



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 • NOVEMBER 2018



Black Prong 2018

Roberta Greeno with Lynn Schneider navigating.

Photo by Melissa Harding /Calla Lily Images ©



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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

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

Other than Whips Events: one-half Business rate. Link to Event ad from newsletter can be added to the calendar on www.flawhips.org

Event Calendar listings on website: free link to organizer's event website. Email calendar information to calendar@flawhips.org.

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 and webmaster@flawhips.org as appropriate.

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.

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

Credit card payments accepted online at www.flawhips.org or via Paypal to treasurer@flawhips.org.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Florida Whips Membership

Recruiting new members to the Florida Whips is very important however, I submit to you retention must be our first priority. If we retain our members who have shown an interest in learning to drive and made the investment in the sport then our enthusiasm will generate new membership. I asked Lynn Parker, our membership chair to please send me some data on current membership. Lynn reported the following:



"Last year we had 228 members and so far this year we have 185. The breakdown is:

- 78 individual members
- 45 family memberships
- 47 household members
- 7 Juniors
- 4 organizations
- 5 reciprocal memberships

Looking over the 2018 roster, there are still 95 memberships that have not renewed for this year. There are 38 individuals, 22 family memberships with 29 household members, 4 Juniors and 2 organizations that have not renewed. I will send another reminder email to these people along with an outline of the benefits of membership. There were also quite a few people who dropped their spouses and just did an individual membership instead of a family membership."

I find the decrease in our membership to be alarming. If we are not retaining members who have made a commitment to our sport then we will be hard pressed to recruit new membership.

So what can we do? First: every member of the Florida Whips is a "Mentor". Take it upon yourself to reach out and mentor/help each other develop their driving skills. Create camaraderie in the organization by simply inviting a member in your area out for a drive or to a Whips event. Second: we must take every opportunity to "show the flag" at our Whips scheduled events by displaying banners and having membership information readily available. Finally: if you know members who have not renewed please find out why and invite them to renew. I believe if we are able to retain current members then recruitment will come naturally through the enthusiasm we show toward our incredibly rewarding, fun and challenging sport of carriage driving!

Drive On!
Paul

NORTHERN REGION REPORT

November is the start of the Florida Whips' busy season. We started with an Olof Larson clinic held at Lynda Jowers' that filled rapidly and had a waiting list. Olof had a long day with a great potluck lunch for everyone in the middle. Drivers would drive their test for judging, and the Olof would go out and discuss good points and things that could be worked on. Probably the biggest thing I saw over and over as a bystander was drivers needing to drive for accuracy. True round circles with proper bend are particularly difficult. This was mentioned by Olof time and time again. Drivers seemed to be focusing hard on making improvements and learning.

Camp BlackProng was huge with about 60 drivers. Probably 30 or more were Northern members of the Whips. Everyone I saw had a big smile on their face and seemed to be having lots of fun and making new friends. The clinicians were outstanding. The food was great. The Poker Drive and Derby were challenging in some way for all. All in all, a fantastic weekend.

November has the Iron Horse HDT on Sun. Nov. 11, and a clinic with Olof the day before. I believe both are already filled. The end of the month has the ADS meeting, Derby and Combined Test at Grand Oaks. I am sure both of these 2 events will need volunteers that would be greatly appreciated.

Happy Thanksgiving and Drive On!
Dona Love, Northern Region Director

SOUTHEAST REGION REPORT

Time flies when everyone is having fun. The "Drive-A-Test" clinic with Olof Larson, held on October 6th, was well attended and very educational for everyone. Paul and his wife, Glenda, were very gracious hosts and made sure everyone was well fed and taken care of. I think it was a good event for all levels of drivers to see what they needed to improve on before the start of the show season.



The next event for us is a "Drive/Ride" through the Christmas lights at Wickham Park on December 16 at 6:00pm. This event is part of the spacecoast lightfest and is being co-sponsored by the event organizers. There are more than 3 million twinkling holiday lights, including animated displays. We will be leading all the equestrians as we walk through the 1.1 mile park. There is also a 200 foot "Light Tunnel". All drivers need To RSVP beforehand as we need to have a general driver headcount. All fees will be paid when you arrive at the event. Please note that there will be a lot of riders also at this event. More information can be found on the flyer or by contacting me (Barbara Brooke-Reese) at brookereese@gmail.com or by phone at 772-532-7086.

Also, in February, we are working putting together a Dressage/Cones day at the Jupiter Horse Park. More details will be a little bit later.

So, until next month. Safe Driving.
Barbara Brooke-Reese, SE Region Director

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

DATE	ORGANIZATION	EVENT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	CONTACT
10/6/2018	Fla Whips SE Region	Drive a Test Schooling Clinic	Lucky V Ranch 4159 Saddle Club Dr. New Smyrna Beach FL 32168	Paul & Glenda VanSickle 386-847-4642 luckyvranch@yahoo.com
10/7/2018	Fla Whips N Region	Drive a Test Schooling Clinic	Iron Horse Farm 308 SW Spirit Ave Ft White FL 32308	Lynda Jowers 386-454-3225 jowersl@aol.com
10/18/2018 to 10/21/2018	Fla Whips N Region	Camp Black Prong	Black Prong Equestrian Center 450 SW Co. Rd. 337 Bronson FL 32621	Linda Evans/Connie Thoreson 352-486-3197 levans0277@aol.com
11/10/2018	Fla Whips N Reigon	Olof Larsson Clinic	Iron Horse Farm 308 SW Spirit Ave Ft White FL 32308	Lynda Jowers 386-454-3225 jowersl@aol.com
11/11/2018	Fla Whips N Reigon	Iron Horse HDT	Iron Horse Farm 308 SW Spirit Ave Ft White FL 32308	Lynda Jowers 386-454-3225 jowersl@aol.com
12/16/2018	Fla Whips N Reigon	Fun Day in Tallahassee	Zander Farm 8509 Little Scenic Lane Tallahassee FL 32309	Steve & Lauchlin Waldoch 850-385-1246 lauchlin@mclawgroup.com
12/16/2018	Fla Whips SE Reigon	Drive Through the Christmas Lights	Wickham Park 2500 Parkway Dr Melbourne FL 32935	Barbara Brooke-Reese 772-532-7086 brookereese@gmail.com
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 Morrison 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 Morrison 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

Florida



Whips

Along With The
Central Florida Council Boy Scouts of America
Invites You To

“Drive” Through the Lights
At The

Space Coast Lightfest

December 16th, 2018 at 6:00 pm
Wickham Park, 2785 Leisure Way, Melbourne FL 32935

Have you ever wanted to drive your horse(s) through more than 3 million Christmas lights?
Well that is exactly what we are planning.
We are offering you a safe, car-free opportunity to enjoy the
Space Coast Lightfest in your carriage.

The gate will open to horses promptly at 6pm Sunday December 16, 2018

Horses will gather at the stable area at Wickham Park.
Horse trailers should arrive by 5:45pm

Please RSVP For The Event, so that we can have a count of all the carriages coming.
Entrance fee will be charged at the event (\$10.00 per horse)

There will be lots of riders at
this event as well as us!!!!

To RSVP or for more Information

Barbara Brooke-tReese
772-532-7086 brookereese@gmail.com

DRIVE A TEST DRESSAGE CLINIC

The Florida Whips sponsored a “Drive a Test” dressage clinic with Olof Larsson on Oct. 6 and 7, 2018. The Saturday session was at Lucky V Ranch LLC in New Smyrna Beach, and the Sunday session was at Iron Horse Farm near Ft. White/High Springs. This was the first of what we hope will be many educational opportunities offered to Whips members. This format was in response to a suggestion by a member, and the event was coordinated through the Educational Committee.

Both clinics filled quickly with drivers ranging from more experienced whips wanting to polish their performance to newer drivers looking to enhance their basic skills. Olof worked tirelessly at both locations sharing his wealth of knowledge, and I think it would be fair to say all the drivers saw improvement in their equines by the end of their session.

I had the pleasure of driving in the Saturday session, and scribing in the afternoon on Sunday. It was inspiring to see 23 drivers coming together to work on their dressage skills. Thanks to eve-ryone who attended and volunteered. And of course kudos to Paul and Glenda VanSickle and Lynda Jowers for providing their beautiful facilities to host the event.

*Judi Tintera
Educational Committee Chair*



“Olof gave me a new perspective on driving by having me look further ahead to where I expect to go, instead of watching my horse. I stopped obsessing about her being round, bending, etc. and found that all that fell into place if I looked ahead and drove forward. Every time I work with our wonderful trainers here in FL I have great take always that make me a better driver.”

— Laura Howell



“Thank you Paul and Glenda for being wonderful hosts ... Judi and Eloise for managing such a great educational program! Thank you to Olof for such attention to detail ... and thanks to Windfall and Commander for being such stars.”

— Tom Warriner (via Facebook)



“It has been two years since I showed or had a lesson. It felt wonderful getting back in the dressage arena. I enjoyed it and so did Scarlet.”

— Eloise Nelson

(As the last driver of the day ...) “Everyone was gone when I got to drive which helped me to relax and enjoy the ride knowing this was our first test ever. I really had a wonderful time and actually received a standing ovation from the only three people standing after my test. I am not sure if Olof and the scribes were applauding because it was finally all over for the day or they were just glad the last drive went smooth so they could wrap things up and go home. Either way, I really enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere and it put a smile on my face that I can’t seem to change no matter how hard I try.”

— Bobbie Whitman



Gary Yeager



Photo by Melissa Harding /Calla Lily Images ©

Lynda Jowers driving April.

"Thank you all for taking the time & effort to participant in this clinic, we love to watch these beautiful horses driving at our farm. What an amazing group we have! Olof shared, he was inspired by our skill and enthusiasm, really enjoyed working with each turnout and hopes we do more."

— Paul VanSickle



Judi Tintera driving Dandy.



Deb Bennett



Photo by Melissa Harding /Calla Lily Images ©

Connie Andrews with Olof.



Tina Ring's team tackles a challenging cones course.



Photo by Melissa Harding /Calla Lily Images ©

Lynn Parker



Sandy Swift



Tina Ring's pony team and the VanSickles Freisian Pair.

WHAT IS CAMP BLACK PRONG?

If you have never been to “Camp” you don’t know what you are missing! Camp Black Prong is a weekend of fun driving games, learning and most importantly comradery. This year’s camp is just a memory now but what a memory it is! We had record breaking attendance including a lot of multiples and new drivers.

Organizing Camp is a huge undertaking that Connie Thoreson and I start working on months in advance planning activities, meals, hiring the best clinicians in the country and designing and setting up the courses we will be offering at Camp.

This year we hired Thoreston Zarembowicz, Bob Giles, Larry Poulin, David Jay, Olof Larsson and Gary Yeager to provide lessons. Eight hours of group lessons are included in the registration fee. Private lessons were also offered for more individualized instruction for an additional fee.

Camp started off with a navigator clinic given by Bob Giles. It began in the pavilion where Bob stressed the importance that both the driver and the navigator walk the hazard multiple times together and individually to memorize the course they plan to drive. He answered lots of questions and kept the campers interest with a lot humor interspersed. After his talk, the group moved outside to a hazard where Bob had drivers race thru the course to demonstrate where navigators need to position themselves in turns to keep the carriage upright. The importance of being in the right place on the back step at the right time could not be stressed enough.

Friday afternoon the group lessons began at 1:00 pm. Three clinicians taught driven dressage, 2 in hazards and one teaching cones. Campers could choose where to go for instruction, going from clinician to clinician to experience all phases of driving. Sometimes the lines were long but worth the wait to work with the best clinicians in the country. Connie & I are brainstorming ideas to shorten wait times next year. Unfortunately due to the record rainfall we experienced this summer it was determined by Bob Giles that the water hazard was unsafe to use due to the deep mud. This contributed to long wait lines elsewhere. Safety for our horses and drivers is always our primary concern.

In addition to the group lessons, campers were also treated to two fun competitions. The first one, a poker drive was held Saturday afternoon. The winner was Jamie Sharp driving her Gypsy stallion, Whiskey with a pair of aces & 10’s. 2nd was Lauchlin Waldoch, 3rd was Marna Egyed, 4th was Lynn Parker, 5th was Kendall Jones & 6th was Morgan Pevonka.

Sunday we had a team derby. It was a lot of fun with team members rooting each other on from the sideline. Team #2 was the winner with Margy Cox, Yvonne Harris, Connie Andrews, Louise Blankenship & Marna Egyed. In 2nd place was team #5, 3rd place team #7, 4th place team #1, 5th place team #6, 6th place team #4. The derby was followed by lunch, awards and our raffle. Each camper was given 5 raffle tickets to vie for all the sponsor donated gifts. A huge thank you goes out to Black Prong Equestrian Center, Grand Oaks Resort, Sneak-e-Snacks, Margy Cox, Jackie Musler, Sparr Farm & Feed, Seminole Feed, Bob Giles, The Bead Strand, TT Distributors, Homes to Ranches Realty, Comfy Fit Harness, Bit Go Round, Farm Credit and the Ivy House.

This was the first year we had photographers. Dan Smith and Melissa Harding spent long hours taking literally thousands of pictures of our Campers and their horses. Look for their amazing photos on Facebook to get a look at our drivers. Both will have photos available for purchase.

Plans are already underway for next year's Camp black Prong. We hope everyone had a blast and will return next year!

Linda Evans



Tina Ring driving team. Bob Giles in background.

Photo by Dan Smith



Denice Klinger and Anne Raisner with Ironwood Xander waiting for the Derby.

Photo by Bobbie Whitman



Judy Fryer

Photo by Dan Smith



Barbara Brooke-Reese with her husband Paul on the back, and Olof Larrson.

Photo by Dan Smith



Photo by Melissa Harding /Calla Lily Images ©

Connie Andrews with her pony Nickers, Olof Larrsen teaching.



Dona Love driving Skinner.

Photo by Dan Smith



Lynda Jowers driving April, learning lengthening from David Jay.

Photo by Donna Ramsey.



Connie Andrews driving Nickers.

Photo by Dan Smith



Photo by Melissa Harding /Calla Lily Images ©

Paul Van Sickle driving his Friesians tandem.



Photo by Melissa Harding /Calla Lily Images ©

Paul Reese and his wife Barbara on the back.



Photo by Melissa Harding /Calla Lily Images ©

Margo Cox with her husband John on the back.



Photo by Dan Smith

Louise Blankenship with husband Rex and Jill Norris navigating.



Photo by Dan Smith

View from the box seat - Tina Ring's pony team.



Photo by Dan Smith

Jackie Musler driving Kismet with Thoreston Zarembowicz navigating.



Photo by Dan Smith

Patty Rozensky driving her Hackney pony LLF Lucent. Clinician Gary Yeager.

PINE TREE CDE

by Christopher Carswell



This was my first trip to the Pine Tree CDE and I was nervous, more so than usual, because most of the drivers that I had come to know during last winter were attending a driving camp at Black Prong in Florida. I only knew that my sponsor, Karin Sclater of Carriage Imports, would be there to cheer me on. Mr. Paul Maye was going to be there for coaching and to ride on step for me during marathon. Other than that, all of it was a mystery!

First impressions – my GPS took us in the wrong way! We were supposed to come in from Connecticut Blvd, but my GPS played a cruel joke and took us in the back roads! I mean the back roads – winding dirt roads that led to a very nerve wrecking wooden bridge! Took the leap of faith since there was no way to back out – over the bridge we went! Thankfully, nothing but lots of scary noise from the bridge as we crossed and arrived safely at Big Sky Farm. It was beautiful – flags flying against the blue sky! I was warmly greeted and helped with settling in instructions. Kianti had a very nice stall with two windows.

Almost everyone arrived on Thursday and my driving began. I had a good time during all of my lessons as we worked on dressage. Mr. Paul was absolutely a blast to have coaching. I would learn the marathon course, obstacles and cones course in between driving lessons. The courses at Pine Tree CDE were well thought out and exciting!

Saturday brought my dressage test and cones course. Mrs. Maureen Grippa helped me with my turnout – made sure I looked the best that I could! Barbara Murphy braided Kianti's mane for me. We looked the part, so off to the dressage ring! I would be first to go! The test was going great until my brain decided to make me do a different test at the walk section – bell rings – Judge comes out – back to "A" to restart the correct

walk. I can't complain at all because even with the mistake my final score was in the 50s! Kianti was a Rock Star for her very first formal dressage test! The cones course was a little rough for me. It is different doing cones at a show than at home – even at training level. Made a few errors, but happy at the end of the course with 11 penalty points. Kianti gave 110% and I couldn't have asked for a better partner. I ended the day in 3rd place – not too shabby for our first show together.



Sunday brought the marathon! Mr. Paul decided I needed a seatbelt for marathon. I never used one when I drove single pony. The roots and bumpy terrain were the reason – said he didn't want me "popping out" of my seat! OK, seatbelt it is! We had a great time in marathon! We made all of our times and had fun in the obstacles. Kianti was such a good girl – things I thought might startle her didn't even make her look. Her vet box exams were great and we completed marathon without incident. Great day indeed! I finished the Pine Tree CDE in 3rd place – very happy indeed!

Pine Tree CDE is a GREAT driving show! Not only because of how nice everyone is, the laid back attitude, and the grounds, but the FOOD! WOW! It is the BEST food I have enjoyed at a show! I enjoyed bar-b-q one night, breakfast the next morning, Panera for lunches, and the dinner party was to die for! The steak was so tender and all you care to eat and let's not forget the dessert table! Pies and cakes galore! Really awesome thing



I learned, not only did I get to enjoy all of this amazing food, but the leftovers were donated to those in need! That is an awesome act of kindness!

Make sure you get to Pine Tree CDE – it is absolutely worth it!



FLORIDA WHIPS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

September 2018 - August 2019

www.flawhips.org

All memberships renew each September 1

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Please check which membership type:	Annual Dues	Notes
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For family membership, list family member information (all living in same household)		
Name	Email	If junior, Date of Birth

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- Vehicle and harness must be serviceable and in good repair
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- 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:

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

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If you have an article and photos of a recent show or event, a recent accomplishment, or anything equine related that you'd like to share with your fellow Whips members, please send it to Sioux at: newsletter@flwhips.org

HOW TO SUBMIT

DO NOT send articles as hard copy, typed into an email, or as a PDF. Place articles into a Word doc and attach to your email. Attach individual photos (jpegs) to your email message. **REMEMBER** - only articles in digital format will be accepted! Please put "Member News" in the subject line of your email.

CAPTION ALL PHOTOS. Name, location and date of event, winner of each division. All photos must be labeled with the name of the person(s) in the photo. Include the horse/ponies name if known.