

## President's Message



The Spring Audubon Drive treated drivers to a great new route with lots of blooms that we typically don't see in February. Thanks to Brandon Heitkamp – You're the best! And, of course,

thanks to all the good cooks who shared wonderful food and to our great volunteers. Another wonderful ADC drive in the books. Happy Spring!

## Member News

### Volunteer Opportunities



Be sure to log your ADC volunteer hours using the automated log sheet posted on the ADC website. The website includes information about using the automated log sheet or the traditional paper sheet, guidelines for what qualifies as volunteer hours, and deadlines for submittal.

<https://www.aikendrivingclub.org/volunteers>

#### In this issue:

- President's Message
- Member News
- Upcoming Events
- Club News
- Board of Directors Meeting
- Treasurer's Report
- Advertisements

#### Board of Directors

**President,** Peggy Dils  
dilsaiken@gmail.com

**Vice President,** Tracey Turner  
ttt@farsidefarm.com

**Secretary,** Susan Gregorio  
susan.g2626@gmail.com

**Treasurer,** Michele Huguet  
huguetaiken@iCloud.com

**Members at Large,** Mick Burke, Jerry Milano, Dan Rosenthal

**Education Chairs,** Janelle Marshall, Michele Huguet

**Membership Chair,** Ray Mansur

**Newsletter,** Diane Wattson

**Website,** Karen Marlin

**ADC Website:** [www.aikendrivingclub.org](http://www.aikendrivingclub.org)

**Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/AikenDrivingClub>



## Member News

### Remembering Anne Hunter



Those who knew Anne will surely miss her. Anne lived an amazing life as a proud Mom of three, an elementary school and ecology educator, artist and horsewoman. Anne loved her family, teaching, and her animals. Her late husband, Ed, was the love of her life.

Early in her horse career, she bred Quarter Horses and competed in distance driving with Lateef, her Arab mare. Later, she drove her Standardbred, Ben and her lovely Morgan Corliss, competing with the Saratoga Driving Association and in Aiken where she frequently volunteered at Aiken Driving Club shows.

Anne was a talented artist and a widely recognized basket maker. Her basket work is museum quality and in keeping with her love of driving, custom carriage baskets for small dogs, beautiful umbrella baskets, and several woven wheel covers.

After retiring Ben and Corliss, Anne enjoyed driving Nilda Burke's Haflinger Melody through Christensen's Forest in Windsor. In 2023, she and Melody completed their American Driving Society Centennial Drive (bottom, right photo).

Anne's daughters, Alex and Kerry, invite you to share your memories, stories, and smiles of their mom at a memorial gathering:

**Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm**  
**722 Live Oak Drive, Windsor SC.**



## Upcoming Events

Here's a quick view of the events planned as of press time. Times and dates can change, so check the event's website for the latest updated dates and times ([www.aikendrivingclub.org](http://www.aikendrivingclub.org)) or the American Driving Society calendar for dates and omnibus information (<https://www.americandrivingsociety.org>). Also check your Inbox for email 'blasts' with up-to-the-minute updates and information.

Date	Event	About the event
April 5	<b>ADC Winter Driving Derby #3</b> The Vista Schooling & Event Center 859 Old Tory Trail, Aiken, SC 29801	ADC website: <a href="https://www.aikendrivingclub.org/event-details/driving-derby-3-3">https://www.aikendrivingclub.org/event-details/driving-derby-3-3</a>
April 18 (Closing Date: April 15, 2026)	<b>Jungle Drive</b> SCR 3-Wishes Farm 359 State Park Rd. Windsor, SC	To sign up for the drive, please text (614-571-3928) or email <a href="mailto:sc4scuba@gmail.com">sc4scuba@gmail.com</a> (more details below) <b>Volunteers Needed!</b>
May 8 – 10	<b>Carolina Carriage Club DT &amp; CT</b> Windridge Farms 882 Goodes Creek Church Rd. Mooresboro, NC 28114	Omnibus - American Driving Society website: <a href="https://www.americandrivingsociety.org/docs.ashx?id=1624594">https://www.americandrivingsociety.org/docs.ashx?id=1624594</a>
May 21 – 22	<b>American Driving Society Recreational Drive</b>	Stable View Equestrian <a href="#">Omnibus 05-21-26 Recreational Drive at Stable View</a> 151 Stable Drive Aiken, SC 29801

## SCR 3-Wishes Jungle Drive

Aiken Driving Club... It's time for another Jungle Drive!

**Location:** SCR 3-Wishes Farm, 359 State Park Rd. Windsor, SC

**When:** Saturday, April 18, 2026. Lunch follows at 1 PM. Please bring a covered dish to share. Water and iced tea will be provided. Drive start time will depend on the number of entries.

All participants must sign the waivers (Aiken Driving Club, and SCR Farm Properties LLC) as you enter the property through the front gate. Helmets are required for each participant on a carriage. You will be directed to park in the big "parking" field. A second pasture will be available for warm-up. The mule/golf cart drive will be available again this year for the volunteers so they can participate in the jungle hunt for animals.

Contact Sarah Relyea to volunteer or to sign up for the drive: By text **614-571-3928** or email [sc4scuba@gmail.com](mailto:sc4scuba@gmail.com). DEADLINE April 15, 2026. Please include...

- Your Name and the number of people in your party (on your carriage and those coming for lunch).
- Size of the equine you are driving.
- Are you Driving, Coming to Lunch, or Both.
- Dish you are bringing.

Volunteers are needed – please contact Sarah if you can volunteer!!

## Club News

### Winter Driving Derby #2



The weather held up through the Preliminary class. The skies were threatening but once the lightning and thunder started, it was time to call it a day!

Don't forget... the 3<sup>rd</sup> Winter Driving Derby at the Vista is coming up. Entries close on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Pictured: Karen Marlin and Judy Chamberlain

### Spring Audubon Drive



At the Silver Bluff Audubon Center and Sanctuary, volunteers Linda Stebbins and Deborah Culbertson along with Silver Bluff Manager Extraordinaire Brandon Heitkamp on a sunny Sunday!

Thank you to Brandon and the volunteers for having everything in tip-top shape for us, for allowing us to enjoy ourselves (and learn) in the beautiful sanctuary. We had a great drive; loved the new route, the beautiful Dogwoods blossoming and (as always) great feast afterwards!

It was a lovely day and the grounds were beautiful. The footing was perfect – and lunch was yummy! Thanks to everyone who made it happen.

## Board of Directors

### Quarterly General Membership Meeting

March 9, 2026

Present: Tracey Turner, Mick Burke, Jerry Milano, Diane Wattson, Peggy Dils, Michele Huget, Susan Gregorio. Daniel Rosenthal

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Site of the meeting: Keller Williams Building, Park Avenue, Aiken SC

Secretary's Report: Minutes approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Approved as written.

#### OLD BUSINESS

**Gaston Livery** - The newly acquired cupola is set to be installed in the next few months. The Markets will continue to be held throughout the year. The music festivals were successful and enjoyed by all who attended.

**Gerde Museum** - continues to seek docents for Sunday afternoons.

**Driving Derby Recap:** The March 8th Derby was shortened due to thunder and lightning storms. The Final Derby is scheduled for April 8th at the Vista.

**Aiken Horse Show:** held in Hitchcock Woods will be March 27 - 29, 2026. Peggy reported that in the past the ADC has donated \$350 to the Aiken Horse Show (AHS). A motion was made, seconded and passed to donate \$350 to the 2026 Aiken Horse Show.

The Audubon Drive has been again scheduled for March 22nd. Volunteers are needed for the morning. The cost is \$25 per turnout, and a Potluck lunch will be held following the drive.

#### NEW BUSINESS

**Equipment:** Jerry Milano shared that the club needs to purchase new balls for the cones, as well as additional blue cones. Also, some of the ADC signs need to be replaced. Dan Rosenthal has offered to donate stopwatches for the club's use.

**Photography at Club Events:** Judy Chamberlain suggested that the ADC should provide a waiver regarding photography at club events to members for their option to opt in or out. The suggestion is to attach waivers to the Membership form. A motion was made and passed by the membership in attendance. Karen Marlin will put together a committee to discuss and implement this new form. Diane Wattson asked for pictures from ADC members to be published in the upcoming ADC newsletters.

**Helmets:** Judy Chamberlain proposed that the ADC require all participants in ADC driving events to wear a helmet while they are in a carriage at an ADC event. A motion was made and passed by those in attendance. Exact verbiage and when the rule will be instituted will be discussed by the BOD at an upcoming meeting.

**Medical Kits:** There was a discussion regarding a medical kit that would be owned by the ADC for use at events. After some discussion including who would maintain the supplies, and where it would be stored, those present decided to include the idea at a future BOD for further investigation.

**Recreational Drive:** Lisa Whitcomb shared that the ADS Recreational Drive Days will be held on May 21 and 22nd at Stable View. The focus is Pleasure Driving. Free food will be provided on Thursday night in the Stable View pavilion.

Check the ADS website omnibus section for further details.

**Transitions: Rider2Driver:** Lisa Whitcomb reported that Jen Kessler will be contacting members for their stories regarding transitioning from riding to driving for future publication.

**Jungle Drive:** Sarah Relyea announced that the Jungle Drive will be held at Katydid Farm on April 18th, 2026. A potluck lunch will follow the drive. Further details to follow. Please contact Sarah if you are able to volunteer for the event.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. The next BOD Meeting: April 13th.

Susan Gregorio, Secretary

## **Member Classifieds**

### **Carriage Machine Shop 2019 Bird-In-Hand Red Hawk**

This lightly used vehicle features:

- Black body with 32 in. dark green wheels
- Approximately 350 lb.
- 70 in. Closed loop shafts
- 4-bolt hub system
- 3/16 in. disc brakes on rear
- Full cover
- \$3,000
- Full specification sheet available



### **Also available:**

Zilco harness – Horse size \$500

Please contact Mary Sawyer: 913-547-3208 [Marysawyer@mac.com](mailto:Marysawyer@mac.com)

## Business Classifieds

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ALC LARS

## Have something to sell? Include your ad here.

**Newsletter Deadlines:** The deadline for articles, photos and classifieds is the 20th of each month. Photos must be sent by email in “JPG” format with name(s) of person in photo and if available, the names of the horse(s). Please include photo release if required.

**Classified Ads:** Classified ads for ADC members are free and will run for 3 months unless otherwise noted. Non-members may place ads for \$25 which will run for 3 months. Business card ads are \$100/yr.

**Payment:** Checks may be mailed to the **Aiken Driving Club, PO Box 271 Aiken, SC 29802**

**Submissions:** Send all new newsletter submissions to: Diane Wattson @ [dmwattson@gmail.com](mailto:dmwattson@gmail.com). Past issues of the Newsletter are available online at [www.aikendrivingclub.org](http://www.aikendrivingclub.org).

*Aiken Driving Club* est. 1985