



Granite State Carriage Association

2014

Event Calendar

2014 Dates	Recreational Horse Outing	Location
February 23	Annual Meeting	Manchester, NH
May 18 **CANCELED**	Spring Drive- Touchstone Farm **CANCELED**	Temple, NH
June 7	Ellet and Shirley Seavey Memorial	Auburn, NH
June 20-22	Myles Standish State Forest Drive/Ride *NEW EVENT	Carver, MA
July 13	Mystery Drive and Ride	Canterbury, NH
July 18-20	Look to the Mountain	Chocorura, NH
August 8-10	Northeast Kingdom	Danville, VT
Aug 30,31 & Sep 4	Labor Day Outing and BBQ	Greenfield, NH
September 14	Branch Hill	Milton Mills, NH
September 21	Andover NH Rail Trail Outing at Potter Place *NEW EVENT	Andover, NH
Sept 28-Oct 1	Shelburne Weekday Drive (carriages only)	Shelburne, VT
Oct 10-12	Fall Foliage Drive and Ride	Hancock, NH
November 1	Planning Meeting	Bedford, NH

Annual Meeting GSCA



Outgoing President Linda S. gets award at 2007 Annual Meeting

Early every year the GSCA holds our Annual Club dinner meeting and Auction at a restaurant, most recently at the Puritan Back Room in Manchester, NH. On the agenda are a brief business meeting, a speaker or presentation, and then items donated by club members are auctioned off to those present. This Annual Auction is the GSCA's only FUNd-Raiser of the year, and is a lively event. The buffet dinner at the Puritan Back Room is terrific, and the club usually helps cover costs of the members' meals. So come one-- come all to our sociable Annual Meeting!

Spring Drive, Touchstone Farm *CANCELED*

Outing Host - Boo M

A recreational Pleasure Drive with the Granite State Carriage Association. Sunday will feature a clearly marked, "Go at Your Own Pace" Pleasure Drive (5 to 8 miles) through the dirt roads & fields which surround Touchstone Farm. A fun and delicious BBQ will follow the Pleasure Drive. Then, friendly competition, lots of cheering and silly prizes will follow as both GSCA members and non-members alike try their hand at some easy cones courses. A "Fun Play Day" for drivers of all ages and levels of experience. GSCA members may drive for free but are invited to make a tax deductible donation to Touchstone Farm to support its therapeutic driving & veterans' programs. \$25 a night for on-site stabling. BBQ is \$25 per person. Free trailering in and camping if in self contained unit for GSCA members on Saturday night.

Ellet and Shirley Seavey Memorial Outing, Auburn NH,



*Tower Pond area at Auburn, NH outing
summer or fall (since 2008)*

Outing Hosts - Linda and Eric W.

Eric and Linda W. have been hosting the Annual Ellet and Shirley Seavey Memorial Carriage Drive since 2008 on the Manchester Water Works (MWW) property off of Depot Road and Tower Hill Pond in Auburn, NH. The area provides 6 to 10 miles of trails to enjoy via carriage or horseback, including criss-crossing, tree-lined lanes and dirt/gravel roads, some circling ponds both large and small.

We enjoy sharing these beautiful trails with everyone-- the first two years we had over 30 participants. There are both walkers and bicycles using the trails. The most important thing for horse people to remember is that these trails are open at all times for us to use, the only thing that MWW asks is to pick up your horse's manure.

Myles Standish State Forest Drive/Ride *NEW EVENT

Outing Hosts - Cresca A & John H

Information Coming Soon...

Mystery Ride and Drive, Canterbury NH, spring



Mustang rider on the Mystery Drive Outing
Outing Hosts - Ginger L. and Claudia L.

Come and drive/ride Canterbury's scenic country dirt roads during May's lovely spring weather. There will be two three-mile loops which can be driven together as a figure eight if you wish, and an eight mile loop with a "twist". What's a "twist"? That's the mystery! Routes are a mixture of pavement and dirt.

Look to the Mountain Outing, Chocorua NH



Chocorua-- loved by riders and drivers
July (since 2000)

Outing Hosts - Sonja and Bob C.

Members can ride and drive miles of scenic Chocorua and Tamworth gravel roads. Follow the shady brook trail and enjoy great riding through Hemenway State Forest. Ride or drive to beautiful Chocorua Lake and up to the spectacular vista at Mountain View Farm. There are several hills on this ride, but an unconditioned horse going slowly will manage. Camping is at Coruway Farm at the foot of Mt. Chocorua where LeGrand Cannon penned *Look to the Mountain*. It is a popular summer outing where folks come for a day or camp for several days. It's a vacation destination for you and your horse!

Northeast Kingdom Ride-Drive Outing,



Landscaped campsite with two ponds!

Danville VT, August (since 2004)

Outing Hosts - Deb and Jim H.

The Northeast Kingdom Ride-Drive, held over a long weekend in August, invites members to stay and explore quiet country roads in Danville and neighboring communities of Peacham and Barnet. Camping is by a pond at the Frye Refuge, beautifully reclaimed land once operated as a gravel quarry by our host, Bert Frye. The campground includes a portable toilet, water for horses and space to set up portable corrals (no electric hookups). There is a second pond on the grounds for swimming.

A marked loop of about 7 miles from the campground (all gravel) can be driven in either direction and follows a lovely brook for part of the trip. Other gravel roads suitable for riding or driving are highlighted on a map provided to all participants. Many miles of routes and loops can be driven without using any paved roads. A riding trail from the refuge is marked and the hosts can generally provide guidance on riding options in addition to the nearby country roads.

This part of Vermont is hilly. The marked loop from the Frye Refuge is a combination of relatively flat and rolling terrain. Many of the other wonderful driving roads climb and dip a fair bit, so horses should be conditioned for the terrain.

Labor Day Outing, Greenfield NH



Cones practice course at BBQ outing

since 2010

Outing Hosts - Sonja and Bob C. and John and Susan B.

The Granite State Carriage Association holds a Labor Day Weekend ride and drive in the beautiful Monadnock Region of New Hampshire. The Kokal Farm offers a covered lodge for gathering and eating, a pond for swimming and many miles of marked trails and dirt roads suitable for driving and riding. There is plenty of room to park and stay the weekend and enjoy the pleasant company of fellow members and guests. If you prefer to stable your horse, there are a few box stalls available at the barn. There is an arena and cones can be set up for those who wish to practice. A catered BBQ was held this year (2012) which brought many members past & present.

Branch Hill Farm Outing, Milton Mills NH, Sept.

Outing Host - Pat P.

Branch Hill Farm property has always been open to the public for multiple uses. A network of 45 miles of woodland access roads provides fire protection as well as multiple recreational opportunities to the public. There are approximately 10 miles of river frontage on the Salmon Falls River, the Branch River, and the Jones Brook. The land also serves as a living laboratory for educating all age groups about good forest and field management. It was Carl's wish that his protected land would provide "an oasis of forests, fields, wildlife, recreation, clean water and air for generations to come."

Andover NH Rail Trail Outing at Potter Place

*NEW EVENT

Outing Hosts - Connie M.

Trot out for miles on perfect footing! Amble along quiet byways near ponds. Something for everyone, come join us for carriage fun, or ride your horse! Your first opportunity for carriage driving on Rail Trail with state approval, per recent arrangement with Dept. of Resources and Economic Development/NH Parks and Recreation. Enjoy newly-constructed section of Northern Rail Trail!

Anyone can join GSCA for only \$20 (family) membership; must be member to participate and to be covered by club insurance. (Find membership link/online payment at top right.)

Rail Trail will be out and back. Distance options-- up to 12 miles (out + back) criss-crossing Blackwater River and along Horseshoe pond; OR 15 miles or more with Andover neighborhood loop. Long loop route includes quiet, dirt and tar roads alongside Highland Lake, also some hills with views. Long loop has two highway crossings, at 30-35mph sections with very long sight-lines and highway warning signs for Recreational Trail Crossing.

Rail trail is level with well-maintained stone dust footing. Must cross several wooden-floored bridges 8-10 ft. wide with solid enclosed sides. Option to cross a covered bridge. Rail Trail width is well suited for carriage, with long sightlines and some wider areas/pullouts to pass another carriage. Other users of Trail are joggers, bicyclists, walkers with dogs and horseback riders.

Shelburne Farms VT Drive, late September (since 1999)



Tandem alongside Lake Champlain
Drive Hosts - Connie M.

Shelburne Farms in Shelburne, Vermont is a 1500-acre estate originally owned and built by the Vanderbilt-Webb family in the 1920's. The grounds were designed by Frederick Law Olmstead (who also "did" Central Park) and contain large barns and outbuildings in the "chateau" style, a working dairy farm, and lots of livestock. The farm has been a public trust for many years and is open to the public year round. The famous Shelburne Inn, the former family residence, sits on a hill with a sweeping view of Lake Champlain and New York's Adirondack Mountains beyond. If this sounds like the perfect place to drive a carriage, it is.

For about 12 years GSCA has had the privilege of using the Coach Barn near the Inn and from there, having access to the network of roads that crisscross the farm. Unfortunately, riders are not permitted by the management, so this is a drive-only outing. We are the only people to use the Coach Barn for horses regularly. Our time slot is now the third week in September (exact dates tba), having been

moved from late summer.



*Tea time excursion at Shelburne Inn, 2010*The way the drive works is defined by Shelburne Farms schedules and policies, and it goes something like this: People arrive on Sunday and depart on Wednesday by noon. (You do not have to stay for the entire time.) During that time we can drive out at will. The stabling limits the

number of attendees because we are not allowed to truck in for the

day. Registration for the drive opens sometime in March (tba) and information and updates are sent out once in early summer and then about 10 days before the drive. The barn accommodates nine horses, with the possibility of two more stalls if needed. Stabling recently has a per-night fee (charged by Shelburne); drivers bring feed, bedding, etc. and leave the stable as immaculate as found when they depart. There is a wait list. There is no camping on Farm grounds but there is a campground very close by, and of course motels and B&Bs.

Fall Foliage Outing, Hancock NH, Oct.



*Horse camping in splendor in Hancock
Outing Hosts - Cresca A. and Karen D.*

The autumn leaves are always beautiful around Hancock NH. What better outing to end the season than camping in a lovely field flanked by colorful trees and picturesque ponds, and driving your carriage or riding on the quiet dirt roads around you! Hancock is a weekend outing enjoyed by many for its rural setting.

Planning Meeting

Our Schedule of Outings is initiated at our yearly Planning Meeting in November. Outing hosts attend, and any questions or issues are discussed between experienced hosts and the Club officers. Everyone is also welcome at the Planning Meeting, which most recently has been held at the Weathervane Restaurant in Bedford, NH, including dinner from the menu with the Club helping to cover the members' costs. All members and guests are welcome!

GRANITE STATE CARRIAGE ASSOCIATION

2014 Calendar of Events

- February 23 **Annual Meeting** Puritan Back Room, 245 Hooksett Rd, Manchester, NH Contact: Connie Moses: 603-490-9694 cmoses@metrocast.net
- May 18 **Spring Drive** at Touchstone Farm, Temple, NH
Contact: Boo McDaniel 603-321-5255
bmartin@touchstone-farm.org
- June 7 **Ellet & Shirley Seavey Memorial
Drive/Ride**, Auburn, NH Contact: Linda and Eric Wilking 603-731-0513. wilking@comcast.net
- June 20-22 **Myles Standish State Forest Drive/Ride**,
Carver, MA Contact: Cresca Albright 603-525-3314 or John Huether: 508-945-3259 Johnhuether@gmail.com
more details to follow
- July 13 **Mystery Drive/Ride** Canterbury, NH
Contact: Ginger Laplante 603-783-4702
canterbrk@aol.com
- July 18-20 **Look to the Mountain Ride/Drive**, Chocoura, NH.
Camping & Swimming Contact: Sonja & Bob Cahill
978-851-5124 rjcmoosecaboose@yahoo.com
- August 8-10 **Northeast Kingdom Drive/Ride**, Danville, VT
Camping & Swimming Contact: Deb Hunt 802-684-2583 or
waterhook@myfairpoint.net

Aug 30, 31 & Sept 1

Labor Day Weekend Drive/Ride & BBQ

Greenfield, NH Contact: Sonja and Bob Cahill 978-851-5124
rjcmoosecaboose@yahoo.com

September 14th

Branch Hill Drive/Ride Milton Mills, NH

Contact: John & Sue Booth 603-664-2787
mustangsofnh@yahoo.com

TBD Sept.28-Oct.2
tentative

Shelburne Mid Week Drive (carriages only) Shelburne,

VT Reservation required: Contact Lucia & Jim Owen
207-928-2062 jbolbo@fairpoint.net

October 10-12

Fall Foliage Drive/Ride Hancock, NH

Camping. Contact: Cresca Albright 603-525-3314

November 1

Planning Meeting Weathervane Restaurant, Bedford,

NH Contact: Connie Moses 603-490-9694
cmoses@metrocast.net

