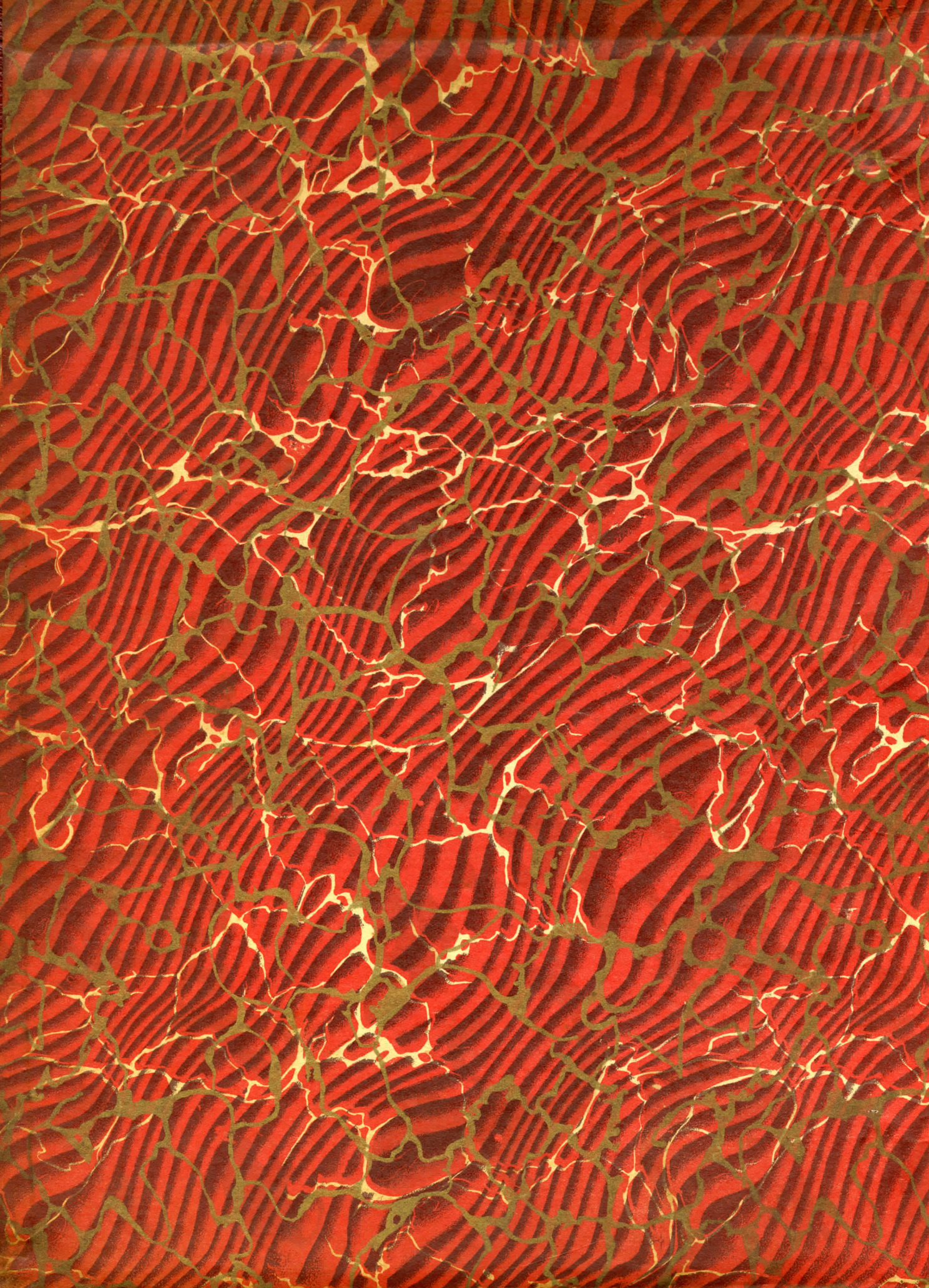




LUDWIG'S CORNER
HORSE SHOW ASSOCIATION, INC.



LUDWIG'S CORNER HORSE SHOW

In 1944 a group of people living around Ludwig's Corner banded together to give a horse show at Ludwig's Corner. The group consisted of Mrs. E. C. Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Dare, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Baxter, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hamilton, Mr. A. L. Coffman, Mr. Richard Coffman, Mr. Guy Richards, Mrs. Henry Biddle, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Bruner, Mr. Scott Rice, Mr. A. Chapin Rogers and Mr. Joseph Myers. They were all very fond of horses and enjoyed fox hunting in the territory of the Eagle and Kimberton Hunts. Around the opening of the fox hunting season on Labor Day, it seemed to them, would be a good opportunity to get together to put their hunters through their paces. It would also be a means of bringing the whole community together for a day of fun and visiting. The proceeds of the days entertainment would go to the local Boy and Girl Scout Troops to help maintain their activities.

Accordingly, the whole committee banded together to erect a ring, jumps and Judges stand on the farm of Edwin Bruner. Everyone gave of their time, their lumber or their financial means to put the grounds in shape. Friends were solicited who made substantial contributions. The day was a great success; many entries came, the crowd was enthusiastic and when all the bills were paid, it was found that \$668.00 was on hand to be given to the Scouts who had assisted in every way they were able.

With that kind of interest, the committee decided to become an organization which would annually give a show. Accordingly, they began making improvements for a permanent show grounds.

1945 found the Ludwig's Corner Horse Show giving its second show. Again it benefitted the local Girl and Boy Scouts who received \$270.41.

At this time, the Girl and Boy Scouts said that it was one of the tenets of Scouting to earn their own money. Accordingly, it was decided that for the next year, the refreshment stands would be run by them with their parent's assistance -- the Scouts to do all the work which they were physically able to do. For this work, the Horse Show guaranteed they would receive \$300.00.

The beneficiaries named for the 1946 Labor Day Show were The Crippled Children's Clinic of Phoenixville Hospital and The Chester Valley Community Nurse Association. This third annual Ludwig's Corner Horse Show realized \$1445.00 for The Crippled Children's Clinic, \$575.00 for the Community Nurse Association and \$300.00 for the Girl and Boy Scouts.

These organizations were again beneficiaries of the show in 1947. This fourth show realized \$1383.64 for the Clinic; \$850.57 for the Nursing Association; and \$300.00 for the Scouts who helped in the refreshment stands and assisted with the sale of catalogs. In addition the Charlestown-

Pikeland Auxiliary of the Phoenixville Hospital cleared \$65.75 at their coffee and cake stand.

The 1947 show was given, as had all the previous shows, on the same field of the Edwin Bruner farm. Rental of \$100.00 had been paid each year in advance for the privilege of using this property for the one day show. A board fence had been erected by the Horse Show Committee to improve the appearance and by 1947, the grounds made a handsome sight.

In 1947, the spectators, who had to stand four and five deep by the ring fence to watch the show, began to clamor for grand stands. Before considering the erection of grand stands by the Horse Show Committee, it was felt that a longer term contract than one or three years, which had been the custom to that date, should be made. Accordingly, a new contract for a 10 year term was made, approved and signed by both parties. It included \$100.00 yearly rental in advance plus an agreement to erect and maintain a board fence to the Corners for the period of the contract.

Shortly after this the owners of the land decided that they no longer wished to rent the field to the Ludwig's Corner Horse Show and stipulated that a ninety day period would be given the Horse Show Association to remove all their property.

That left the well organized Horse Show Association with a good reputation for a well run show and with proper equipment but no place to hold the show. The hazard of an expensive moving of the equipment each year was forcibly apparent. Several members of the Association offered their own land for use by the Show but the sites were either difficult of access or too far from the Corners. Members of the Committee spent the winter looking at every piece of property within a few miles of the Corners and obtaining prices on putting the grounds into shape for a Horse Show.

Finally, with time running out, an ideally situated piece of land consisting of 18½ Acres within ¼ mile of Ludwig's Corner and bounded by Routes 401 and 100 was offered to the Association. It was promptly purchased. The grounds, as planned by the Committee, are ideal for both the spectator and the exhibitor. The ring, 275 feet by 150 feet, lies in a natural amphitheatre which can be seen from every point in the grounds. The outside course is laid behind the ring on a small rise across a creek. It too can be seen by all the spectators. Care was exercised that the spectators would at no time be endangered by horses. Adequate parking space was laid out for automobiles and horse vans.

Money to purchase this tract of land and to make the necessary improvements was obtained by the Association from its own members who loaned the money with the promise of being repaid over a five year period. These members had no guarantee of repayment. They did have the belief that a Horse Show which annually would benefit the charitable organizations of the community would be successful. Projects sponsored solely by the Association, as for instance selling chances on a car, have been initiated to help assure this success.

In taking the step to move to its own permanent grounds, the Ludwig's Corner Horse Show Association drew up its papers of incorporation as a charitable organization and registered with the Bureau of Fictitious Names in Harrisburg -- so that henceforth it would be known as The Ludwig's Corner Horse Show Association, Inc.

The Ludwig's Corner Horse Show Association, Inc., is a non-profit organization operating for the sole benefit of the charitable organizations serving the community. The land's strategic location on two routes and at a feeding point to the new super highway gives it increasing economic value.

Other thoughts too were in the members minds in making the purchase -- part of the land which is situated by St. Andrew's School would and could be used by the 7th and 8th grade students for an athletic field. This has been done. As soon as a good cover crop is on the property, other community uses will be made of the grounds.

It took endless hours of time by members of the committee headed by John Williamson, Stanley Dare and Charles Hamilton to dig the post holes for the ring, erect the ring and paint it. All the additional work -- moving and placing the buildings, laying the outside course etc., was a volunteer job. It is estimated that \$2000.00 or more of free labor was given into shaping the land for the 1948 show which inaugurated the new grounds.

The Phoenixville Hospital as well as The Chester Valley Community Nurse Association had been accepted as the 1948 beneficiaries. The Community Nurse Association was organized and could give workers; the Phoenixville Hospital was unable to provide workers but helped in every other way. In 1948, as they had in 1946 and 1947, the Medical Staff of the Phoenixville Hospital donated the ribbons which were given on the day of the show. The Horse Show Association committee offered to do the work for The Phoenixville Hospital. Spearheaded by Mrs. Earl Sheeley, Mr. A. L. Coffman and his daughter, Mrs. John Dettre, Jr. and aided by Mr. Calvin A. Unger, Mr. Charles Kulp, Mrs. W. H. Dunwoody Zook, Mrs. Ross Shaw and others, the work for the Hospital was covered.

On Labor Day, 1948, one hundred and fifty horses came as entries in the classes. A crowd of spectators filled the grounds. The final accounting showed that all current expenses could be met and \$1000.00 given to The Phoenixville Hospital, \$1000.00 to the Chester Valley Community Nurse Association and \$300.00 to the local Girl Scouts and West Vincent Parent-Teachers Association who had cooperated to run the refreshment stands. In addition to this, one-fifth of the loans which had been made, were paid off. Again the Charlestown-Pikeland Auxiliary to the Phoenixville Hospital ran their coffee and cake stands and netted \$81.00.

In 1949 The Phoenixville Hospital and The Chester Valley Community Nurse Association are the two beneficiaries. Workers from both groups are cooperating to give the best horse show to date.

Of interest are the officers who have served since the beginning of the show. Mr. Joseph Myers was the 1944 president and served as vice-president in 1946 and 1947. Dr. Paul N. Jepson followed Mr. Myers as President and has served continuously in this capacity since 1945. Mrs. E. C. Shaw, who has been a perennial patron, has served as secretary or vice president since the beginning. Mr. A. L. Coffman, who has been of inestimable help to the Association, has served either as Treasurer or Vice-President since 1945. Mr. Stanley Dare as Manager and Mr. Charles Hamilton as his assistant have admirably served in these capacities since the inception of the Ludwig's Corner Horse Show.

Other members of the organization have served as officers for shorter terms. The 1949 officers are: Dr. Paul N. Jepson, President; Mrs. E. C. Shaw and Mr. A. L. Coffman, Vice-Presidents; Mr. Frank H. Ellis, III, Secretary; Mr. Stanley Dare, Manager; and Mr. Charles Hamilton, Assistant Manager. Mr. Calvin A. Unger is chairman of the Executive Committee consisting of the officers plus Mr. Henry Biddle, Jr., Mr. John B. Black, Mr. John Williamson and Mr. Lewis Weaver.

Sixteen members founded the 1944 show. In 1949, seventy-six active members constitute the committee. They reside in Phoenixville, Kimberton, Chester Springs, Birchrunville, Glen Moore, Nantmeal, Whitford, Downingtown, Elverson, Anselma, Uwchland, West Chester, Bryn Mawr and Philadelphia.

Through the hard and combined work of everyone the Ludwig's Corner Horse Show Association, Inc., now owns its own grounds, buildings and equipment. No bills, excepting the loans made by members, are outstanding. It is with courage and friendliness that we welcome everyone to come to see our grounds and to join in the fun that has made this project grow.

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE LUDWIG'S
CORNER HORSE SHOW ASSOCIATION, INC.**

CONSTITUTION

Article I. (Name) The corporation shall be known as the Ludwig's Corner Horse Show Association, Inc. It shall be run as a non-profit organization and it shall be maintained by dues, gifts, and revenue from its activities.

Article II. (Place) The corporation shall conduct its activities in the vicinity of Ludwig's Corner in West Vincent Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania, on the grounds properly prepared.

Article III. (Purpose) The purpose for which the corporation is formed is to acquire and maintain property by lease or purchase to hold Horse Shows, the maintenance and operation of the same for the social enjoyment of its members and for the promotion of horse back riding. That it is to be a corporation which does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit, incidental or otherwise to its members.

Article IV. (Officers) The officers of the organization shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer, a manager, and an assistant manager. These offices shall be filled by election, by ballot.

Article V. (Committees) The president shall appoint all committees.

Article VI. (Executive Committee) The Executive Committee shall consist of a chairman and five members. The function of this committee shall be for the formation of plans and policies for the approval of the entire corporation.

Article VII. (Amendments) Alterations or amendments to this constitution may be made by a majority vote of its members.

BY-LAWS

I. Membership.

a. To become a member a candidate must have such qualifications that will contribute to the benefit and advancement of the corporation. Memberships are to be issued to individuals. The candidate may be proposed by one member and voted on by all members present at a regular meeting of the association. A two thirds majority of the members present shall be required for his or her election to membership. Election to be made by ballot.

b. Associate membership shall be established for member's families under 18 years of age. Upon reaching the age of 18 they automatically become members with dues and privileges.

c. Maintenance of membership. To maintain his or her membership, a member must pay his dues punctually, not be absent over three (3) meetings in succession without reasonable excuse submitted to the Executive Committee, and assist in any reasonable way with the activities of the corporation, as the officers may request.

d. Dues and penalties. A member shall pay one dollar (\$1.00) dues per year, payable on January 1st of each year. If dues are not paid within three (3) months, the delinquent member shall be dropped. Associate membership dues are 50% of membership dues. Associate members have no voting power.

e. A name may be dropped from membership upon two thirds vote of members present at a regular meeting.

II. Time and Place of Meeting. Meetings of the Corporation shall be held monthly. Due notice of such meetings are to be mailed by the secretary to all members at least three (3) days before date of said meeting. Special meetings may be called at the discretion of the President. All business at such meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Parliamentary Law.

III. Duties of the Officers. The President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer elected are to perform duties customary to these offices according to Parliamentary Law. It shall be the duty of the manager to conduct the horse show in a sportsman like manner. He shall be in charge of the grounds and be responsible for their upkeep. He shall be responsible for the equipment of the grounds being kept in working order. The assistant manager shall assist the manager in his duties.

IV. Adequate liability insurance shall be purchased for the day of the horse show. A fidelity bond shall be secured for the Treasurer.

V. Date of the horse show. The Ludwig's Corner Horse Show shall be held on Labor Day unless otherwise voted by a majority of the membership present at a regular meeting.

VI. A quorum shall consist of twelve (12) members.

VII. Nomination and election of officers. The president is to appoint a nominating committee which shall present nominees at the October meeting. Other nominees may be made from the floor at this meeting. The election of officers shall be held at the November meeting. Nomination and election shall be made by a majority vote of members in good standing. Election shall be made by ballot.

VIII. Amendments or alterations may be made to these By-Laws by a majority vote at any regular meeting.

OCTOBER 8, 1947

A meeting of the Ludwigs Corner Horse Show Association was held October 8 at the home of Mrs. Shaw.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer(s) report was given reporting a balance of \$. Gross receipts of this year's show are \$5435.75. \$1500.00 was retained by the Association. The report of the audit committee was read. After this report is audited by the Orthopedic Clinic and the Visiting Nurse Association the amounts stated will be paid to them. A motion was made, seconded and carried that \$300.00 be paid the Girl Scouts now.

A discussion was held concerning two checks in the amounts of \$20.00 and \$15.00 which were given by the A & P Store and the American Store. These checks were given after the deadline for advertising. A few members of the Clinic felt that these donations belonged to the Clinic since the deadline had been passed, but Mr. Coffman explained that these checks had been promised before and were not meant for an ad but as a donation and should be treated as a regular donation.

A motion was made, seconded and carried that an article be printed in the papers telling how much was taken in and the way this was to be divided as the Show was for charitable persons and should be published.

A discussion was held on when and where to hold the banquet. Three prices were given at different places and it was decided to hold it at the Spring-ford Club on Wednesday October 22. There will be an orchestra gotten by Mrs. Hamilton and a magician gotten by Dr. Jepson.

A motion was made, seconded and carried that the receipts of the car sale be deposited into the regular bank account.

The election of officers for the following year followed. As there was only one office with two candidates, the candidates for the other officers were elected with just one motion. Ballots were passed out for the office of Recorder and Mr. Lewis Weaver was elected. A 'Thank You' was given to the retiring officers.

A letter from Mr. Bruner to the Association was read by Dr. Jepson. The letter stated that under the terms of the lease the rent which was due October 1st had not been paid, therefore, Mr. Bruner was taking this means of breaking the lease. Quite a discussion followed and a committee of five was appointed by the President to investigate a new place to hold the Show. The committee will move everything as soon as possible. This committee is Mr. Coffman, Mr. Dare, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Black and Mr. Myers. This committee will meet at the home of Mr. Coffman October 13th to discuss this further.

A discussion was held on beneficiaries for next year's show. A motion was made, seconded and carried to have the Chester Valley Nursing Association. Due to adverse criticism about the Orthopedic Clinic it was decided not to invite them to participate next year. Phoenixville Hospital and Family Agency was discussed but nothing decided upon.

The next meeting will be held November 12th.

Meeting was adjourned.

November 12th, 1947

A meeting of the Ludwig's Corner Horse Show Association was held Wednesday evening, November 12th at the home of Mrs. Shaw. The meeting was called to order by President Jepson followed by the reading of the minutes and roll call. There were 19 members present.

The Treasurer's report was given and a motion was made and passed that checks be drawn in favor of the Clinic and the Visiting Nurse Association. The Clinic is to receive \$1408.64 and the Visiting Nurse's \$885.50. The Treasurer was also authorized to pay for the banquet and entertainment which was held at the Springford Country Club.

Dr. Jepson announced the new Executive Committee - they are as follows: Andrew Coffman and Joseph Myers, Co-chairman, John Black, Calvin Unger, Charles Hamilton and Stanley Dare.

A letter of resignation from Albert Hague was read. Upon motion, duly seconded, it was unanimously passed to accept this resignation. Scott and Betty Rice gave verbal resignations, and these, too, were unanimously accepted. The Executive Committee considered Jean Baxter's name as a resignee - a vote by ballot showed a unanimous 'yes'. President Jepson requested a letter be written and sent to Jean Baxter reading to the effect that she is no longer a member of the Association.

The moving of the buildings from Mr. Brunner's property was discussed. Dr. Jepson reported that there is a legal release paper in our files covering the Association in case of holes, etc., in the fields. Dr. Jepson then said that he had offered to pay Mr. Brunner for materials and the erection of a fence for his cattle along the road. Mr. Coffman spoke on this matter. He thought that we should not pay for the fence and that it was wrong to offer to pay for it but since Dr. Jepson had given his word on the matter that we as an Association should back our officers at all times. A motion was made and passed that the Association was to pay \$25.00 for the erection of this fence.

The show ground itself was then under consideration. Upon motion duly seconded, the Executive Committee was authorized to look into the situation that we lease a piece of ground with the option to buy.

A vote of thanks was then given to Dorothy Hamilton for a splendid banquet.

Charles Hamilton questioned the number of members in our Association at present. Upon checking the records, we found 25 members leaving vacancies for 5 members. Dr. Jepson said that the floor was open for motions and discussions on new members. It was decided that a discussion should be held on each and every proposed member before voting on them.

Mrs. Hamilton brought up Mrs. Sheeley's name and Mrs. Jepson stated that Mrs. Sheeley was only interested in the Visiting Nurse Association but was willing to help our Show in any way possible. It was requested at this time that a letter be sent to Mrs. Sheeley showing our appreciation for her great job of selling 50 books of car chances.

Mrs. Shaw brought up the Biddles for discussion. Mrs. Shaw stated that they were interested in showing horses from now on. After more discussion, Mrs. Shaw withdrew their names.

At this time a question came up on the By-Laws. Our By-Laws state that a member be present at least three meetings annually. A discussion was held on this and referred to the Executive Committee.

Three proposed members were discussed - Mrs. Lewis Weaver, Mrs. Thomas Dietz, and Mrs. John Gotwals. These names are to be voted on at our next meeting.

It was decided that we would continue holding our meetings throughout the winter months.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday evening, December 10th at the home of Mrs. Shaw.

Meeting was adjourned.

Constance C. Dettre, Secy.

DECEMBER 10th, 1947

A meeting of the Ludwig's Corner Horse Show Association was held Wednesday evening, December 10th at the home of Mrs. Shaw. The meeting was called to order by President Jepson followed by roll call and the reading of the minutes. Mr. Coffman gave the Treasurer's report.

The Executive Committee's report was made by Mr. Coffman. The Committee met at his home on Monday evening, December 8th with Dr. Jepson, Stanley Dare, Charles Hamilton, John Black and Mr. Coffman present. It was recommended by the Committee that full details on costs of several tracts of ground be secured as soon as possible. It was also recommended to formulate some plan to increase the size of our Committee and to endeavor to secure a beneficiary that would cover a larger territory.

Copies of the letters written to Jean Baxter and Mrs. Earl Sheeley were read by the Secretary. A letter of thanks received from the Chester Valley Community Nursing Association was also read. A letter of resignation from Jean and Walter Leese was read - motion was made and duly seconded to accept these resignations. President Jepson requested a letter be written to the Leese's reading to the affect that their resignations had been accepted.

Mr. Coffman reported that the Incorporation papers were completed and filed and a copy was given to the Recorder.

Under the head of new business, suitable sites for the new grounds were discussed with the Ground Committee reporting on the Black and Rutter plots. The Committee was instructed to look into the Fox and Garris properties and report at the next meeting.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the enlargement of the Committee which terminated in referring the matter back to the Executive Committee to recommend some revision of the By-laws to cover such enlargement.

There was another lengthy discussion on beneficiaries resulting in deciding to consider the Phoenixville Hospital. Final action to be post-poned until a later meeting.

The following new members were voted on - Mrs. Thomas Dietz, Mrs. Louis Weaver and Mr. John Gotwals - and were unanimously passed. President Jepson requested a letter be written to each of these persons telling of their election to membership of our Association and of the annual dues.

A motion was made, duly seconded, that we publish an article in all of the local papers to read as follows:

The former Ludwig's Corner Horse Show Association has been incorporated as of November 5th, 1947 and in the future will operate under the name of the Ludwig's Corner Horse Show Association, Incorporated. The purpose for which the corporation is formed is to acquire and maintain property by lease or purchase to hold horse shows, the maintenance and operation of the same for the social enjoyment of its members and for the promotion of horseback riding; that it is to be a corporation which does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit, incidental or otherwise to its members.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday evening, January 10th at the home of Mrs. Shaw.

Meeting was adjourned.

Shortly after the meeting was adjourned, the meeting was reopened and the Biddles were nominated and will be voted on at the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned.

Constance C. Dettre, Secy.

JANUARY 7th, 1948

A meeting of the Ludwig's Corner Horse Show Association was held Wednesday evening, January 7th at the home of Mrs. Shaw. The meeting was called to order by President Jepson followed by roll call and the reading of the minutes. There were 20 members present. There was no change in the Treasurer's report.

President Jepson read a copy of the revised By-laws which will be discussed further by the Executive Committee. A discussion was held on the Membership of our Association which terminated in referring the matter back to the Executive Committee.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Biddle were elected by a ballot vote. President Jepson requested a letter be sent to the Biddles telling of their election to membership and of the annual dues.

There were quite a few persons proposed for membership but will not be brought up for election until a final decision is reached on the Membership of our Association. The following persons were proposed: Mr. Snell, Mr. Hoffman, Mrs. County, Mrs. Shuback, Mr. Kulp and Mrs. Schoenhofen.

Mr. Coffman suggested a Refreshment Committee which was put to a vote and passed. Mr. Dare was appointed Chairman with Dorothy Hamilton and Doris Williamson as helpers.

It was decided that we should advertise the date of our Show as Labor Day. Mrs. Jepson will take care of this for the local papers and will also have it listed in the Horse Show calendar of the Chronicle.

Our next meeting will be held Wednesday evening, February 11th at 8:00 P. M. at the home of Mrs. Shaw.

Meeting was adjourned.

Constance C. Dettre, Secy.