

NDS NEWSLETTER



Promoting the Equine Sport of Carriage Driving

February 2021

Carriage Association of America Driving Proficiency Exam and Certification

NDS is holding a CAA
Certification clinic!!

Tune into the next **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP Zoom meeting Feb. 20, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.** to meet our clinician, Jerry Trapani. He will show us a Power Point presentation of what to expect in the certification process.



Jerry Trapani, our clinician, is an internationally acclaimed farrier, an author of books and articles on horses, and an Honorary Lifetime Board member of the CAA. He is a CAA certified instructor and evaluator and gives clinics for a variety of equine activities, including driving, dressage, hoof care, and more, for all levels of equestrians.



CAA DRIVER PROFICIENCY PROGRAM

The Driver Proficiency Program is implemented by the Carriage Association of America (CAA), adapting the British Driving Society's successful driving evaluation program. It is a three-level certification course based on an increasing set of skills regarding safety and commonsense horsemanship as it relates to driving, including choosing, fitting, and maintaining the correct harness and vehicle; balancing a cart; grooming and care of the equine; and safe driving practices. You do not have to be a member of CAA to participate, but the costs associated are discounted for members. See the CAA website for details.

Probably every member of NDS has the experience to obtain Level 1 certification, but you may wish to "dust off" your knowledge by reading the Level & Road Driving outline (a perfect winter distraction!) and later, testing your skills at a clinic prior to the actual evaluation.

NDS is planning both a clinic and a group evaluation session, which will be discussed at the February 10 virtual meeting. This is a great educational opportunity for our members. It does require significant advance planning, so it will only be carried out if we know you are interested in participating! Please, let us know!

Minutes of the NDS Zoom Board Meeting January 9, 2021

Jerry opened the meeting at 10:08.

Members present were Jerry, Jim, Dawn, Erika, Audrey, Laurie, Jessica, and Bob.

Audrey made a motion to accept the minutes of the Dec. 2020 Board minutes. Jim seconded.

Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Dawn announced we have \$7525.00 in the treasury. Laurie made a motion to accept the treasurer's report; Reenie seconded. Motion passed.

Membership Dues

Just a reminder that the 2020 dues will be applied to 2021, so if you were a member in 2020, you will not need to pay for 2021 dues.

2021 Election of Officers

Proposal to Suspend Elections

A suggestion was made to suspend elections of officers for one year and maintain positions as is. There are, however, two Board positions open as two members are not able to serve again this year. If you are interested in joining the Board, please inform any of the officers.

Whip clinic

Tara Defendorf has consented to host a whip clinic in the spring. We will put parts of it on our website, so it can be available for people to see online. More information will follow when we see where we are with the virus in the spring.

Carriage Association of America

Driving Proficiency Exam and Certification

- Jerry talked with Jerry Trapani, who said he would be glad to do a CAA certification clinic/test and will just charge us expenses. The Club will work out the expenses.
- We are planning to do this at Jerry's farm.
- Jerry said the clinician can do the clinic and the tests. The road test does not have to be done on the actual road. It can be done on a dirt road.
- The test takes one and a half hours per person.
- The study guide book is \$18.
- Cost per person is \$105 for CAA members or \$115 for non-members.
- Dawn found that NDS is a member of the CAA.
- Audrey is also a CAA member. She found out the Club's CAA membership does not allow us to get

the discounted price. One must have a personal membership for that.

- There are 2 ways to hold this event: the first is a 2 day event with the first day being a training clinic and the second – 2 or 3 weeks later—a testing day (so whips can review what they will be tested on); The second way is for participants to study on their own (with the study guide), and the day of the test, have the clinician walk us through the expectations then give the test.
- Jerry Trapani will do a Zoom with us that includes a Power Point presentation during our next General Membership meeting Feb 10.
- Sarah Bates's club may want to do the testing/clinic with us. We could work out details for that possibility later.
- Jim said they suggest using a 2-wheel carriage.

2021 Pleasure Show

We all want to have a 2021 show and feel we can do so safely. It is unknown if we can get a permit, but if we can't, we have a couple of different places to host a show.

Membership Dues

Just a reminder that the 2020 dues will be applied to 2021, so if you were a member in 2020, you will not need to pay for 2021 dues.

General Membership Meeting

The next General Membership meeting will be Feb. 10 7:00 via Zoom with Jerry Trapani.

Adjournment

Laurie moved that we adjourn the meeting, and Reenie seconded. The meeting adjourned at 11:19.

FUTURE EVENTS

We are currently discussing/planning the following 2021 events:

- June 20, 2021 NDS Pleasure Show
- CAA Level 1 Certification Clinic -We are currently working out the details on this.
- Desensitizing clinic – details TBD
- Whip clinic with Tara Defendorf – details TBD
- Tour of the Wadsworth mansion in Geneseo (This was planned for 2020 and had to be cancelled due to Coronavirus) - details TBD
- Pleasure Drive – details TBD