to the touch.
- 2** **Examine the level of maturity:** select hay that has been harvested when the plants are in early bloom for legumes, or before seed heads have formed in grasses.
- 3** **Avoid hay that is over-cured; excessively sun-bleached; or smells moldy, musty, dusty, or fermented.**
- 4** **Avoid hay that contains a significant amount of weeds, dirt, trash or debris.**
- 5** Examine hay for signs of infestation or disease. **Be especially careful to check for blister beetles in alfalfa!** Ask the grower about any potential problems in their area.
- 6** **Reject bales that seem excessively heavy for their size or feel warm to the touch:** they may contain excessive moisture that could cause mold or spontaneous combustion.
- 7** **Purchase and feed hay within a year of harvest** to preserve its nutritional value.
- 8** When purchasing hay, **have the hay analyzed by a certified forage laboratory.**



Did You Know.....

Spokes and Spurs members may post classified ads for free!

Send ads to
dunhorse1220@gmail.com.