

JANUARY 2009
~THE LASH~
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
TREASURE VALLEY WHIPS
A CARRIAGE DRIVING CLUB
FOR RECREATION,
COMPETITION AND EDUCATION
FOR CARRIAGE DRIVERS AND
EQUINES OF ALL ABILITIES
AN AMERICAN DRIVING SOCIETY
AFFILIATED CLUB.



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Greetings and Happy New Year to all! Our next meeting is Saturday, Jan. 24th at noon in Middleton at the Casa Mexico. We hope to see you there as we have many exciting things to discuss.

Our first driving events are our play days scheduled for February 28th and March 28th at the Birt Arena in Nampa. We will have our standard activities: a bomb-proofing area in the morning, free driving in the arena and of course a potluck lunch. Later in the day we will set up a new kind of cones course called a scurry challenge for those who would like to try it. There is more information in this newsletter on this fun new activity.

Later this spring we have two weekends reserved at the Birt Arena and need some consensus on what the club would like to have happen those weekends. We have had clinics, play days and Arena Driving Trials in the past. What the club wishes to do this year will be discussed at the meeting Jan. 24th.

This is the beginning of our fifth year in existence! We are going to discuss the next steps for our club and we all need to start thinking about what we can do to help with activities and governance this year. Our club has continued to grow and evolve which is very exciting and healthy.

**A MESSAGE FROM YOUR
WEBMASTER**

Mary Van De Bogart

I have really enjoyed figuring out how to build a functioning website; thank you for bearing with me while I learn! Our site at

<http://www.treasurevalleywhips.org> is being hosted free on my son's server, and seems to work well. I would like to encourage all of you to send me news, links, articles, pictures, advertisements, suggestions, and corrections for it.

There are a number of ways you can get things to me. The easiest is to e-mail me at mary.vandebogart@gmail.com. If you don't do e-mail, my snail mail is: Mary Van De Bogart 12275 Goodson Road Middleton, ID 83644. You can also call me at 208-585-2741; be sure and leave a message with a call-back number if you get my machine, as I am frequently out of phone range. The evenings are the best time to get me.

I can scan pictures and adjust them appropriately, or you can e-mail them, send a CD, or give them to me on a thumb drive. If you want a picture

cropped or adjusted in a particular way, let me know. If you want material back, please enclose a SASE. I have recently acquired a camera card reader, so I can take pictures right off your digital camera if you bring it to my house. (Some day when I get a laptop I'll be able to do that on a mobile basis!) If you want to give me information at a show or playday, please write it down along with your name and phone number; I don't retain information well when my brain is in Pony Mode.

I can usually get material posted within a couple of days. The more we get on the website and the more frequently we add material to it, the more everybody will get in the habit of checking it to see what's new, and it will be a useful tool for the club.

THE SCURRY CHALLENGE

At our next play day we will set up a Scurry Challenge course for drivers to try. The "Scurry Challenge" is a fun driving event designed around a cones course. A diagram of the basic course is included in this newsletter.

This game combines elements of speed rating, precision, and manners and is not a pure speed event. There is an optimum time designated for the course. All cones are set 6' apart. The competitor must enter at a walk, and halt in the box. Time is started when the horse's nose passes the line at the front of the box. The cones are driven in the order indicated. The clock stops when the horse's nose passes the rear line of the box. The horse must halt for five seconds within the box before leaving. Two runs are allowed for each competitor and the best time is utilized. Knocking down any balls or not halting for five seconds results in elimination for that run. The closest time to optimum, not the fastest, wins. More information about this event can be

found at:

<http://www.americanscurrychallenge.com/>

We will try out this event at our first play day on Feb. 28th. The optimum time will be set for a steady working trot (or slower) pace. This will make it a perfect training exercise for you and your horse.

TRAIL NEWS

The TVW has 4 recreational trail drives planned for this year: spring, summer, fall, and winter. We will keep you posted as to the dates. These events are dependant upon the weather and can't be scheduled as easily as some events. Let Jan McEnroe know if you are interested in finding out more about these events: mudopie@clearwire.net or (208) 466-0311.

There are also some other events sponsored by other groups, these two of note: May 22 through 25th is the Weiser River Wagon Train. The drive goes from Weiser to Council along the Weiser River. October 19-20th is the Weiser River Trail Drive/Ride Travel from Midvale to Goodrich and back.

Participants have a lot of fun on these outings. They include dutch oven cooking, campfires, good friends, stories and horses. Come join us this year and go recreational trail driving. Our club play days' bomb-proofing are great preparation for the trail. I promise that you and your horse will love it; beauty, solitude and the opportunity for enjoyment abound. The trails are wide-open, dirt or sand, flat to rolling hills. You can go any distance and speed you are comfortable with. Come on out even if you don't have a horse.

We also encourage outriders to participate ☺

Hope to see you on the trail!

TREASURE VALLEY WHIPS - 2009 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

c/o Joan E. Lyons

351 Knob Hill

Eagle, ID 83616

(208) 939-6820 or leoblair2001@yahoo.com

NAME: _____

If Family membership- names of family Members: _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE (____) _____ E-MAIL _____

May we send your newsletters via e-mail to save postage? ____ Yes ____ No

INDIVIDUAL \$25: ____ YOUTH (under 21) \$15: ____ FAMILY \$35: ____

MEMBERS' ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND LIABILITY RELEASE FORM

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK

I/we intend to participate in equestrian activities sponsored by or affiliated with the Treasure Valley Whips driving club. I am fully aware that certain inherent and unavoidable risks and dangers are involved in any equestrian activity. I understand that these risks, hazards, and dangers could result in my injury, discomfort, illness, disease, death, or damage to my personal property.

ACCEPTANCE OF RISK AND RESPONSIBILITY

Being aware that these activities entail risks, hazards and dangers, I agree to accept and assume all responsibility and risks for any injury, discomfort, illness, disease, death and damage to personal property arising from my participation in these activities. My participation in these activities is purely voluntary, no one is forcing me to participate, and I elect to participate fully aware of the risks, hazards, and dangers.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY

In consideration of being permitted to participate in these activities, I agree, pursuant to the limitations on liability pertaining to equestrian activities contained in Title 6, Chapter 18, Idaho Code, not to hold the Treasure Valley Whips nor its members, volunteers, officers, or agents liable for any injury or damage to my person or property. **I HEREBY VOLUNTARILY RELEASE THE TREASURE VALLEY WHIPS, ITS MEMBERS, VOLUNTEERS, OFFICERS, INSURERS OR OTHER AGENTS, FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, ACTIONS, OR RIGHTS OF ACTION WHICH ARE RELATED TO OR ARISE IN ANY MANNER OUT OF MY PARTICIPATION IN THESE ACTIVITIES.** This release of liability includes, but is not limited to any negligent act or omissions of the Treasure Valley Whips, its members, officers, volunteers, insurers, or other agents, which may result in my personal injury, discomfort, illness, disease, death, and damage to my property. **THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY ALSO EXPRESSLY EXTENDS TO, AND INCLUDES THE OWNERS/PROPRIETORS OF ANY PREMISES OR FACILITY AT WHICH THE EQUESTRIAN ACTIVITIES ARE HELD.**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF EFFECT OF THIS RELEASE AND AGREEMENT

I understand and acknowledge that by signing this document, I have given up substantial legal rights and/or possible claims which I might otherwise assert or maintain in the future including, but not limited to legal rights and claims for negligent acts or omission of the Treasure Valley Whips, its members, officers, volunteers, insurers or other agents and the owners/proprietors of the premises and facility. I further agree that the laws of the state of Idaho shall govern the terms and effects of this agreement and that proper venue will be the courts of Idaho.

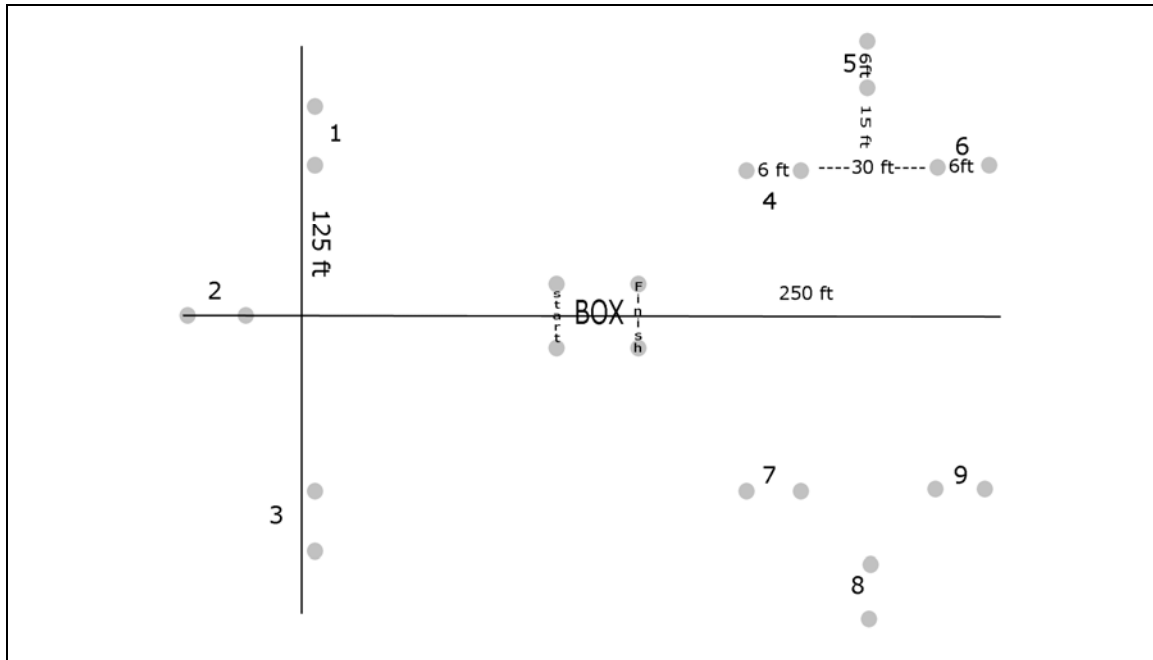
I HAVE READ THIS PARTICIPANTS ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND LIABILITY RELEASE FORM AND UNDERSTAND ALL OF ITS TERMS. I EXECUTE IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT, ASSURANCE OR GUARANTEE BEING MADE TO ME AND WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE OF ITS SIGNIFICANCE.

Date _____

Member's signature _____

(Parent/Legal Guardian signature required if member is under 18)

Scurry Challenge course:



Measurements shown are approximate and may differ depending upon the size of the arena. The starting box is 10' wide and 15'-20' long. The numbered dots are cones, but the cone sets are not numbered in the arena.

Class Procedure:

You are to enter the arena at a walk, you are allowed a few minutes to move around the course at any pace you please, but do not go through cones. Once you are ready you walk your equine inside the box & tell the timer you are ready. Once your horses' nose passes over the line at the front of the box, the time starts. You track right to cone 1 and drive the course in the pattern shown. No cones are numbered. If you knock a ball down you may finish the round, but you will not score a time. If you keep all balls up & pass through the last set of cones, you enter into the box once again from the rear. As your horses nose passes over the rear line of the box the timer stops the clock. That time is counted as "one" of your times. But you must come to a full halt & stand your equine inside the box for 5 full seconds. If your equine steps outside the box for any reason within the 5 seconds your time will not count. After 5 seconds you can walk out of the box and when ready you can re-enter the box again for your second run. All the same rules for round one are the same for your 2nd round. Your best time is counted as your final time. After your second round you leave the ring at a walk please.

TREASURE VALLEY WHIPS CARRIAGE DRIVING CLUB PLAY DAY
FEB. 28TH & MARCH 28TH, 2009

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

POTLUCK LUNCH – BRING A DISH TO SHARE

Coffee & doughnuts - Soup or Chili provided

The Treasure Valley Whips hold several play days each year. **These events are open to anyone who is interested in learning more about driving, from beginners without horses to experienced drivers.** The February 28th & March 28th play days will be held at the Birt Arena facility in Nampa, Idaho (see directions at bottom of the next page). There are several areas that can be used at the facility, depending upon the weather. We typically include a “bomb-proofing” area with lots of flags, plastic, tires, etc. to get our horses accustomed to, usually while leading them through the area. This makes the play day an excellent place to bring a green or young horse for some experience. The indoor arena is available for 20 minute individual sessions and we will also have some group sessions for those wanting to get experience with others in the ring. We also set up some driving courses (e.g. cones, hazards, & dressage) for participants to learn and to practice. Our participants include folks who are leading their horses, ground driving them, driving hitched to a vehicle, riding their horses as well as those who are just coming to get more information or catch a carriage ride. The club also sets up an information table with all sorts of articles, magazines, pamphlets, catalogs and other educational information about driving.

The schedule is kept fairly unstructured, so that the participants can set their own pace, but occasional demonstrations and lessons are offered as well. As our club grows, more and more members are available for putting on demonstrations and giving lessons at these play days depending upon participant interest.

The play days are open to the public, but membership is rewarded with a discount. Cost is \$10 per member bringing up to 2 horses; \$15 for a non-member bringing a horse (\$15 per horse). Play days are free to members coming without horses and \$5 for non-members coming without horses. These fees are used to defray the costs of the facility rental, insurance, equipment, etc. Members get a discount, because they invest in the club to fund the overhead expenses. If you are not a member, look into joining. The club needs members to cover annual expenses, and you will ultimately benefit financially!

THIS YEAR WE WILL INCLUDE THE SCURRY CHALLENGE AFTER LUNCH!

NO DOGS ALLOWED AT THE BIRT ARENA FACILITY – THE BIRT’S INSURANCE REQUIRES THIS – PLEASE COMPLY

TREASURE VALLEY WHIPS DRIVING CLUB
2009 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **JAN. 24** – TVW ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING, 12:00 NOON, MIDDLETON – CASA MEXICO RESTURANT MEETING ROOM
- **FEB. 28** – TVW PLAY DAY, BIRT ARENA, NAMPA
- **MARCH 28** – TVW PLAY DAY, BIRT ARENA, NAMPA
- **APRIL 25-26** – **TBD**, CLINIC? PLAYDAY AND ADT? BIRT ARENA, NAMPA
- **MAY 16-17** - **TBD**, CLINIC? PLAYDAY AND ADT? BIRT ARENA, NAMPA
- **OCT. 24, 25 & 26** – TVW CLINIC & PLEASURE DRIVING SHOW, CLINICIAN/JUDGE TBD, BIRT ARENA, NAMPA
- **RECREATIONAL DRIVES** - TBD

TREASURE VALLEY WHIPS
C/O Joan E. Lyons
351 Knob Hill
Eagle, ID 83616