



Newsletter

February 2025

aikendrivingclub.org

President's Message

The new year brings us lots of events in which to compete, volunteer or to just watch your friends having fun. Thanks to all the organizers of our events and to our volunteers Can't say there isn't anything to do. Enjoy!!

We send 90 year young birthday cheers to Dottie Paul. A long time member of our club, a great volunteer and a wonderful tandem driver . We wish you a Happy Birthday Dottie.

Cheers to all.
Peggy

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Michelle Huguet

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Member of the Month
President of the Aiken Driving Club
Peggy Dils



Someone said what do you want to be when you grow up?? Still don't know... but I have had a great time in the horse industry. After many years in the horse business it has been a great run...

I had done eventing and hunters and jumpers in my early horse history. Then I directed riding programs at two private schools in New England; coaching students to national medal finals, including coaching the riding team at Smith college.

I came to Aiken from a 50 horse multi discipline training barn in Vermont that just happened to have a breeding program for Morgans. I was a dressage rider and had a grand prix dressage horse. I was always interested in driving, so having the Morgans was fine with me. We did pleasure driving mostly until Fred Merriam was hired to run our driving program.. Fred showed the Morgans in combined driving and brought one to a 3rd place finish in the Single World Championships. for the US Team. I went as the navigator/groom to France where we won the Bronze medal as well as the award for best presentation. The next one was in Sweden where he won the Cones, and then on to Italy where he was 4th in dressage. An exciting run for us all! Lisa Singer was our coach. We spent winters in Fla with the event horses and driving horses at what is now Grand Oaks.

I came to Aiken to retire. Well not that time. 18 years ago .. I managed a 6-horse barn, helped run Katydid CDEs and joined the driving club ... The Club is a wonderful group of folks, old and new, and has so many exciting things going on...

Life as we know it today.... still looking for that "What do you want to be when you grow up?" part of life.....

Shelly Temple Educational Clinic

Feb 5-7, 2025

The Aiken Driving Club is pleased to welcome Shelly Temple back to the area for an educational clinic and private lessons. The clinic will be held at 327 Pine Acres Rd. Windsor, SC (Bevan . Auditors are welcome. Go to the Club website aikendrivingclub.org for details. Bring your own chair .





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(ADC Events are highlighted)

DATE	EVENT	INFORMATION	LOCATION
Jan 29,2025	Windsor Trace Cones Day	Windsor Trace website	Windsor, SC
Jan 31,2025	Grand Oaks CT & Derby	ADS Omnibus	Weirsdale,FL
Feb 5,2025	Shelly Temple Clinic	ADC Website	Windsor,SC
Feb. 9, 2025	ADC Driving Derby # 2	ADC Website	Windsor,SC
Feb. 10,2025	General Member Meeting	ADC Website	Aiken,SC
Feb 19, 2025	Windsor Trace Continuous Drive	Windsor Trace Website	Windsor, SC
Feb 23, 2025	ADC Spring Audubon Drive	ADC Website	Silver Bluff Audubon
March 1, 2025	Landmark Farms DT	ADC Website	Windsor, SC
March 9, 2025	ADC Driving Derby # 3	ADC Website	Windsor,SC
April 3, 2025	Southern Pines CDE&CT	ADS Omnibus	Raeford,NC
April 12,2025	Aiken Carriage Classic	ADC Website	Aiken, SC
April 23, 2025	Katydid at Tryon	USEF	Tryon,NC
May 10,2025	Carolina Carriage Club DT& CT	ADS Omnibus	Moorseboro, NC

Welcome New Members!!

Joan Adler
 Bernadette Deerkoski
 Debbie Lynd
 Gloria Ripperton

ADC Board News
Minutes
January 13, 2025



Present: Peggy Dils, Mick Burke, Jerry Milano, Karen Marlin, Michele Huguet, Tracey Turner, Dan Rosenthal, Ray Mansur

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Peggy Dils

Secretary's minutes from the December 2024 BOD meeting approved as written.

Treasurer's report: Approved as written. Peggy introduced the new ADC Treasurer: Michele Huguet. Welcome!

OLD BUSINESS

Gaston Livery stable mortgage is paid in full. Celebration will be held sometime in February.

Membership Directory is complete and published. Thank you Ray Mansur.

January 18, 2025 CT to be held at Landmark Farms. Volunteers needed.

Driving derbies: First derby to be held on January 26th at Greenfields. Tracey reports lower entries than last year. Some members expressed concern regarding changing venues from Greenfields for derby #2 and #3.

ADC Christmas Drive cancelled due to weather conditions. The luncheon was held as scheduled.

NEW BUSINESS

The February 5th Shelly Temple clinic is full.

The current ADC Bylaws are going to be reviewed following an inquiry by Judy Chamberlain regarding the verbiage and content of the current Bylaws that need clarification.

Planning for the Aiken Carriage Classic Pleasure Show to be held on April 12th at Highfields is proceeding as planned. Katy Reinhart is organizing the show.

Reminder to members: Please remember, that when you RSVP to a club event, especially an event where refreshments are provided, your response will be counted towards the total cost of the expected attendees. When you are a "no show" ADC still incurs the expense.

The Quarterly ADC General Membership meeting will be held on February 10th at 6:00 p.m. at the Gaston Livery Stable.

Thank you to Karen & Judy for hosting this meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m..

Susan Gregorio, Secretary



Treasurer's Report January 2025



The beginning Checking Account balance for the month of December was \$16,103.31, the ending balance is \$15,810.80

There were deposits totaling \$442.93 and debits totaling \$735.44.

There are no outstanding checks.

This gives the club an actual checkbook balance of \$15,810.80.

Monthly expenses were for dues refunds, website fees and Miscellaneous (CC expenses)
Deposits for the month of December were membership dues and entries?
(Paypal and Square deposits do not specify)

Respectfully Submitted,
Sue Dougherty
Happy New Year Everyone!!

General Membership Meeting

There will be a Quarterly meeting of Aiken Driving Club members on February 10, 2025. It will be held at the Keller Williams Real Estate office 237 Park Ave Suite 101, Aiken, SC at 6PM.

All members are invited. Bring your questions and ideas!!!



Gaston Livery Stable Mortgage

This historic landmark has been the venue for many Aiken Driving Club events. Initially constructed in 1893, it has recently been renovated thanks to a mortgage taken out by the nonprofit Friends of the Gaston Livery Stable.

Hurray!! That mortgage is now totally paid for.



In Memoriam Muffy Seaton



Mary “Muffy” Seaton aged 75 passed away on Jan 6, 2025 after complications from surgery.

Muffy was a kind, quiet person with a huge heart and a great sense of humor. She had an undying love for her husband Doug and all of the many animals who came through her life.

An accomplished horse person and driver she traveled the US and overseas showing her driving ponies and horses with great success with her loving husband serving as groom, horse whisperer and navigator.

As a driving judge and clinician she shared her love and expertise with too many to count. In a calm helpful manner, lessons with Muffy were more like spending time with an old friend offering advice and making suggestions.

Her Shepard’s Purse farm in Virginia and later Williston SC was a peaceful place with sheep grazing, dogs playing and happy horses enjoying their pastures.

Muffy’s surviving relatives include her beloved husband of 47 years, Douglas Seaton III; her son, Jesse McKenzie Seaton and wife Jenny of ME and grandson, Tanner McKenzie Seaton and three sisters.

A memorial gathering will be arranged at a later date for friends to celebrate a life well lived. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the American Driving Society in her memory. Memoriam - Donations - The American Driving Society, Inc. (<https://www.americandrivingsociety.org/content.aspx...>)

Aiken Carriage Classic

The Aiken Carriage Classic will be held April 12-13, 2025 at the Highfields Equestrian Center in Aiken, SC. This year the judge will be Karen Homer-Brown and the TD will be Craig Kellogg.

Featured this year will be 6 champion classes and lots of games for fun. Included is the Carriage Dog Class, Ride and Drive, Horseless Picnic Class and much more. In addition, there are two special prizes: the Sandra Nicholiasen Award for elegance and promotion of the sport and the Gaston Stable Award for sportsmanship.

If you would like to volunteer please contact Ray Mansur at raymansur@bellsouth.net. The show relies heavily on donations and may be made to the Aiken Driving Club or to Peggy Dils.

BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS




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 Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated

MLS



Housekeeping Details!!

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 possible, 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. Checks may be mailed to the Aiken Driving Club, PO Box 271 Aiken, SC 29802

Submissions- Send all submissions to: Karen Marlin aikendriving@gmail.com

Past issues of the Newsletter may be found online at www.aikendrivingclub.org

