



# VIEW FROM BEHIND THE DASH

PROMOTING ALL ASPECTS OF EQUINE HARNESS DRIVING BY ENCOURAGING GOOD WILL AND EMPHASIZING SAFETY AND EDUCATION

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA WHIPS • FEBRUARY 2019



**“Whip of the Month”  
Lynda Jowers**

# DIRECTORY

## BOARD

**President**..... Paul VanSickle  
386-847-4642  
[president@flawhips.org](mailto:president@flawhips.org)

**Vice President**.....Linda Evans  
352-486-3197  
[vp@flawhips.org](mailto:vp@flawhips.org)

**Secretary**.....Eloise Nelson  
772-321-9903  
[secretary@flawhips.org](mailto:secretary@flawhips.org)

**Treasurer**..... Mary de Greef  
941-704-2128  
[treasurer@flawhips.org](mailto:treasurer@flawhips.org)

**Membership**.....Lynn Parker  
386-658-2013  
[membership@flawhips.org](mailto:membership@flawhips.org)

**Northern Region Director**..... Dona Love  
352-817-4700  
[Nrdir@flawhips.org](mailto:Nrdir@flawhips.org)

**Southwest Region Director** .....Vacant  
[SWdir@flawhips.org](mailto:SWdir@flawhips.org)

**Southeast Region Director**.....Barbara  
772-532-7086  
Brooke-Reese  
[SEdir@flawhips.org](mailto:SEdir@flawhips.org)

## NON-VOTING EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

**Northern Region Alt** ..... Judy Martin  
352-638-8398  
[Nralt@flawhips.org](mailto:Nralt@flawhips.org)

**Southwest Region Alt**.....Vacant  
[SWalt@flawhips.org](mailto:SWalt@flawhips.org)

**Southeast Region Alt**.....Sali Petri  
772-643-2393  
[SEalt1@flawhips.org](mailto:SEalt1@flawhips.org)

**Southeast Region Alt**..... Anne Raisner  
904-501-0093  
[SEalt2@flawhips.org](mailto:SEalt2@flawhips.org)

**Webmaster**..... Veronica Close  
561-790-1982  
[webmaster@flawhips.org](mailto:webmaster@flawhips.org)

**Newsletter Editor**..... Sioux Winter  
813-695-5235  
[newsletter@flawhips.org](mailto:newsletter@flawhips.org)

**Digital Media Manager** .....Jan Petri  
772-643-2394  
[digitalmedia@flawhips.org](mailto:digitalmedia@flawhips.org)

**Advertising** ..... Grace Glavin  
407-760-6905  
[advertising@flawhips.org](mailto:advertising@flawhips.org)

**Photo Gallery**..... Anne Raisner  
904-501-0093  
[photogallery@flawhips.org](mailto:photogallery@flawhips.org)

**Education Committee Chair**.. Judi Tintera  
321-427-1760  
[education@flawhips.org](mailto:education@flawhips.org)

**ByLaws Committee Chair** .. Mary de Greef  
941-704-2128  
[bylaws@flawhips.org](mailto:bylaws@flawhips.org)

**Mentor Committee Chair**.....Lynn Parker  
386-658-2013  
[mentoring@flawhips.org](mailto:mentoring@flawhips.org)

**Members' Correspondence** ....Linda Evans  
352-486-3197  
[correspondence@flawhips.org](mailto:correspondence@flawhips.org)

## GENERAL INFORMATION

[info@flawhips.org](mailto:info@flawhips.org)

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

**Inquiries about the Web:**  
[webmaster@flawhips.org](mailto:webmaster@flawhips.org)

**Calendar requests:**  
[calendar@flawhips.org](mailto:calendar@flawhips.org)

**Florida Whips Board:**  
[board@flawhips.org](mailto:board@flawhips.org)

*View from Behind the Dash* is the newsletter of The Florida Whips, a state-wide organization of driving enthusiasts. The newsletter is published September through May.

**Join the discussion on Facebook.  
Search for 'Florida Whips Carriage Driving'  
and ask to join the group.**



[www.facebook.com/groups/457805587631636](http://www.facebook.com/groups/457805587631636)

## BUSINESS ADS

Full Page (one issue) ..... \$40  
Full Page (annual).....\$300  
Half Page (one issue) ..... \$25  
Half Page (annual) .....\$200  
Quarter Page (per issue) ..... \$15  
Business Card (annual) ..... \$75  
(included with a business membership)

Annual newsletter ads run in all issues.  
Annual business card ads are displayed on the website 12 months (Sept. through Aug.).

## EVENT ADS

**Event Sponsored by Florida Whips:** Free.  
Link to event forms/ads can be added to the calendar on [www.flawhips.org](http://www.flawhips.org)

**Other than Whips Events:** one-half Business rate. Link to Event ad from newsletter can be added to the calendar on [www.flawhips.org](http://www.flawhips.org)

**Event Calendar listings on website:** free link to organizer's event website. Email calendar information to [calendar@flawhips.org](mailto:calendar@flawhips.org).

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**Florida Whips members:** One ad (per issue), up to 100 words, free for three months, text only; 1 photo and email link free on website. Additional ads past the first, \$10.00. Photo in newsletter \$5; additional photos past the first on website \$5 each.

Other than Whips Members: \$10.00 per ad, up to 100 words, for three months; text only; 1 photo in newsletter/on website \$5, additional photos on website \$5 each.

## DEADLINES AND SUBMISSION

Deadline is the 15th of each month preceding month of issue. For instance, for the May issue, deadline will be April 15. Payment must be received before inclusion. Submit ads electronically to [newsletter@flawhips.org](mailto:newsletter@flawhips.org) and [webmaster@flawhips.org](mailto:webmaster@flawhips.org) as appropriate.

## PAYMENT INFORMATION

Checks are payable to Florida Whips Inc., and mailed to our Treasurer:

Mary de Greef  
P.O. Box 183  
Parrish FL 34219  
[treasurer@flawhips.org](mailto:treasurer@flawhips.org)

Credit card payments accepted online at [www.flawhips.org](http://www.flawhips.org) or via Paypal to [treasurer@flawhips.org](mailto:treasurer@flawhips.org).

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope you enjoy our latest addition to the newsletter: “Whip of the Month”. We have so many drivers from beginner to FEI in the Florida Whips with a story to tell. We thought this would be a fun way to recognize Club members, learn how they found our sport, find out what driving discipline they enjoy, what equine/carriage they drive, favorite driving memories, achievements, future goals and special interests which we can share with you in the newsletter.



Our “Whip of the Month” nomination process is simple: Send me the name, a brief description of why, then I will telephone interview the selectee. Don't be shy, if you have a story to tell you can self nominate. Our first “Whip of the Month” is Lynda Jowers. She has a fascinating background in driving, she's a fierce CDE competitor and in my opinion does more to encourage new and seasoned drivers than anyone in the driving community.

I'd like to thank each of you for keeping our sport fun and safe. If you see a “gaggle” of Friesians muddling along and the driver has a huge smile on his face give us a wave, it's most likely me enjoying our wonderful sport of driving!

Drive On!  
Paul



**PLEASE SEND PHOTOS  
WITH CAPTIONS  
FROM ALL EVENTS  
FOR THE NEWSLETTER.**

Captions should include the driver's name, navigator's name (if applicable) and the horse(s) or ponies names if known. Name of event should be included and individual placings if available.

Article to accompany the photos is always welcome.

**GOT SOMETHING HORSEY TO SELL?**  
Place an ad in the Classifieds.

*See page 2 for more information on advertising.*

## SOUTHEAST REGION REPORT

The show season is underway, and the southeast region has an upcoming show in Jupiter. It is going to be a very laid back show. Everyone can drive the dressage test (of your choice) twice, and there is no need to dress-up. It is an excellent opportunity to show without the “stress” of showing. The \$20.00 entry fee even includes lunch. The ring is approximately 40x80, so keep that in mind. The entries are limited to 10, and we look forward to seeing you there.



As another thing to note, we, as drivers, need to take the time to spread our love of our discipline anywhere that we can. We should try to learn about other drivers, even if they are not members. It can only make the community stronger. If you have any ideas on how to do that, let me know. My email is [sedir@flawhyps.org](mailto:sedir@flawhyps.org).

Otherwise, have fun and be safe.

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

**NEWSLETTER  
EDITOR  
POSITION  
IS OPEN NOW**



Please email me, Sioux Winter, at:  
[flwhyps@gmail.com](mailto:flwhyps@gmail.com)  
or text me (813) 695-5235

if you are interested in volunteering  
for this position.

Duties entail placing flyers, ads, text, and photos into a newsletter format using a graphic program like Adobe InDesign or Publisher. Having experience with a photo editing program, like Photoshop or similar, is a bonus.

For more detailed information, please contact me.

## UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

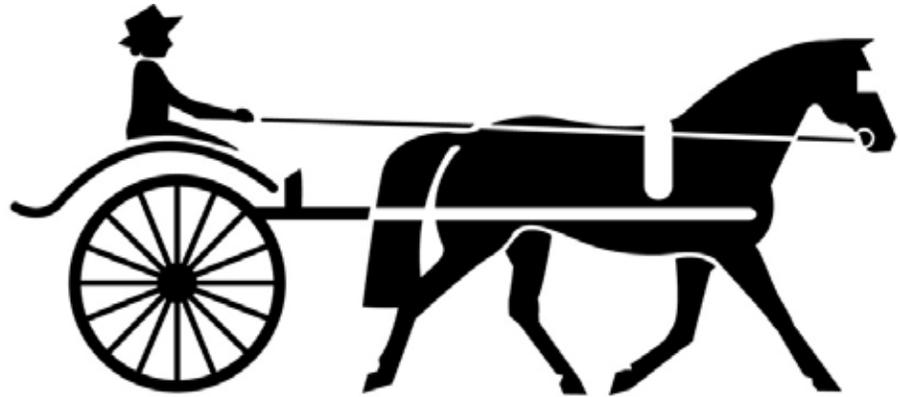
DATE	ORGANIZATION	EVENT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	CONTACT
2/2/2019	Fla Whips SE Reigon	Fun Day in Jupiter	Jupiter Farms Park 16655 Jupiter Farms Rd Jupiter FL 33478	Eloise Nelson 772-321-9903 ern7073@gmail.com
2/2/2019	Fla Whips N Reigon	Tidewater Drive	Goethe Forest 9110 SE 337 Dunnellon FL 34431	Sharon Flack 352-796-7796
2/6/2018	Fla Whips N Reigon	Steeplechase Continuous Drive	Salty Dog Arena 1600 SE 120th Ave Morriston FL 32668	Dona Love/Wilson Groves 352-817-4700 love2083@bellsouth.net
3/2/2019 to 3/3/2019	Fla Whips N Reigon	Metta Baxter Driving Class	U of F Horse Teaching Unit 1934 SW 63rd Avenue Gainesville FL 32608	Karen Wolfsheimer 225-767-9615 wacahootakj@gmail.com
3/13/2019	Fla Whips N Reigon	Steeplechase Continuous Drive	Salty Dog Arena 1600 SE 120th Ave Morriston FL 32668	Dona Love/Wilson Groves 352-817-4700 love2083@bellsouth.net
3/17/2019	Fla Whips N Reigon	Land Bridge Trail Drive	Florida Greenway Land Bridge 11100 SW 16th Ave Ocala FL	Judith Martin 352-638-8398 judycde@yahoo.com
4/7/2019	Fla Whips N Reigon	Iron Horse HDT	Iron Horse HDT 308 SW Spirit Ave Fort White FL 32038	Lynda Jowers 386-454-3225 jowersl@aol.com
4/20/2018	Fla Whips SE Reigon	Despooking Clinic	TBA	Barbara Brooke-Reese 772-532-7086 brookereese@gmail.com
4/28/2018	Fla Whips N Reigon	Iron Horse Cones Day	Iron Horse 308 SW Spirit Ave Fort White FL 32038	Lynda Jowers 386-454-3225 jowersl@aol.com
5/9/2019 to 5/12/2019	Fla Whips State	The Southern Drive	The Grand Oaks Resort 3000 Marion County Road Weirsdale FL 32195	Judi Tintera 321-427-1760 jtintera@cfl.rr.com
6/11/2018	Fla Whips SE Reigon	Regional Meeting	TBA TBA	
TBA	Fla Whips N Region	Regional Meeting	TBA TBA	
<b>Check the Florida Whips Website Calendar for updates at <a href="http://www.flawhips.org">www.flawhips.org</a></b>				



*Metta Baxter*

## 2019 Metta Baxter Driving Class

March 2-3, 2019



### Learn to Drive & Train Your Horse to Drive

University of Florida IFAS Horse Unit  
Gainesville, Florida

Offered through Santa Fe College

“Learn from Florida Whips Volunteers”

Registration starts January 7, 2019

[www.sfcollge.edu/cied/communityed/](http://www.sfcollge.edu/cied/communityed/)

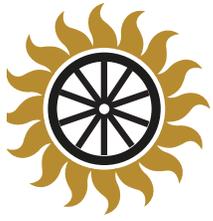
Questions or to Register:

[wacahootakj@gmail.com](mailto:wacahootakj@gmail.com) or 225-767-9615

This is a wonderful clinic if you want to learn to drive or teach your horse to drive.

Brought to you by the Florida Whips, Inc.

Visit us at <http://www.flawhips.org> or on Facebook!



The  
*Southern Drive*  
AT THE GRAND OAKS

**SAVE THE DATES!**  
**MAY 9-12, 2019**

## ***The Southern Drive: SE Regional Recreational Driving Weekend***

at The Grand Oaks Resort in Weirsdale, Florida

*Come enjoy 4 days of driving and fun—the entire weekend is a social event!*

There will be driving activities to test your driving skills, or just “chill out” and drive around the beautiful grounds.  
Expanded educational sessions and social events are on the schedule, too.

- Two Fun Driving Competitions
- Funny Money Auction with great items and gift cards
- Welcome Reception, Group Lunch and Dinners
- Expanded offering of educational sessions
- Hot Shot Derby Team Jackpot with Cash Prizes
- Dressage Drive-a-test event
- *Top driving clinicians may be booked for private lessons at an additional cost.*

Entries open  
**Jan. 7, 2019**

Entries close  
**April 26, 2019**





## REGISTRATION FORM

THE SOUTHERN DRIVE at THE GRAND OAKS  
MAY 9-12, 2019



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Florida Whips Member? [ ] Yes [ ] No  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Names of additional members of your family/group: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Day and Estimated Time of Arrival: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration is \$70 per person for Fla. Whips Members**  
 \$15 additional fee for non-members.  
 (This fee can be applied towards a Florida Whips membership up to 30 days after the event.)

**Registration Fee includes:**

- 4 days of activities and use of all driving facilities (arenas, cones field, trails and open obstacles)
- Welcome Reception on Thursday evening
- Educational Sessions on Friday afternoon
- Pizza Party Friday evening
- Awards Dinner and Funny Money Auction on Saturday evening

**Optional Events:**

- **Team Derby Challenge:** Teams for the Derby will be chosen by a blind draw from all entries. The winning team splits the cash jackpot equally. Entry fee is \$25.
- **Drive a Practice Dressage Test:** Non-competitive event, but you will receive a judged scoresheet back. Entry fee is \$25.
- **Private Lessons:** Improve your driving skills by scheduling a private lesson. Contact clinicians directly for schedule and fees. (See page 2)

---

**Other Items of Note:**

- **A stall is required for each equine.** No day haul-ins allowed.
- 2 bags of shavings are required for each stall. You may pre-order shavings to be placed outside your stall(s).
- Please indicate if you are bringing a stallion.
- Please see housing options and golf cart rental information on Page 2

**Please note:** Current Coggins & proof of EHV-1 vaccine current within 6 months must accompany registration. A current Health Certificate is required when bringing horses into the State of FL.

**DO NOT MAIL health certificates.** Keep in your possession for presentation at the Florida Agricultural Check Point.

**Fees:**

Registration fee \$70 x _____ person(s)	\$ _____
Fla. Whips non-member fee \$15 x _____	\$ _____
Stabling: \$35 per stall/per night	
Number of stalls _____ x _____ nights	\$ _____
Pre-ordered shavings \$16/stall x _____ stalls	\$ _____
Please stable with: _____	
<b>Optional Events*</b>	
<i>*Fill out entry form at office upon check-in</i>	
Team Derby Challenge – Entry fee \$25	\$ _____
Drive a Practice Dressage Test – Entry fee \$25	\$ _____
Sponsorship donation to the Fla. Whips–Thank you!	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL ENCLOSED</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

Make checks payable to Grand Oaks Resort or pay by VISA or MasterCard

---

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_

---

Name as it appears on the Card \_\_\_\_\_

---

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please include these items with your entry. *Thank you!*  
 [ ] Registration Form [ ] Proof of Coggins [ ] Proof of EHV-1 vaccine  
 [ ] Fla. Whips Waiver [ ] Grand Oaks Liability [ ] Check or CC info  
 [ ] Polo Shirt order form (optional)

Grand Oaks Resort, 3000 Marion County Rd., Weirsdale, FL 32195

**If you are staying on the grounds please note location:**

\_\_\_\_\_



## AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO COMPETITIVE DRIVERS



**When you hear “Safe Sport” do you think of driving safety issues?**

**Like the new ADS rule requiring protective vests on marathon. (You do know about that one, right?)**

**The new American Driving Society (ADS) Safety Vest rule reads:**

To require protective vests that meet applicable domestic or international standards for everyone participating on a carriage during a marathon or any competition that includes marathon-type obstacles starting January 1, 2019. Junior requirements would be unchanged.

***But, that's not what “Safe Sport” is all about ...***

**If you are a USEF member and are planning on competing in the upcoming USEF-sanctioned shows, including the new Grand Oaks CDE, please pay attention to this message.**

**Even if you're not a competitor, please keep reading ...  
“Safe Sport” is an important new federal law.**

**What is the Safe Sport Authorization Act?**

In Feb. 2018, President Trump signed the federal “**Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017**”, also known as the **Safe Sport Authorization Act**. This is an American law which establishes protection for young athletes. Among its provisions, it established the **United States Center for Safe Sport** as an independent entity to investigate reports of abuse and protect athletes from abuse in the United States Olympic movement.

***So how does this affect you?***

**If you are USEF member, you must complete an online SafeSport Training Course in order to compete at a USEF show. Here is an excerpt from the formal announcement ...**

**US Equestrian Announces New SafeSport Training Requirements**

by US Equestrian Communications Department  
Nov 15, 2018

**Lexington, KY** – The US Equestrian Federation (USEF) announced a rule change on Tuesday, August 28, 2018 requiring that effective January 1, 2019 all USEF members 18-years-old and older, with a Competing Membership, must complete **SafeSport Training** in order to be eligible to participate in USEF activities, including competitions.

**Please note:** There are three modules to the training and all three must be completed in order to satisfy the requirement. The SafeSport Refresher course does not have to be completed until 1 year from the day you complete the three modules in the SafeSport Training.

**To provide further guidance, (there is) a list of Frequently Asked Questions regarding the new rule change (on the USEF website [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org)).**

The required SafeSport Training is on the U.S. Center for SafeSport website and is free for USEF members. Instructions on how to register for an account to access the training can be found (online). The training will take approximately 90 minutes to complete and consists of three modules: Sexual Misconduct Awareness Education, Mandatory Reporting, and Emotional and Physical Misconduct. **All three modules must be completed in order to satisfy the requirement.** The training does not have to be completed in one sitting; you can break it up to accommodate your schedule.

**Final Note:**

If you are not a USEF member, you do not have to complete the online training, but as a non-USEF member will be required to pay an additional \$45.00 “Show Pass” fee to compete at a USEF show.

## We are pleased to recognize and introduce Lynda Jowers as our featured Florida "Whip of the Month"!



### 1. Can you tell the Florida Whips about yourself and when/why you started driving?

*"I've been driving for 20+ years. I started driving when my children were young we had a pony that they drove. He was a Welsh Roadster pony who was a barrel of fun. But, I didn't drive again for many years. I had a friend who took me to a driving show fairly close to where I lived. She said we should go and look at it at Valhalla, which was my first experience with Combined Driving. I'd never heard or seen it before. I kept watching and watching, saying to my friend, my mare could do this so, I went right home and told my husband to start looking for a cart and harness. It only took me three days. First day, I ground drove my mare. Second day, I had my husband pull the cart beside, in front and all around her. Third day, we hitched her up & went down the road and that was my start in combined driving!"*

### 2. What is your favorite driving discipline and why?

*"OK, it's Combined Driving. I like combined driving because it covers all the phases of horse disciplines. It covers dressage which is the training part of the horse, it's got an adrenalin rush on the marathon and then its got precision in cones where you and your horse must communicate properly to do something that is very precise."*

### 3. Please tell us about your equine and your favorite carriage?

*"I started out with a lippitt Morgan mare and bred her to a government bred stallion and got the horse that my mare is now out of. I drove that mare for a number years and did very very well with her. I bred her twice, the first time to Funquest Eric and got a big gelding that decided he'd rather be a jumper than a carriage horse. Second time I bred her to a Welsh Cobb stallion "Dafydd" simply*

*because I felt he had every single thing that my mare was short of. Her foal is my current horse, a third-generation home bred mare. She was suppose to be born on March 17 and she wasn't born until March 31. That night I went out to the barn at 10 o'clock at night to check on our mare and there was the foal. Just before that I said to my husband she's going to be an April baby and when I said she almost made April, well there's her name "Almost April"! "My favorite carriage is a "TH"... I think it's a fabulous carriage."*

### 4. What are some of your most rewarding driving accomplishments and memories?

*"I have three, (driving Almost April's Mom). First, we won the State Fair Novice Champion Pleasure horse after she had only been hitched for three months and also won every class we entered. My second, with that same mare, won best marathon at Live Oak where we won five out of six hazards, took second in number six hazard only because she was going so fast I had to stop her and back her up. Third, was showing at Gloria Austins we won Concourse de Elegance. A picture of us hitched was on the poster for the following years Pleasure show."*

### 5. What are your future driving goals?

*"I'd like to bring Almost April up to surpass her Mom. Her Mom has quite a few accomplishments and I think April has a little better chance to be better than her and I'm hoping to get there."*

### 6. Many know you host numerous driving events at your farm. What got you interested in hosting events and what's the next event on your calendar?

*"We had a Barry Hunter Clinic last week and there were so many entries that we're doing another one on Tuesday. We're doing an HDT in April. On Tuesdays we try to have at least one clinic a month, sometimes two a month. Olof is the trainer we try to get out here fairly often so we have alot of Olof Clinics. Mostly I like having people come out to help them get going in driving."*

### 7. What made you interested in opening your farm to drivers?

*"Number one I'm just lucky to have a beautiful farm that's perfectly set up for driving. Early on we put in a dressage ring and some hazards. When I came up through driving there were a lot of people who shared their knowledge with me and helped me along my way, I wanted to do the same thing for new drivers. I think that driving is the best of all the equine disciplines. I've seen a lot of the equine disciplines. Carriage drivers, when it comes to true sportsmanship, are right at the top of the list because they care about each other and they care about their horses."*

Thank you Lynda, you are an inspiration and a true mentor to all in our driving community!

Interviewed by: Paul Van Sickle

## Nature Coast HDT at Black Prong

Photos by Chuck Tintera.



*Black Prong - Whip Paul Van Sickle shows his concentration getting his team through the last gate on the last obstacle, while grooms Jan Petri and Bob Giles show their delight at making that tight turn in Maureen Falls. This marked the first successful completion of an HDT for Team Van Sickle. Congrats to Paul, Glenda and the crew.*



*Black Prong - Bob Giles and Cindy Lawson in the Lightning Bolt obstacle.*



*Black Prong - Jean Thornton and David Saunders going through the Lightning Bolt obstacle.*



*Jamie Leier driving with navigator Freida Sessions at the Junction at Nature Coast. First prelim marathon, "Nike" was awesome!*



## A History of the Florida Whips

*Submitted by Helen Tolmach, Secretary, Florida Whips.*

The Florida Whips was organized around 1981, by Phillip Hoffman and Metta Baxter. Mr. Hoffman was a retired executive from J&J and owned the Wycombe Stud in Ocala, driving a pair of high stepping Warmbloods. Metta drove a single Morgan raised on her Double M Morgan Horse Farm near Newberry, Florida. She was known as the “doyenne of Morgans and driving” in Florida. Meetings in the early years were mostly potluck lunches and picnic drives at the individual farm and friendly non-competitive get-togethers. Bob and Helen Tolmach’s Kanapaha Morgan Horse Farm and Metta’s Double M Morgan Horse Farm were early venues for the leisurely picnic drives. Russ Hardwick hosted drives near his Hardwick Hideaway in the Ocala Forest. Susan Gilliland was interviewed by our local TV channel at one of these drives as carriage driving in Florida was so unique (I still have a tape copy of that interview.) Most of the people hosting drives were officers in the newly formed club. Soon many of the pleasure picnic drives were held at various state parks, for example, Oleno and San Felasco State Parks.

In 1989, the Florida Whips volunteered at the first Combined Driving Event held in Tampa, Florida, under the aegis of Gladstone. Whips drivers enthusiastically embraced this new sport, driving all singles horses first, put to easy entry carts and a few Meadowbrooks. Soon after, Susan Gilliland organized the first Combined Driving Event in Florida. Competitors would drive cones and dressage at the Ocala Breeders Pavilion, then pack up and travel a few miles to Live Oak Plantation for the marathon. That event evolved into the prodigious Live Oak International CAI CDE.

That opened the floodgates for competitive driving in Florida. Soon the Quigleys of Lake City hosted the Valhalla CDE where many of us got our start in competitive driving. Bob and I (Helen) drove a Bird-in-Hand Flyer, which had a reach and could not make a 90 degree turn. There was not a single marathon vehicle on the course. Ray and Pam Knisley started their Treasure Coast CDE in Ft. Pierce, which ran for at least 5 years and many more Whips were bitten by the competitive bug. Now we started to see a few Kuhnles and some other brands of marathon vehicles, which became part of our vocabulary. Louise Stokes ran a CDE at Basenstoke Farm for a couple of years and then we saw Maureen and Alan Aulson driving a pair of Morgans at a one time CDE at the Heavens Gate Farm. They had bought some property adjoining Goethe Forest in Morrilton and Louise persuaded them to host a CDE on short notice in the spring of 2003, when the Basenstoke Farm owner suddenly quit.

Black Prong was a huge hit and developed into a major driving complex, the Black Prong Equestrian Center. The Treasure Coast event moved their dates to Black Prong and became the Nature Coast CDE. Steeplechase grew up in the shadows of all of this driving and now hosts some competitive fun events of their own.

Now that we had competitive driving, we needed clinics with experts to help us learn to do all of this dressage, cones and hazards. One of the first clinics was given by George Bowman, of England, at Otto’s in Ocala. Bob was taking a lesson when George Bowman in his strong English accent said “Enter at “I”. Bob looked around and said he didn’t see any “I”. It turned out “I” was the Cockney English pronunciation for “A”. Gloria Austin, who had been an early Whips supporter, moved to Florida and bought property near Weirsdale, which would become Continental Acres. She held various pleasure drives there and one year Continental Acres and the Whips hosted the Annual ADS Weekend of Driving. This 3 day clinic, with some of the best drivers in the country as instructors, became hugely successful and was continued by Francine Arrington and now by Connie Thoreson and Linda Evans.

In the early 1990s, Metta, still a driving force in the Whips, realized that to expand interest in carriage driving, we had to teach neophytes the harnessing, training and driving techniques. She and Katherine Gordon, a Whips member and director of Community Education at Santa Fe Community College, talked the college into offering a community education course entitled “Teaching Your Horse to Drive”. This intensive 2-day course was entirely run by the Whips volunteers at Metta’s farm. Tuition was split between the College and Metta (who turned her share over to the Northern Region treasurer). She recruited Helen and Bob Tolmach as volunteer assistants early on and when Metta’s health began to fail, the class was moved to their farm. During these years, attendance of 8 to 10 was sketchy and dependent on weather and word of mouth publicity. There was a massive change about 2005 when Helen and Bob were exposed to the University of Florida’s IFAS Horse Teaching Facility. Their neighbor, Joel McQuagge, manager of the facility, invited us to move the course to his heated classrooms and massive covered arena. We now have a waiting list for the 30 spaces and of these, many graduates immediately take membership in the Whips.

You can see there has been a grand evolution in our Florida driving community. We came from backyard driving on our own farms to some of the biggest CDEs in the country with some of the world’s best drivers.



# FLORIDA WHIPS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

September 2018 - August 2019

[www.flawhips.org](http://www.flawhips.org)

All memberships renew each September 1

Member Name:	Farm/Business Name:	
Mailing Address:	Address 2:	
City	State:	Zip Code:
E-mail Address:		
Primary Phone:	Alternate Phone:	
This is a <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Home <input type="checkbox"/> Other		This is a <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Home <input type="checkbox"/> Other

Please check which membership type:	Annual Dues	Notes
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership	\$ 35.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership	\$ 40.00	Please indicate family members below
<input type="checkbox"/> Business / Farm / Organization	\$100.00	Includes annual business card ad
<input type="checkbox"/> Reciprocal Driving Club	\$ 0.00	Exchange of newsletters/information

**For family membership, list family member information (all living in same household)**

Name	Email	If junior, Date of Birth

Please check which newsletter type:	Annual Fee	Notes
<input type="checkbox"/> Online newsletter	\$ FREE	Newsletter provided free online with emailed notification

**SAFETY RULES OF THE FLORIDA WHIPS, INC.**

- Vehicle and harness must be serviceable and in good repair
- Vehicles must be unhitched prior to removing reins and bridles
- The driver must always have a whip and carry it while in motion
- Horses must have bridles on with reins attached prior to hitching to a vehicle
- Never tie a horse or leave it unattended when hitched to a vehicle
- Never pass another carriage at a fast trot and never drive too close to another

By checking this box and signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the safety rules listed above, as have any family members listed as part of this membership. I further understand that under Florida law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for injury to, or death of, a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risk of equine activities. This document is meant to be a full and complete release from any and all liability that may arise from participating in Florida Whips, Inc. equine activities. This release is given freely and voluntarily by the participating members and is meant to remain in existence throughout the duration of membership.

Signature (type if electronic):

Date:

Paper Membership Applications	Electronic Membership Applications
Make checks payable to: The Florida Whips, Inc. Mail payment and complete, signed form to: Lynn Parker, Florida Whips Membership Director 22346 120 <sup>th</sup> Street, Live Oak, FL 32060	Fill out form online and use Submit button - or - Fill out form, save and attach to email to <a href="mailto:membership@flawhips.org">membership@flawhips.org</a> Pay via credit card / Paypal at <a href="http://www.flawhips.org">www.flawhips.org</a> and forward email receipt confirmation to <a href="mailto:membership@flawhips.org">membership@flawhips.org</a>

Choose one:  Payment by check  Payment by credit card/Paypal



*Located in the heart of Florida's Equestrian Countryside*



- Offering overnight accommodations for couples retreats, family outings & group events. Pet friendly w/stalls for your horses!
- Visit TG's Gourmet Market/Deli & Players Club for FREE wireless, daily happy hour specials, trivia, karaoke & other social events
- Horseback riding & carriage driving lessons
- Orvis resort store offering fly fishing lessons, outdoor activities & excursions
- Private or group carriage rides offered daily
- Trail ride through oak hammocks & open pastures on our horses or yours!
- Weekly polo matches & other equine events!
- Great venue for corporate conferences, reunions medical meetings, weddings & receptions!

***Visit us online or call today for information on upcoming events!***



**WWW.THEGRANDOAKS.COM**

**352.750.5500 • 3000 Marion County Road • Weirsdale, Florida**

# CLASSIFIEDS



**MINIATURE FLY SHEET.** Dura-Tech soft interlock mesh with bellyband. Blue, new condition. Size 48 - \$20 plus shipping. Email Sioux at flwhips@gmail.com.

3/19



**WCC MUSTANG** Pair/Single Pole, 2 sets of adjustable shafts, stainless and black steel, Pneumatic tires/reg tires, back step extension for marathon. Hunter Green with camel seats. Beautiful condition - \$4200.00. Cart is located in Altoona, FL. Heidi 207-949-5928 please text, I will call back.

3/19



**FOR SALE IN LIVE OAK, FL:** Antique horse drawn top buggy reconditioned in 1990 by an Amish craftsman from PA. On rubber, pinstriped, quick release shaft, always stored inside, leather treated annually. If interested we can send more pictures. Must see. \$2,600 or best offer. Contact Paul at: em4melbiz@gmail.com

4/19

*Experience the Difference!*  
Custom, Lightweight, Balanced  
Handcrafted Whips



MCRWhips@gmail.com 401-529-3735  
mcrwhips.us

## THE CARRIAGE HOUSE, INC.



Quality Synthetic Harness & Tack Since 1989  
Smucker's Custom Leather Harness

Pam & Ray Knisley  
7230 NW 60th Street  
Chiefland, FL 32626

Pam's cell: (352) 221-2848  
Email: carrhouse@aol.com  
www.thecarriagehouse.com



Maurya Marie Photography  
**Kathleen O'Grady**

5632 Oakshire Lane  
Sarasota, FL 34233

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



**Russ & Susan Hardwick**  
10 S.E. 125th Terrace Road  
Silver Springs, FL 34488

Phone: (352) 625-3263  
Email: rhardwick@cfl.rr.com  
www.hardwickhideout.com



## BIT GO ROUND

"Try B4 U Buy Bits"

11550 SE 21st Place  
Morriston, FL 32668  
(352) 486-3197  
linda@bitground.com  
www.bitground.com

## Carriage Gate Morgans

Horses & People together in Harmony  
www.carriagegatemorgans.com

Cheryl Gonzalez  
Trainer - Instructor - Owner  
Boarding - Lessons - Training  
Riding & Driving  
36742 Christian Road, Dade City, FL 33523  
cherylgz56@gmail.com  
813-833-4597 Cell  
352-523-0448 Home

