



BLACK SWAMP DRIVING CLUB

FALL 2012 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE EDITOR

I hope everyone is having a good summer. It seems the record temperatures, no rain and the worry of where to get enough hay for our beloved equine is at the forefront of everything we think about and do.

As you read this very lengthy Newsletter you will find that we have been a busy club and we want to thank the club members who have worked so hard to put on events this year. We hope that you will think about the opportunity to serve the club next year. Even if you feel you are not ready to take on a board position there are other club activities that could use your new ideas. Maybe you would like to help with the Findlay Swap Meet, have ideas for new driving spots or an interesting day trip. Do you have an interest in publishing the Newsletter or want to take some of the new members "under your wing" for guidance. Your participation is valuable to the growth and viability of the Club.

And in closing, it may have been a long, hot summer but we have so many activities planned for September and October.

Looking forward to seeing you this Fall,

Jackie Minges, Newsletter Editor

WELCOME

Welcome to our new member Carol Lincicome and her Arabian from Ostrander, OH. We look forward to meeting you at some of our Fall events.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations go to BSDC member Susan Orosz and her Morgan, Belle. They made a great showing in Lexington at the CAA Carriage Festival. With stiff competition they brought home a 3rd in Reinsmanship in A pony division, 4th in Working and 5th in Turnout. Good luck at Walnut Hill.



OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Molly, Dale, Matt and Doris Owen with the loss of their special Halfinger, "Harley".

Mary Elliott with the passing of her Percheron "Mama May".

Mike and Jackie Minges with the loss of their beloved Jack Russell, "Buddy".

Rainbow Bridge

Just this side of heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge.

When an animal dies that has been especially close to someone here, that pet goes to Rainbow Bridge.

There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together.

There is plenty of food, water and sunshine, and our friends are warm and comfortable.

All the animals who had been ill and old are restored to health and vigor;

those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by.

The animals are happy and content, except for one small thing; they each miss someone very special to them, who had to be left behind.

They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. His bright eyes are intent; His eager body quivers. Suddenly he begins to run from the group, flying over the green grass, his legs carrying him faster and faster.

You have been spotted, and when you and your special friend finally meet, you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again. The happy kisses rain upon your face; your hands again caress the beloved head, and you look once more into the trusting eyes of your pet, so long gone from your life but never absent from your heart. Then you cross the Rainbow Bridge together.....Author unknown

RECENT EVENTS

CARRIAGE DRIVING CLINIC – APRIL 21, 2012 – The cold and blustery weather didn't dampen the enthusiasm for the members that were looking forward to our clinician Anita Alden. Anita Alden, of Odyssey Training Stables, Whitmore Lake, Michigan spent the morning hours giving private 30 minute lessons at the Hancock Co Fairgrounds in Findlay, OH. The afternoon clinic was free to the public with Anita sharing information on harness,



fitting, putting to the cart, despoeking and safe driving. A big “thank you” to Mary Thomas and her Dartmoor Pony and Susan Orosz with her Morgan who handled the demonstrations for Anita’s presentation. Thank you Ann Bell for taking care of refreshments at the Bell Tower.



MARTIN’S CARRIAGE AUCTION – APRIL 27-28,2012 – Angie Hohenbrink put together this carpool trip to Lebanon, PA. Those that were able to make the trip were lucky enough to enjoy seeing some fine and interesting vehicles and carriage related items and bring home a few treasures.

HOLMES CO DAY TRIP – MAY 12, 2012 – Mary Elliott hosted a fun day trip to Holmes Co. The day started very early with a large group meeting at Mt. Hope Auction. Then they were off to some of Mary’s favorite stops in Holmes Co including Valley Harness, A&D Buggy Shop, Oak Grove Carriage, Bowman Leather, Bowman Harness, and Woodlyn Coach. Bowman Leather has opened their new shop and Jacob shared some details of their bit making process. A hungry group moved on to Mrs. Yoder’s for lunch and comments from members include, “I hope Mary plans this trip again next year”.



RIVERBEND DRIVE – MAY 20, 2012 -

Oh, the heat is on !! Jackie & Mike Minges hosted this drive in Findlay, OH hoping for cool weather but it was not to be this year. Twenty-six attended the potluck and seven turnouts.

Pictured here are Roger and Sue Murray driving Derby.



Welcome to our new members John and Deb Beagle (above left) and Sandra Tebbe and her son Elijah who joined in the drive (above right).

CARRIAGE ROUND UP, LEXINGTON KY – JUNE 1-3 – A little rain didn't stop the fun

for the group that spent the weekend at Kentucky Horse Park. A trip to Midway, Kentucky to the antique shops and Freedman Harness was a great way to spend a rainy day (see below). Congratulations to Mary Elliott and her tailgate party group who came up with a winner with "Red Solo Cup" theme.





RATTLESNAKE DRIVE – JUNE 16, 2012 – Well the weathermen kept saying record temperatures. We sure would like a break from the heat, it is so hot, but this is the first drive at Kildeer Plains and we are excited to explore this beautiful wildlife preserve. With that said we are a hardy bunch so we packed plenty of ice, water, canopy shelters and arrived. Eighteen members enjoyed a nice breeze during the potluck and the five turnouts drove together on many tree lined quiet roads. Thanks to our hosts, Roger and Sue Murray, Kim Mack, and Angie & Al Hohenbrink.



WYANDOT CO HISTORICAL SOCIETY ICE CREAM SOCIAL – JULY 7, 2012 – I sound like a broken record talking about the heat. Thank you to members Mary Elliott, Julie Emmons, Angie & Al Hohenbrink for bringing vehicles to display. We know there is a lot of time and effort involved and we appreciate what you do.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DAY TRIP TO VISIT DALE WENDT'S SLEIGH COLLECTION -AUGUST 12, 2012 - *CANCELLED *

Due to Dale Wendt's work schedule he regrets that he needs to postpone our day trip to his place to see his sleigh collection. He would still like to have our group out at a later date possibly November or December, or early 2013.

NEW EVENT TO REPLACE THE ABOVE - AUGUST 19, 2012 - Mary Elliott will be hosting this get together at Good Hope Lutheran Church, Arlington, Oh. Time 1:00-4:00 PM. Bring a dish for the potluck. Mary is planning to teach everyone how to make a hatbox. Mary will be providing most of the materials, but you are encouraged to bring a fabric or decorative paper to cover your hatbox. Also, everyone is encouraged to bring an item to share for the "What Is This" table. Questions: contact Mary Elliott at home: 419-468-6016, cell: 419-561-1332.

PARKER COVERED BRIDGE DRIVE - SEPTEMBER 16, 2012 - Upper Sandusky, OH.

Hosted by Julie Emmons and family. This beautifully cared for covered bridge built in 1873 over the Sandusky River will certainly make for a great Fall drive in Upper Sandusky. The drive is approximately 5 miles. Pot luck is at 12:00. Porta potty on site. Directions: US 23 to OH 53 exit and go right to Rt 67 and turn right. At the brown Parker Bridge sign, (TH37) turn left and go to TH40 (1st road to the right), covered bridge parking is on the right in the big field. Watch for BSDC signs. Contact Julie Emmons: 740-3613885.

COON HUNTER'S DRIVE - SEPTEMBER 23, 2012 - Joint drive hosted by Roger and Sue Murray for Black Swamp and Western Reserve. Come and meet members of the other club, find out what they have been doing. If you don't have a horse, or your truck is broken down, come anyway to see carriages and horses, as well as enjoy good food and fellowship. Date: Sunday, September 23 Time: Potluck at noon, drinks and table service provided.

Place: Coon Hunter's Lodge, 7575 TR 131, Tiffin, OH Directions: From east or west, take US 224 to SR 53, just south of Tiffin. If coming from the north, take turnpike or US 20 to Fremont interchange, which is SR 53, and follow that until you have gone through Tiffin and come to US 224. Go South on SR 53 for five miles to County Road 6. Look for the Camp Glen signs. Turn left (east) on CR 6 and go 0.8 miles to Township Road 131. This will be the second right. Travel on TR 131 for 1.5 miles. Sandusky River Coonhunters' Lodge is the big barn on the left.

Drive description: This drive is on public roads through scenic farm lands along the Sandusky River. Therefore, you will need the SMV (slow moving vehicle) sign as required by state law. There are two routes marked: 4.5 miles or 6.5 miles. Breeching or brakes are recommended because there are hills.

Plenty of parking on gravel or grass(if dry) at the Coonhunter's Lodge.

Any questions? Call 419-447-0076-home or 419-934-1229-cell.

HITE'S HOMESTEAD – OCTOBER 6, 2012 Kenton, OH hosted by Gary and Connie Gillfillan. You may arrive at the farm after noon. You are welcome to go out to the pumpkin patch to pick a special pumpkin, then drive at will 4-5 miles around the country roads (SMV required). Plan to eat at the log cabin at 4:00. The Gillfillans will provide a ham to be cooked over the fire in the log cabin. Please bring a dish to pass. Afterwards, weather permitting, there will be an evening drive at 5 PM. Contact: Gary Gillfillan, cell phone: 567-674-0151, home phone: 419-675-3257.

Directions: Gregg & Julie Hites, 8980 Township Rd 189, Kenton, OH, (Hardin Co). From Findlay: St. Rt. 68 to about 5 miles North of Kenton just past St Rt 701 you will see drive in theatre on the right. This is Co Rd 90, turn left on Co Rd 90 and go about 2 miles (5 roads). The fifth road is Twp Rd 189, turn right and they are the 5th house on the left. From Kenton East take St. Rt. 67 east 4 miles, North on Twp. Rd. 189, the house is one and a half miles on the right. Watch for signs.

MOHICAN WILDERNESS DRIVE – OCTOBER 19-21, 2012 – Hosted by the Higgins and Emmons families. Location: 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. Reservations are needed if you are camping. Campsites are \$30, includes electric and water. Two modern shower houses, restrooms, and laundromat are available. You may cook at your campsite and there are many restaurants nearby. Charge to bring your horses, \$4.00/nite per horse. Horses stay at your trailer. You can tie or use a portable corral. If you are not camping there are many nearby hotels to choose from. Find them at www.DiscoverMohican.com, 877-266-4422.

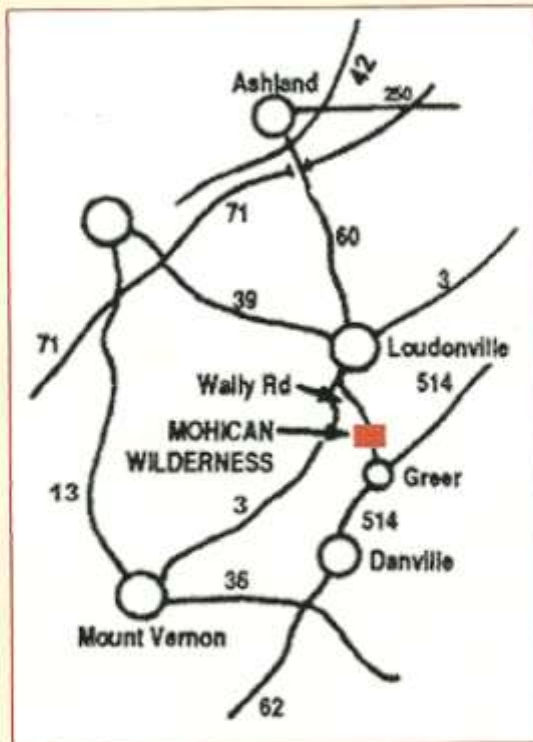
Saturday nite 6 PM will be the Mulligan stew dinner. John and Sara Hunter will be furnishing the kettle. Please bring items for the stew and a dish to pass. Smores will be provided.

Directions: See map below.

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

Questions: Reservations are needed if you are camping. Please respond by September 30, 2012. 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 for a day or the entire weekend.

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 the 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 Campground Park 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. There is no charge to members for the use of Vail Meadows but donations that benefit the Horse Powered Avenues for Youth Program are greatly appreciated. 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 off exit ramp onto Route 2 Heading East. Drive approximately 6.5 Miles East, past Pearson Metro Park, to North Curtice Road; Turn Left heading North. North Curtice/Route 2 Intersection Markers: Hy-Flash Tavern & Maumee Bay General Store with Sunoco. 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

DATES TO REMEMBER *

*Denotes a BSDC event

Delaware Co Fair 27th All Horse Parade – September 9, 2012, 3 PM

New Vocations' exciting Little Brown Jug Benefit is coming up September 21st, 2012 at the Delaware County Fairgrounds in Delaware, Ohio. This event generates much needed funds for the care and retraining of retired racehorses. www.horseadoption.com/.

Driving Lessons with Anita Alden at Vail Meadows Equestrian Center – See attached flyer for dates and other details.

Driving Lessons with Holly Thompson – See attached flyer for dates and other details.

The National Drive – October 9-14, 2012, www.nationaldrive.net. Note from Angie, July 25, 2012: "I just looked at the campsite reservation site. The National Drive has a block of campsites. But there are only 21 sites open for that date besides those. Not sure if

anybody from BSDC is camping during the National Drive but they may want to get in the reservation if they plan on camping".

Michigan Great Lakes International Draft Horse Show and Pull – October 18-21, 2012 – www.mgli.org

CAA Conference, Charleston, South Carolina – October 18-21, 2012

*BSDC Annual Banquet, November 11, 2012 – Royal Buffet, Findlay, OH – Info to follow in Holiday Newsletter.

*Christmas on the Farm, Yost Farm, Kenton OH – info to follow in Holiday Newsletter.

Maumee Bay Sleigh Festival – January 25-27 2013. (See attached flyer for info)

TREASURER'S REPORT: Balance as of 6/30/2012 is \$2,333.64.

NOMINATIONS FOR 2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS – We have three positions to be filled for 2013. There will be a one year and two three year positions. We are encouraging those running for an office to write a short profile about yourself which will be included in the next newsletter with the banquet and membership renewal information. If you would like to serve on the Board please contact Angie Hohenbrink – phone: 419-274-1122.

CLASSIFIEDS

Please note: This classified section is open to all BSDC members at no cost to advertise equine/and or vehicle related items. If you have anything to list call Jackie Minges -734-856-6122.

For Sale: Jerald show cart, cradle floor, rubber tires w/metal spoke. \$650, contact Julie Emmons – Ph: 740-361-3885.

WANTED: Hay – Contact Julie Emmons, Ph: 740-361-3885

For Sale: Pioneer wagon purchased new in 2008 for minis, ponies, donkeys 36"-42". Includes pole, shafts, Pioneer sleigh runners. Team beta harness, stainless hames, 13" collars, team and single driving lines and bridles. Would like to sell all together, but may separate. Asking \$1700 for all OBO. Call for all details: Jackie or Mike Minges, Ph: 734-856-6122 or jminges@hotmail.com.





Odyssey Carriage Driving and Training Stable is pleased to announce training lessons *in Ohio* to get you started with carriage driving, correct problems, or fine tune your partnership with your equine!

Carriage Driving Instructor, Anita Alden

Vail Meadows Equestrian Center, Oregon, Ohio

Looking for practical, hands-on advice and lessons to get more enjoyment from carriage driving and improve your technique? Anita Alden will be offering lessons and training, drawing upon over 20 years of experience and knowledge. Anita offers evaluations and driving lessons, stressing safety and the joy of carriage driving. She can also help you answer whether your harness fits your horse and how to adjust its fit for safe, pleasurable drives.

Vail Meadows Equestrian Center in Oregon, Ohio (near Toledo)

Private Lessons will be held in an outdoor ring at Vail Meadows, near Maumee Bay State Park (more info below).

One-hour lessons are available on the following dates, from noon on. All dates are *Friday* dates.

August 17 October 26
September 21 November 30



The cost for the one-hour lessons is \$48. Discounts for multiple lessons are also available.

Lesson Location:

Vail Meadows Equestrian Center, 6118 Cedar Point Road, Oregon, OH 43616

To Register:

Contact: Anita Alden, cell (248) 872-7668 — Owner/trainer.

E-mail: odysseyts@yahoo.com Website: www.OdysseyTrainingStable.com

Lessons are also available at Anita's facility in Michigan,
Odyssey Carriage Driving and Training Stable, 6105 Walsh Rd. Whitmore Lake, MI 48189



Odyssey Carriage Driving and Training Stable is pleased to announce a learning opportunity to get you started with carriage driving, correct problems, or fine tune your partnership with your equine!

Coachman/Clinician Holly Thompson
Lessons Available: September 7-10, 2012

Come join us for a learning weekend with Holly Thompson, Master Coachman, Clinician, CAA Instructor and Trainer, as he shares a lifetime of carriage driving knowledge. A hands-on, horse-savvy teacher, he was head coachman for Her Majesty the Queen and worked with Prince Phillip in combined driving. He provides clear and quality teaching of singles, tandems, and pairs.

Two locations are available for your convenience:

Friday, September 7: Private Lessons will be held in a 300x85 outdoor ring at Vail Meadows Equestrian Center in Oregon Ohio (near Toledo)

Saturday, Sunday, September 8-9: In addition, Holly will hold lessons at Odyssey Carriage Driving and Training Stable near Ann Arbor MI on Saturday and Sunday. Auditors are welcome!



Don't miss this opportunity to learn from one of the Best in the Sport of Carriage Driving!

Must register by Sept 1, 2012. Private 1 hr. lessons.

Lesson Info:

Single lesson \$70.00, two or more lessons \$55.00 each.

Auditors Pass \$25 per day per person. \$40 for the weekend.

Bring a lawn chair and bagged lunch. Cold drinks, coffee, and snacks available for purchase.

Clinic Locations:

Friday Sept 7: Vail Meadows, 6118 Cedar Point Road, Oregon, OH 43616

Saturday and Sunday Sept 8-9: 6105 Walsh Rd. Whitmore Lake, MI 48189

Limited stalls available for the MI location, must bring your own bedding & feed.

To Register (deadline September 1, 2012):

Contact: Anita Alden, cell (248) 872-7668 — Owner/trainer.

E-mail: odysseyts@yahoo.com Website: www.OdysseyTrainingStable.com

■ SAVE the DATE

Fri/Sat/Sun, Jan 25-27, 2013

Maumee Bay Sleigh Festival

Vail Meadows Equestrian Riding Center
6118 Cedar Point Rd, Oregon, OH, 43616 (east of Toledo)



Enjoy Sleighing Fun, Camaraderie, and Knowledge at our 2013 Festival! Come Snow or Shine! Be Part of our Second Festival!

Focus:

- Education about Sleighing and Sleigh Restoration
- Safe Driving
- Sleigh Fun and Driving on the grounds at Vail Meadows, Weather Permitting

If no snow, Carriage Driving option, including cones course in indoor arena for a fun challenge for horse and driver

Accommodations: The nearby Maumee Bay Lodge and Conference Center will be making room blocks available at a reduced rate. Cottages are also available: 2 night-minimum for cottages. The Lodge is located on the shores of Lake Erie in a State Park, complete with walking trails and a relaxed environment. December 23, 2012 deadline for rooms at Maumee Bay Lodge.

Fees

Grounds Fee: \$5/horse/day
Stabling Fee: \$20/horse/night (bedding not provided, clean your own stall)
Registration Fee: \$20 registration fee for any portion of the festival

Friday Night Option: "If It's Friday" evening program at The Toledo Museum of Art (free admission). Tour the Museum and enjoy that night's program.

For More Information: Check online at sleighfestival.com for more information and updates. Or contact Angela Hohenbrink at groom@carriagedog.com

Events and Topics are being developed...check online at www.sleighfestival.com for updates.



**NOTE THE CHANGE FOR THE AUGUST 12TH EVENT – DETAILS
INSIDE.**



Jackie Minges
9048 Summerfield Rd
Temperance, MI 48182