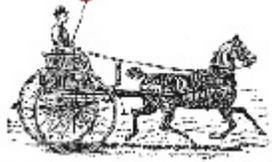




*The Granite State
Carriage Association*



NEWSLETTER

The Granite State Carriage Association

<http://www.GraniteStateCarriage.org>

JANUARY 2015

COURTESY POST FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE HORSE COUNCIL

Fellow Equestrians

As the Pres of NHHC I would like to share with you our new Price list for membership. If you belong to a club that is affiliated with NHHC then you can join at the \$10 price (w/o voting rights-Ref: Bylaws on webpage). You can also join as an individual with voting rights for \$15. As you will see, all other prices have been reduced in an effort to make membership more affordable.

I urge you to join today as NHHC has been at the root of all things related to the horse. This yr to ensure we continue to have access to the trails we have enjoyed throughout the years within our State Park system and on private lands we have held fundraiser rides and meetings with DRED to define our needs.

We are currently in the process of working with DRED (NH State parks) to improve everyone's experience in several state parks.

We ALL need NHHC to continue to exist and work with DRED, as they have clearly expressed their desire to work with only "1" entity and they prefer it be a recognized Organization, the status which NHHC holds as a 501c.

We need your ideas and we need to plan the future of the Horse in NH so that we leave a legacy for the next generation to enjoy their horses on the many trails that exist throughout our state. To ensure horses continue to be part of our agriculture as their contribution to our states GDP is significant.

I urge you to join today and support this effort.

Avis Rosenfeld

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/New-Hampshire-Horse-Council>

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

HOPE FOR HORSES: HELP GIVE 23 ARABIANS A SECOND CHANCE

BENEFITING: LUCY MACKENZIE HUMANE SOCIETY INC

On November 13th, Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society joined Woodstock VT Police, the Green Mountain Horse Association, local veterinarians and other concerned volunteers in rescuing 23 severely malnourished horses from deplorable conditions at a Woodstock farm. The Arabians -- mares, geldings, and stallions -- were found standing in manure and urine with no food or water in four, pitch dark barns. Their plight was the result of years of neglect...and prospects were dim as winter closed in.

The rescue was successful. Today, the horses are safe and cared for in a clean, warm GMHA barn, being fed round the clock, under constant veterinary care, and nurtured by scores of volunteers. However, this care may be required for many months as the legal process grinds forward. Therefore, to continue providing the many thousands of dollars that will be required, Lucy Mackenzie desperately needs your help to nurse the horses back to health and a future of loving homes.

FUND RAISING WEB PAGE:

<https://www.crowdrise.com/hopeforhorses/fundraiser/ginamcallister>

GOAL: \$50,000. Funds raised as of Jan 3 \$6,754.

GSCA has made a contribution to this fund as an organization. Can you contribute too??? Every little bit helps.

TOUCHSTONE FARM OFFERING CAA DRIVING PROFICIENCY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

January 27th from 6 to 8:30 with Pot Luck Dinner: Fireside Chat: Intro to the Driver Proficiency Program with Holly Pulsifer and Boo Martin. Overview of the Program and its Benefits; the CAA Driver Proficiency. Movie; How to Clean Leather Harness, Parts of the harness; Inspection of Harness Wear; Assembling a Breast Collar and Full Collar Harness.

February 7th from 10 to 2...Fireside Chat: Lunch & time in barn with horses, harness, & vehicles with Holly Pulsifer and Susan Koso. Order of Harnessing; procedure for putting to vehicle: types & parts of vehicles; Safety check & vehicle maintenance.

February 28th from 10 to 2...Fireside Chat, lunch, time in barn with horses, harness & vehicles:vehicles. Holly Pulsifer and Susan Koso, with guest presenter TBA. Simulated Road Driving; Rein Handling and Safety; Horsemanship Knowledge and Care of the Driving Horse.

March 19th 6-8:30PM Touchstone Farm Driving Club Dinner. Remarks and material presented by Jerry Trapani, CAA Driving Proficiency Program Educator and Evaluator. Time for Q & A with Jerry, Holly and Susan.

March 20th and 21st. CAA Evaluations begin with Jerry Trapani. See CAA website for cost of Driver Proficiency Evaluations, paid directly to CAA. Touchstone will offer a turnout of horse, harness and carriage for your use if you cannot bring your own. A safety support person will be available for a Touchstone turnout. Stabling is available if needed for your own horse. Overnight lodging at Stepping Stone Lodge is optional. You can also schedule a private lesson with Jerry before your evaluation.

Touchstone Farm • 13 Pony Farm Lane • Temple, NH 03084 • Tel: 603.654.6308
<http://www.touchstone-farm.org>

FROM BONDVILLE TO BONDVILLE IN FOUR DAYS
A Buggy Trip to Nowhere in 1959

A few years before I married my first husband, Don Knox. my cousins Edie & Bob McNair gave up the collecting of old cars as too expensive and transferred their interest to the acquisition of old horse drawn vehicles and related items which could then be gotten for little or nothing. Being myself a horse person enamored of old stuff in general, I had by then begun my own accumulation of horse related artifacts including a couple of old buggies and a sleigh. We all began to spend time looking through barn windows, crawling through barn lofts and basements and watching for yard "decorations" seeking unwanted restorable vehicles. My father and I had also unsuccessfully tried to teach my mare to drive, resulting in a

grand runaway and the total disintegration of the one ancient harness that we had found in the barn. It also frightened the horse too much to ever be driven again.

In the year following our marriage, Edie and Bob suggested that we all go on a buggy trip together in Vermont during the summer of 1959, and we began to make plans. Don and I spent weekends at my parent's farm in Connecticut cleaning up and repainting a buggy and trying to locate a horse to pull it. No horse could be found in that nearly driving horseless time and place and it was finally decided that we would all go together in the McNair's very light seaside surrey pulled by their four year old grade Morgan, Jeckie.

When Don and I arrived at the my Aunt's family summer farm in Bondville, Vermont all was the usual last minute chaos. Edie was tacking down new upholstery on the buggy seats and Bob was fussing about trying to attach a platform he had made to hang on the back of the buggy to hold a large covered basket for supplies. Everything else: sleeping bags, backpacking tents, clothing and cooking gear was to go under the seats and around our feet. A bucket was hung under the buggy both for watering the horse and to carry his grain. Everything had to be kept to the minimum as with four people it was already a heavy load for one horse to pull up and down the hills of Vermont. We finally got the last minute things fixed, the buggy packed and the horse harnessed, all while surrounded by a crowd of helping siblings and watching young cousins, and managed to get off - almost on time.



Bob had planned the route for the four day trip using geodetic survey maps and took us by as many back roads as possible. It was on one of those old roads that we came upon hay makers using horses to do the work, and were



invited to see the fine sleigh they had in their barn. We drove through historic Newfane and spent the first night camped in the yard of an empty house belonging to friends. Jeckie was staked out on a long rope that night and Edie found him in the morning totally tied up in it like some sort of a huge breathing package. Being a sensible animal he had waited for help rather than struggling against the rope and hurting himself. The only result of this misadventure of his was a desire on his part to get



out of there FAST. Once hitched and with Edie in the buggy he took off like a rocket and she had to circle him back twice to get us all aboard. Don and I leapt in so fast from opposite sides that we cracked our heads together in the center and nearly died laughing as Jackie shot down the road.

I can no longer remember our exact route, but I do know that we visited a small carriage collection belonging to McNair friends where Bob drooled over an ancient shay, and on another day drove through the Dummerston bridge over the West River and on to someone's



cousin Grace's summer farm where we crawled through her huge barn tightly packed with a treasure trove of antique horse drawn vehicles of all kinds. Among them was a huge yellow road coach like sleigh with brakes that were claws designed to dig into the road ice. On our way back through the bridge we totally astonished the ice cream stand, which then stood at the Rt 30 end, by driving up and ordering cones. We were a sensation everywhere we went. Children followed us down the road and sat on curbs staring when we stopped to buy food. When we unhitched Jeckie and went swimming in a favorite local place under a covered bridge people were amazed. In those days no one had ever seen people driving a horse for pleasure. We were an event!



After four days of leisurely driving along country roads enjoying the contrast between our historic transport and the jets leaving trails in the sky above, we returned to the farm, walking up the last hills, as we had many hills before, to spare the tired horse. It was only after we returned that we discovered that it was quite a major trip for a horse who was only a four year old. We were lucky that Jeckie was such a durable fellow and was able go on to give the family the many more years of driving pleasure that followed.



Ginger Laplante

FOR SALE

Ever After Mustang Rescue" has a beautiful deep red chestnut gelding named Lucky ready for his forever home. He is 6 yrs and a perfect gentleman, who is an eager student with a huge try. Can you help us find him a home? Please contact Mona Jerome at 207-284-7721. Or check him out at

www.mustangrescue.org



UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

- JAN 10 & GMHA SLEIGHING COMBINED TEST. Green Mountain Horse Assn. Includes dressage & JAN. 24 cones competition. Contact: Ellen Tully etully@gmhainc.org
- JAN. 11 & GMHA SLEIGH RALLY Contact: Ellen Tully etully@gmhainc.org
- JAN. 25
- JAN. 18 COLONIAL CARRIAGE & DRIVING SOCIETY SLEIGH RALLY. Contact: colonial carriage.org .or Harvey Waller at 413-441-4682 or hwaller562@aol.com.
- JAN. 27 CSA DRIVING PROFICIENCY EDUCATIONALPROGRAM. Touchstone Farm, Temple, NH 603.654.6308 <http://www.touchstone-farm.org>
- JAN.30- FEB. 1 NEW ENGLAND REGION CARRIAGE ASSN. OF AMERICA CONFERENCE. Basking Ridge/ Gladstone, NJ. Speaker, tours of stables, carriage collections, gothic mansion banquet. Contact: Carol Van Schaik (802) 226-7364 or carolvanschaik@hitmail.com
- FEB. 8 TRAIL RIDER OF TODAY 12TH ANNUAL BEEF STEW & BISCUIT SLEIGH RALLY. Beem Farm, Palmyra, ME. Contact: Paula Levitt dleavitt@uninets.net (207)234-4537
- FEB.21 OLD STURBRIDGE VILLAGE ANTIQUE SLEIGH RALLY. Sturbridge, MA. Contact: 1 800 733-1830
- MAR. 1 GSCA ANNUAL MEETING, DINNER & AUCTION. Location to be announced.**
- MAR.22 FROSTBITE ADT. Touchstone Farm, Temple, NH. Contact:603.654.6308 <http://www.touchstone-farm.org>
- MAR. 22 INTRO. TO CAA CARRIAGE DRIVING PROFICIENCY PROGRAM. Carriage Barn, Kensington,NH Contact: www.carriage-barn.org 603-378-0140 carriage-barn@comcast.net

**THE GRANITE STATE CARRIAGE ASSOCIATION, INC.
 A PLEASURE DRIVING CLUB
 DRIVE WITH US JUST FOR THE FUN OF IT (Riders Welcome)
 PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!**

Name (include all family members): _____

Address: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Facebook username or e-mail _____ New Membership ____ Renewal _____

Add \$1.00 for Maine Driving Club Associate Membership? _____ TOTAL SENT _____

Any Changes from last listing? Yes No What? _____

Annual Membership Single or Family \$20.00.

Please make checks payable to: GSCA. For more info. call: Treasurer Eric Wilking (603) 731-0513
 Mail to: Eric Wilking, 162 Pickpocket Rd. Brentwood, NH 03833



Flying horse shoes!

THE GRANITE STATE CARRIAGE ASSOCIATION

Virginia G. Laplante, Editor

137 Old Tilton Road

Canterbury, New Hampshire 03224



*The Granite State
Carriage Association*

