

Maine Driving Club Spring Seminar

Featuring:

Sue Rogers

Elsie Rodney

Mark Christman

Skyline Farm

4/27/2024

Location: The Lane, North Yarmouth, Maine **Time:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Organizer: Anna Bigelow mainedrivingclub@gmail.com 207-798-2616

Accepting Entries by: Mail To: Maine Driving Club: PO Box 249 Topsham, ME 04086
Email To: mainedrivingclub@gmail.com

About the Seminar: Kick off spring with three incredible speakers as they share their knowledge in their area of expertise. See page 2 for speaker bios.

The Topics:

10am: Seeing Through the Judge's Eyes - Driven Dressage (Sue Rogers)

Sue will discuss how a driven dressage test is seen from the judge's perspective, giving participants insight into how to improve their scores. A live dressage demonstration with commentary from Sue will be included, provided the weather cooperates.

11am: Cones and Obstacles: The Best Approach (Sue Rogers)

Sue will give insight on how to approach a cones course or obstacle. A cones course will be set up to walk with her during this time.

11:30am: Questions and Answers (Sue Rogers)

A fantastic opportunity to ask an FEI advanced driver and a respected combined driving judge any questions you may have. Turnout? Harness and carriage choices? She is there to help you learn anything you want to know about driving!

12:15pm: How to Lead a Horse - Elsie Rodney

Most of us lead a horse every day. But, are we doing it correctly and in the safest way? Elsie will show us how it is done.

1pm: Nutrition for the Performance Horse (Mark Christman)

Mark is joining us from Poulin Grain to discuss balancing a horse's diet, recent innovation in nutrition, body scoring, and specific things to know when feeding your driving horse. There will be time for questions and answers at the end.

Fees: \$20 for MDC Members \$30/Non Members

Checks Payable to Maine Driving Club

Paypal: MDC Website. Select "Donation." Paypal preferred.

Note: We will not be providing lunch. Be sure to bring food.

MDC events are intended to be fun and a learning experience for everyone, participants, spectators, and equines. Ask questions and have fun.

The Maine Driving Club



About Sue Rogers:

Susan has been riding, driving and training horses in Vermont for over 20 years. She has also taught many driving lessons and given people the confidence and skills to drive their own horse safely. She and her Welsh-Arab gelding Noble Gesture are well-known. Their performances were always highly anticipated at pleasure shows and Combined Driving Competitions throughout New England because both pony and driver are such a happy team! They make driving look easy. Sue acquired Noble Gesture as a yearling in 1994, and began training him for a career in combined driving. In 2001 Sue and Noble won the prestigious Bellcrown Carriage-sponsored Preliminary Pony North American Challenge. Noble Gesture is now retired at age 32. Sue drives Mober Saphir (Gem) a coming 5 year old Welsh Canadian cross large pony. Be sure to watch for this team as they compete throughout New England.

In addition to being a combined driving and dressage judge, Sue has competed at the FEI (advanced) level at driving events throughout the eastern United States. From the Bromont CDE in Canada, to The Laurels in Pennsylvania, and those in between –Blainville, Garden State, Gladstone, GMHA, Winchester, Waldingfield – Sue and Noble have made their mark. Sue is long listed with the United States Equestrian Team.

About Elsie Rodney:

Elsie has been working professionally with horses since 1971 and has been with Lovelane therapeutic riding since its founding in 1988. She enjoys working closely with volunteers, staff, and students. Before working with Lovelane, Elsie ran a Morgan training barn. Elsie's distinguished career includes, among other accomplishments, training the winning horse of the 1991 Grand National Championship in carriage driving. Currently, Elsie enjoys sharing a carriage with Andrea Pianci, a disabled driver, using a second set of safety reins. They compete in dressage and super reinsmanship.

About Mark Christman:

Mark is an equine nutritionist and feed rep who has been working with Poulin Grain for over 14 years. His involvement with horses took off when he purchased his first Percheron colts in 1982. He has raised, bred, and shown registered Percherons for many years and is also a draft horse judge. Mark regularly gives educational talks on nutrition to colleges (including Cornell Veterinary School and UNH), to clubs, 4-H groups, and other organizations. He provides feeding plans and programs to barns throughout the northeast, helping horses of all disciplines in every aspect of their nutrition. Mark regularly attends continuing education opportunities with Veterinarians and PhD's specializing in equine nutrition, to keep up to date on the latest information. He loves working for Poulin Grain, because it gives him an opportunity to help people meet their goals with their horses. Although his focus is on equines (especially performance horses) he helps many species with their dietary needs including goats, chickens, cows, alpacas, and others. He is also great at working on feed plans for horses with certain illnesses such as Cushings, laminitis, and other issues.

