



# Lead Lines

News from The Park . . .

September, 2014 - Vol 4, Issue 1

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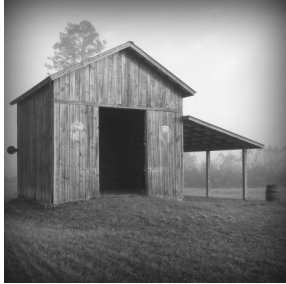
*Offer Expires: October 30th, 2014*

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### Dear CHP Supporter

The CHP newsletter: Lead Lines is back!

And with it, comes a timely and consistent update filled with all the happenings at the Park, plus insightful commentary you won't want to miss.



CHP: Field of Dreams

Read below to hear from CHP Executive Director, Maureen Grippa, get course design insights from Five Points Organizer, Marc Donovan and Course Builder, Tyson Rementer, and plan your free back massage at Five Points HT. Ever heard of Amazon Smile? Read how, by simply buying your normal Amazon purchases, you can end up supporting the Park.

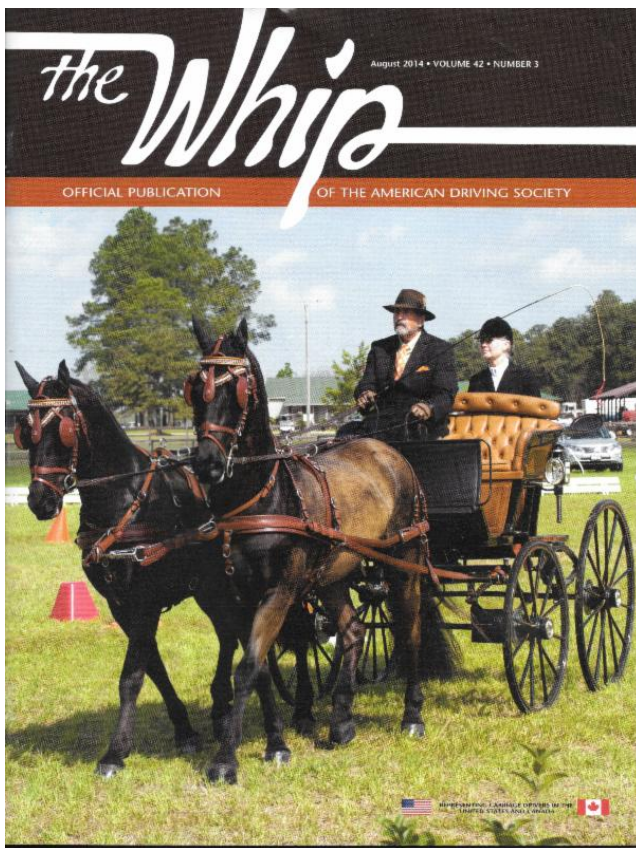
So hang up your bridle for just a second, kick your boots back and catch up on all this and more. Oh, and afterwards, if you have any suggestions, shoot us an email at [info@carolinahorsepark.com](mailto:info@carolinahorsepark.com) or simply reply to this email. This is your newsletter, so let us know what you think!

Share info and stay updated: Connect with CHP on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Tumblr](#).



### New Executive Director, Maureen Grippa, Takes Control of the Reins . . .

My first six months - And what a ride it's been, not to mention the opportunity of a lifetime! ...To enjoy a challenging role



Maureen and Paul Grippa on the front cover of "The Whip" Magazine during the Southern Pines CDE at the Park. Read the articles featuring Grippa and the CDE at [www.carolinahorsepark.com](http://www.carolinahorsepark.com)

Coordinator; Margaret Crevar, Dressage Coordinator; Cheryl Davis, Arena Jumping Assistant and let's not forget, Leni Harubin who lends her incredible wealth of talents where ever they are needed...just an amazing group of people who make it all happen!

What a phenomenal spring season, Carolina International CIC, Stoneybrook Steeplechase and Southern Pines CDE and followed by the Cabin Branch Eventing Series - it's been "baptism by fire" but an incredible education for me! Back in the Office, thanks to Dan & Angie for a great paint job and we have been working on improving the back office operations - incorporating best practices in our processes and procedures as well as developing new efficiencies and improved use of technology. Let's not forget all the mentoring from Marshall Glass on the Grounds & Land Management - mowing, seeding, fertilizing, composting and the proper management and timing of all to keep the Park in top show quality.

So the first six months have been like a horse and rider having an amazing Cross Country ride - fast pace, controlled teamwork, and purely exhilarating!!! And now we are all excited and preparing for the "Five Points Horse Trials" - where we're looking forward to seeing you all and enjoying a great weekend together!

Best,  
Maureen

### Marc Donovan and Tyson Rementer Gives Us The Scoop

**Marc Donovan, Organizer and Show Jumping Course Designer for the Five Points Horse Trials along with Course Builder, Tyson Rementer, recently put down their clipboards to sit with us for a little Q&A:**

combining both my passion for horses and work experience - comes around maybe once in a career...

As Combined Driving Events competitors, my husband Paul & I always enjoyed coming to the Park each year to compete in the Southern Pines CDE. So it was a privilege to be selected by the Board of Directors to serve as the Executive Director...the Board of Directors are a tremendous source of support, each member contributing unique and varied talents!

My first priority was to complete the CHP team: Dan Nesser was already in place as the Facilities Manager and was assisted by his daughter Angie Nesser - between the two of them, they can do it all! Next, Abby Schlicht was helping out and mentioned her interest in returning to the Park - with all her prior experience, she became our Events/Logistics Manager. Liz McNeill joined our team to assist during Stoneybrook - she has such a great attitude and enjoyed the challenge, so she is now our Bookkeeping & Events Assistant.

Then, add the CHP Eventing Team headed by Marc Donovan, CHP Eventing Organizer, including Dana Diemer, Cross Country Coordinator; Pat Gibson, Volunteer



**CHP:** What did you have in mind as you prepped and created for the upcoming Five Points HT?

**Marc:** It's always about designing courses that are challenging yet fair. They should reward good horses and good riders without punishing the less capable. You never like to see a horse leave the arena feeling defeated. The best courses always let the cream rise to the top.

**Tyson:** Working at the Carolina Horse Park is always such a pleasure. Creating fences that are not only attractive to spectators and challenging to riders, but also safe and inviting for the horses are amongst our goals for the upcoming Five Points Horse Trials.

**CHP:** What poses the most challenge to you as a designer/creator that you work to overcome?

**Marc:** The challenging part is creating something that is interesting but different and at the same time meets the

standard.

**Tyson:** The Carolina Horse Park offers several fun challenges from the standpoint of the builder: it is a relatively level property and creating changes in terrain through the use of banks and mounds helps to compensate for the lack of naturally hilly terrain.

**CHP:** What is different or particularly interesting about the courses and lines for Five Points?

**Marc:** Five Points HT hosts every level recognized by the national federation and the USEA. So, there will be a lot of variety in the jumps and lines over the weekend. We also run Young Event Horse classes for four and five year olds. These divisions are important because they showcase the breeding programs and young stock that will become the next upper level athletes.

**Tyson:** One of our new and particularly interesting features this year at Five Points is the Stonehenge complex, which was unveiled at the inaugural Carolina International this spring. We constructed it in such a way that the variety of routes through the complex are immense and I look forward to seeing how course designer Hugh Lochore, intends to use it for the fall event.

**CHP:** For both XC and Show Jumping, which combinations do you think will be exciting to watch?

**Marc:** The water jump is always an exciting combination to watch. The use of portable xc jumps makes it possible to change the configuration of all complexes every time out. Every cross country course is basically brand new.

**Tyson:** The open galloping courses of the Carolina Horse Park are most certainly my favorite feature. Across all levels, having a wonderful open space to really gallop and attack the courses makes the Carolina Horse Park an inviting destination for riders of every level.

**CHP:** What do you love most about what you do?

**Marc:** It's nice to work for Event riders because they are, for the most part, a fun and caring group of people. Organizing and course designing keeps me connected to the sport even though I'm not a competitor. CHP is a state-of-the-art facility that is constantly upgrading and improving. Everyone wants to be associated with innovators and organizations that continue to move forward.

**Tyson:** As a professional Course Builder of over a decade the daily variety of my work keeps the job fun and interesting. Course designers are constantly coming up with new and interesting challenges, everything from elaborate sculptures and carvings, excavation and earthwork, to the latest in safety technology such as frangible pins and MIM fences. It makes each day something new and different.



**CHP:** How would you encourage a rider preparing for Five Points or

any other event?

**Marc:** The best way to be competitive is to compete. you have to get out there and develop your ring skills. Schooling shows and schooling events are the way to go. Nothing compares to the education you get in the competition ring!

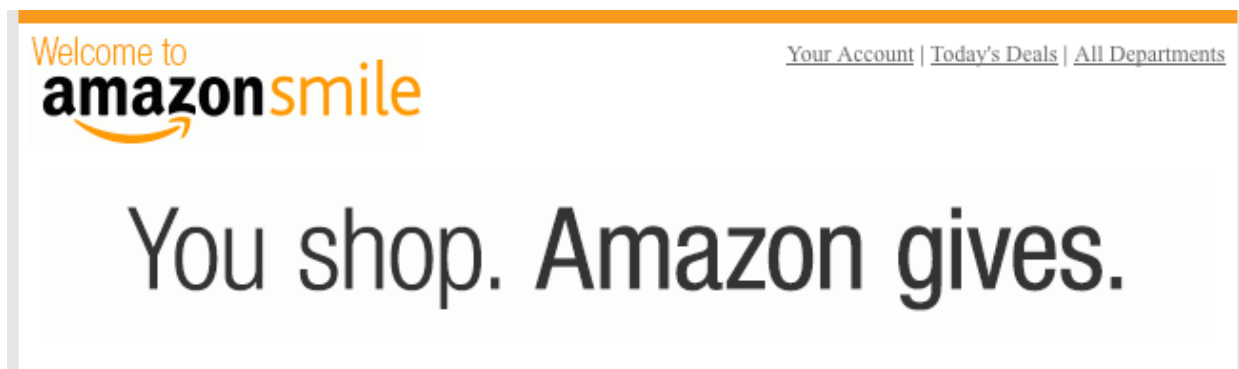
**Tyson:** As always I look forward to the upcoming Five Points Horse Trials, and wish all involved the best of luck!

### Free Massages offered at Five Points Horse Trials!

Massage therapy students from Sandhills Community College will be practicing their skills (for free!) all three days of competition. Come to the yard in front of the show office for a chance to relax, unwind, and de-stress! Times are subject to change, but will be approximately:

Friday from 8:30-12 | Saturday from 12:30-3 | Sunday from 9-3.

Use Amazon Smile and Support CHP!



Carolina Horse Park Foundation has just joined the Amazon Smile program as one of their select charitable organizations. This means YOU can support CHP by simply shopping at [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) where .5% of your eligible purchase prices are donated to the charity of your choice -- CHP!

"AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you." To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) on your computer or mobile device and select Carolina Horse Park Foundation as your charitable organization before you begin shopping. Amazon will remember your selection and then every eligible purchase you make on AmazonSmile will result in an automatic donation to the CHP Foundation. Tens of millions of products on Amazon Smile are eligible for donations and are marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on the product detail page. Once you choose Carolina Horse Park Foundation as your charitable organization, your Amazon.com account will reflect that and act as your AmazonSmile account. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry and other account settings will all be the same.

So what are you waiting for? Go shopping on [AmazonSmile](http://AmazonSmile) right now and support the Park!

### CHP Volunteer Corner

It has been said--and rightfully so--that volunteers make up the backbone of the Park. Simply put, there is literally no way CHP could continue to function as a competition and events' venue without the energy, passion, and countless hours given by our volunteers each and every year. For those who have volunteered at CHP in the past, we salute you. For those who continue to serve, thank you! And for those with a few hours to give, a heart for the Park, and a willingness to learn, we need you!

You don't have to be experienced-- you don't even have to know the sport! On the ground training will be given and there is such a wide variety of duties, something is sure to pique your interest. Volunteers receive a \$25 Volunteer Voucher and a fun learning experience. Please contact our

Volunteer Coordinator, Pat Gibson, if you would like to volunteer or need more information: [pgibson@embarqmail.com](mailto:pgibson@embarqmail.com) or (910) 695-6206. You can also check out the different opportunities and how to get involved on our website:

<http://www.carolinahorsepark.com/volunteers>

## Sync Your Calendar: What's coming up in September/October

Five Points Horse Trials: **September 5-7**

XC Schooling: **September 8**

Pinecrest High School Patriot Derby Invitational: **September 13**

Carolina Challenge HDT: **September 21**

*A schooling horse driving trial -- Prep for the Pine Tree and Katydid CDE's!  
Get feedback from professionals, practice skills with national championship level obstacles water optional, 4 km Phase E*

Cabin Branch Eventing Series Schooling Day: **October 11**

*A newer series to The Park -- consisting of five horse trials and combined tests sponsored by the **Cabin Branch Tack Shop**, of Southern Pines. Rider and horse combinations, competing in the same division, from each horse trial in the series, will accrue points for season end championship awards. There is also a **TEAM CHALLENGE**, consisting of 3-4 member teams of rider and horse combinations from any horse trial division.*

Pinecrest Southeastern 4A Cross Country Championship Races: **October 14**

Pinecrest High School NCHSAA 2A Mid-East and the NCHSAA 4A East Cross Country Regional Meets: **October 25**



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