



BLACK SWAMP DRIVING CLUB

HOLIDAY 2012 NEWSLETTER

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone,

So hard to believe that I am finishing the Holiday Newsletter. What a difficult year this has been for members with caring for loved ones and loss of beloved driving companions. I hope the New Year will be a kind one.

This Newsletter has information about our upcoming election and member profiles of those folks that are so willing to put in the time and effort it takes to make the club run. Thank you to outgoing Board Members, Kim Mack, Mary Elliott (who is running again) and Jackie Minges.

Please remember that membership renewals are due by 1/1/2013 and we would appreciate your ideas of things we can do at club functions that would be of an interest for all our members.

The Newsletter has certainly taken a great deal of time but it has given me the opportunity to reflect on all the events the club has participated in and has allowed me to keep in contact and share what's happening in our lives.

My very best to all and your special driving companions,

Jackie

OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Susan Murray, wishing full and speedy recovery for your sister and mother.

TIME TO ORDER YOUR 2013 CALENDARS – Ann Bell is again taking orders for 2013 calendars. You can order Driving Horse, Draft Horse, Mule or Donkey wall calendars or Rural Yesterday Appt. Calendar. The price is \$9.00 each. If interested please call Ann Bell at 419-694-2085 or email her at jabell@frontier.com. Orders must be placed with Ann no later than October 20 and can be paid and picked up at the Annual Banquet on November 11.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations go to BSDC member Susan Orosz and her Morgan “Belle”. They had a terrific week at the prestigious Walnut Hill Show. Belle and Anita Alden took 3rd place Large Pony Turnout, 5th place Reinsmanship and Susan and Belle with Holly Thompson took 3rd place in Ladies Wicker Phaeton Picnic Class. And followed up with Grand Champion Large Pony and CH. Overall Pony at the Waverly Horse Show. Well done ladies on your terrific year and her beautiful Ladies Wicker Phaeton.



RECENT EVENTS

AUGUST SUMMER MEETING – Our day trip to visit Dale Wendt and his sleigh collection had to be postponed so Mary Elliott suggested a meeting at Good Hope Lutheran Church and welcomed members to learn how to make hat boxes. Mary showed up with arms full of supplies. Special paper to cover the hatboxes, cardboard to make the forms, scissors, brushes, glue, and every little accessory. We had a lot of fun making them and “hats off” to Mary for all her patience. It was like having a bunch of little kindergartners all wanting the teacher’s help at once. We finished up the day with a nice potluck and video on “Sleighs and Sleigh Bells” which Angie has made available in the club’s Lending Library.

PARKER COVERED BRIDGE DRIVE – What beautiful weather the Emmons family ordered up for their drive ! We had 33 people come to enjoy the day and so much food. Thanks to the Higgins family for bringing the covered wagon. Nine turnouts made their way through the beautiful old covered bridge and the quiet roads along the Sandusky River including the new pony “Oreo” being driven so nicely by Doris Owen.





COON HUNTER'S DRIVE – Thank you to our hosts, Roger and Susan Murray and Joe and Kim Mack for making us all feel so welcome. This is the tenth year that Roger and Susan have hosted this drive in Tiffin. A few dark clouds held off and the seven turnouts had a crisp, cool day to drive. How great it was to see John and Sara Hunter out in their buggy.

HANCOCK CO FAIR – Again this year, BSDC donated the trophy for the Pleasure Hitch Light Horse 2 or 4 Wheel Vehicle class, which Ann Bell presented to the winner, George Lanning.

2013 BSDC MEMBERSHIP DUES – Please remember that Membership Dues is due January 1, 2013. The Annual Banquet is a perfect time to pay your dues and return your membership form for 2013. Please remember to sign the Liability Disclaimer on the back.

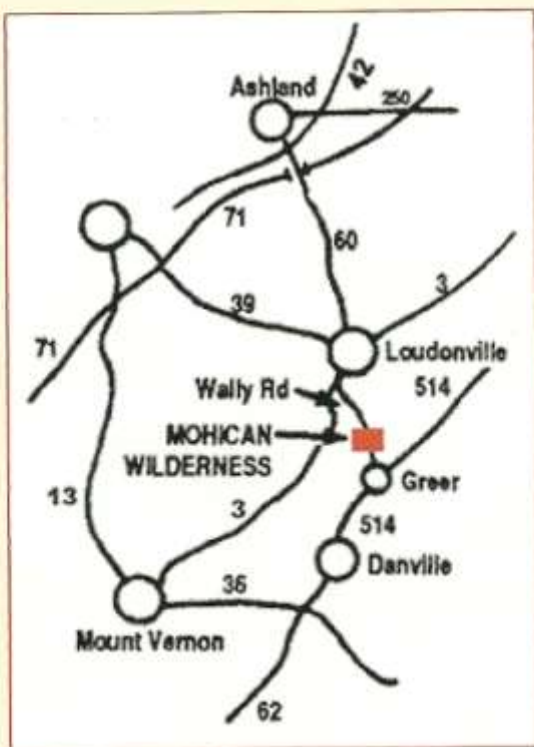
With so many insurance policies up for renewal at or near the coming New Year, it is important for all members to understand that the Club's insurance covers only the Club. Each club member is responsible for their own insurance to cover any liability or casualty loss associated with their animals or driving. Keep this in mind when discussing your insurance needs with your insurance agent.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DIRECTIONS

Mohican Wilderness is conveniently located midway between Cleveland and Columbus, near Mohican State Park and Forest.

NOTE: Do not follow GPS or Google directions from Loudonville to Mohican Wilderness. Follow website directions from Loudonville to camp.



From the North: Take I-71 south to Ashland exit SR 250 west. Turn onto SR 42 south, to SR 60 south. Follow SR 60 18 miles to Loudonville. Turn onto SR 3 south, then left onto Wally Rd (CR 3175).

From the South: Route 62 from New Albany to Danville. Take 514 to Greer. Turn left on Wally Road for 2.5 miles.

22462 Wally Rd., Glenmont, OH 44628
Located 9 Miles South of Loudonville

740-599-6741 • www.MohicanWilderness.com

NOTE CHANGE MOHICAN WILDERNESS DRIVE -

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE This drive has been changed from a weekend drive to Sunday, October 21, 2012 only. Hosted by the Higgins and Emmons families. Potluck will be held at noon at Mohican Wilderness Campground, 22462 Wally Rd., Glenmont, OH 44628 (9 miles south of Loudonville). The 600 acre campground is located in the valley of the Mohican. The Mohican River runs through the campground. The roads you will travel are shaded and the trees should be beautiful this time of year as you see log cabins, an old schoolhouse and late 1800's barns. The roads you travel are public roads, gravel or paved. SMV sign is required.

Directions: See map below.

Questions: Contact Roger Higgins, Jr., cell #740-251-7193 or Julie Emmons, cell# 740-361-3885 for all the details. We look forward to this first drive at Mohican Wilderness and invite you to join us.

VAIL MEADOWS – MAUMEE BAY STATE PARK DRIVE – OCTOBER 28, 2012 –

Hosted by Mike and Jackie Minges. Time: 12-4 PM. The Vails have welcomed us to Vail Meadows Equestrian Center for our meeting spot for this Fall drive. Location: 6118 Cedar Point Rd, Oregon, OH 43618. There is plenty of space for trailers. We will have our potluck at noon with a drive to follow in Maumee Bay State Park. It is approximately ¼ mile on Cedar Point Road from Vail to the Park Campground Entrance. SMV is required. You may drive at will (stay on the paved park roads) throughout the Park. Set in the midst of 1,850-acres we will have three and five mile routes on all paved roads along scenic meadows, marshes and Maumee Bay. We encourage everyone with turnouts to decorate for Fall.

Directions: Vail Meadows and Maumee Bay State Park are approximately 10 miles east of downtown Toledo. From Toledo take I-75 North to I-280 South to Exit 7, Oregon (State Route 2/Navarre). Turn left (East) off exit ramp onto Route 2. Drive approximately 6.5 Miles East, past Pearson Metro Park, to North Curtice Road; Turn Left (North). Hy-Flash Tavern & Maumee Bay General Store/Sunoco are at this intersection. Follow North Curtice (Approx. 2 Miles) until road dead ends at Cedar Point Road. Turn left on Cedar Point Rd. Vail Meadows, 6118 Cedar Point Rd. is approximately ½ mile on the left. Watch for BSDC signs. Questions: 734-856-6122 (home), Mike's cell: 419-356-6651

BLACK SWAMP DRIVING CLUB ANNUAL BANQUET

DATE: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2012

WHERE: ROYAL BUFFET, 2551 TIFFIN AVE, FINDLAY, OHIO 45840

(CORNER OF 224 AND CO RD 236)

TIME – 5:30 PM – 10:30 PM

PRICE - BUFFET: \$9.99, \$1.25 BEVERAGE (25% OFF SENIOR DISCOUNT)

ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2013

JOIN IN THE FUN – DOOR PRIZES, 50/50 RAFFLE, PLEASE BRING ITEMS FOR THE AUCTION. THIS YEAR WE HAVE ADDED A 'WHITE ELEPHANT EXCHANGE"-IF YOU WANT TO PARTICIPATE WITH THIS EXCHANGE BRING A WRAPPED GIFT (IT CAN BE ANYTHING, SILLY, EXPENSIVE, CHEAP, FUNNY, USED) AND SEE WHO ENDS UP WITH THE BEST!

CHRISTMAS ON THE FARM – KENTON, OH – DECEMBER 15, 2012. Come and enjoy the holiday spirit at the Beech Grove School, the one room schoolhouse on Hardin Co Historical Museum's Yost Farm. Gather round the pot-bellied stove for hot chocolate, snacks and fellowship. The historical buildings will be decorated in pioneer style and open to the public. Club members can display sleighs and sleds. Gary will be giving sleigh rides (even if there is No snow). Bring your horses, carriages or sleighs. If there is snow, Gary will have sleighs there for anyone wanting to try hitching their equine and drive a sleigh.

This is not a pot luck. Please bring cookies, cupcakes or snacks. The barn will be available to display the sleighs. Time is 1-5 P.M. Please arrive by noon if you have horses and/ or displays. The Farm will be open to the public for free but donations are welcome. This will be an old fashioned Christmas with caroling, sleigh rides and of course Santa Claus. This will be such a nice opportunity to get together before Christmas. Bring kids, grandkids, neighbors and friends. Questions: Contact Gary Gillfillan – 419-675-3257, cell # 567-674-0151.

Directions: From the North: 75 South to exit 156 OH/15/68 to US 23 Kenton/Columbus. Stay on 68, go through Kenton over two railroad tracks to left on Fairgrounds Rd. Fairgrounds is on the right and Yost Farm is next to Fairgrounds. From South: 31 North to south end of Kenton. There is a Marathon Station, right on Fairgrounds Rd, 14344 Fairgrounds Rd. Yost Farm is next to Fairgrounds.

NOMINATIONS FOR 2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS - The election will take place at the Annual Meeting. Our nominees have shared the following profiles with us.

PAM BAKER – My name is Pam Baker. I am married to Bernard, and between us we have eleven kids, a bunch of grandchildren and a few great grandchildren. I am a medical assistant and have worked with Dr, Morris for 23 years. We have a mini horse named Stormy and he is the only one we drive right now. We also have a pony; eventually we hope she will be trained to drive. We just started driving about one and half years ago, so we still have a lot to learn. We joined the club about 3 years ago and really enjoy the get togethers that we can make it to. We learned about the club through Linda Spears and Mary Elliott who have taught us so much.

MARY ELLIOTT – My name is Mary Elliott. I live on our farm in Galion, Ohio with my sister Linda Spears. I have been involved with horses all my life. I purchased my first horse when I was eighteen years old and showed and judged Quarter Horses. I have been driving for twenty five years, driving minis to drafts. I have been a member of BSDC since 1989 serving as Secretary, Reporter, Vice President, harness demonstrations for the Safety Clinics and a guest speaker at the First Annual Maumee Bay Sleigh Festival.

JULIE EMMONS – My name is Julie Emmons. I live in LaRue, Ohio. I've had horses for forty-three years. I have been driving for twenty six years, driving minis to drafts. I started my own carriage business (White Rose Carriage Service) seven years ago. I have served the BSDC as Board of Director, Secretary and President. In my spare time I enjoy history, especially about the Civil War.

JOHN HEFFERNAN – My name is John Heffernan. I live with my wife Judy on our farm in Kenton, Ohio. My love of horses comes naturally as my grandfather imported draft horses and my father was involved with the Ohio State Racing Commission. I started with Quarter Horses in 1968 with some showing and lots of trail riding. In 1970 I attended the Oklahoma Horseshoeing School. Judy and I married in 1980 and had been looking for a farm when one became available in Kenton. With guidance from our good neighbors we acquired our first Belgians fifteen years ago. With special dog, Luc, we enjoy working our farm. We have four Belgians and three Quarter Horses.

ROGER MURRAY –

- A charter member of BSDC and a past president.
- A member of WRCA and served as president.
- A 20+ year member of CAA, member of the Board of Directors, formerly treasurer and currently am Vice President.
- Served as carriage restoration judge at national events.
- Active in pleasure driving.
- Published several articles in Carriage Journal and Driving Digest.
- Presented several programs on driving, collecting, and carriage events to museums, historical societies, and civic groups.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Balance as of October 1, 2012 is \$2,247.67.

2013 – MARK YOUR CALENDAR

BSDC MEETINGS – Winter meetings will be held at Good Hope Lutheran Church, Arlington, Ohio from 2-4 PM on January 13, February 10, and March 10, 2013.

MAUMEE BAY 2ND ANNUAL SLEIGH FESTIVAL - January 25-27, 2013 -
www.sleighfestival.com

FINDLAY SWAP MEET – 30th year – February 17, 2013 – We will again have an information booth.

BSDC LENDING LIBRARY – Angie will have the lending library at the winter meetings. This is a good chance to catch up with some excellent books for winter reading time. Angie said if you would like to request a specific book, please call her at 419-274-1122 and she will be glad to bring it to a drive.

VISIT THE WEBSITE: www.blackswampdrivingclub.com

In the quiet light of the stable, you hear a muffled snort, a stamp of a hoof, a friendly nicker. Gentle eyes inquire “How are you old friend?” and suddenly, all your troubles fade away.



-Author Unknown



Jackie Minges
9048 Summerfield Rd
Temperance, MI 48182