



NEWSLETTER

The Granite State Carriage Association

<http://www.GraniteStateCarriage.org>

MAY 2013

ELLET & SHIRELY SEAVEY MEMORIAL DRIVE/RIDE IN AUBURN JUNE 2ND

This popular drive has been moved to spring this year and will again take place at the Manchester Water works Property with all its' lovely trails. Parking will be in the field on Depot Road near the trailhead. Please arrive early to facilitate parking and bring your completed release forms to save time.

Trail briefing will be at 10AM after which you may drive out at leisure. The flyer with all the information has already been sent out by e-mail. Those receiving this via snail mail will find it attached.

SUE ROGERS DRIVE/RIDE SCHEDULED FOR JULY 5 - 7

This will be a wonderful weekend of driving and riding on lovely Vermont dirt roads. Drive outs daily at you leisure with maps provided. You can arrive on Friday and drive through Sunday or just come for a day. Camping without no hookups is available or there is a house to rent on the farm which sleeps 9. Box stalls re available for \$30 per night and day trailer ins are welcome with reservations. Lessons are available.



Flyers and reservations forms have already been sent out via e-mail. Snail mail recipients will find them attached to this newsletter. For more information contact Sue Rogers at (802) 952-8456.

FOR THOSE GOING TO ACADIA NATIONAL PARK

Linda Stebbins advises us that there will be major construction on Stanley Brook Rd.in Seal Harbor. All trailers must access Wildwood Stables through Bar Harbor, coming through the park and past The Jordan Pond House. Hopefully the people at the stables will already have give everyone a heads up on this.

MYSTERY DRIVE IN CANTERBURY DREW GOOD CROWD

For once the weather gods smiled on the mystery drive and we had a lovely day. Trailers poured in bringing seventeen people seven riders and seven carriages. They checked in and filled out their releases under the welcoming eyes of three very interested dogs, Ginger's Samoyed & Collie and Claudia's Standard Poodle, behind their invisible fence on the knoll above the driveway.



The mystery of the drive was solved when everyone was given a sheet with rhyming lists of things to find on both the long and short routes. People enjoyed spotting everything from names on realtor's signs to a teepee and a small blue bird. As they returned they joined the sociable lunch circle on the grass. Everyone had a good time and many were kind enough to post to that effect on facebook or write us thank you notes. Thank you all for coming and letting us know you enjoyed the day.



Peter & Pat Sanborn & their carriage dogs.

Norman & Patricia Brown with their handsome Shire

Betsy Vaughn & Carrie McGovern



Riders: Renee & William Warmell & Therese Smith?

Ginger Chiappetta

Carrie Finke??

Rick Moses & Peaches with their pair.

Sylvia Misko and her daughter Hillary



The Lunch Bunch overseen by dogs safely behind their invisible fence.
All photos by Claudia Libis

REMINDER TO MEMBERS AND OUTING HOSTS

All GSCA members attending an Outing must be current-year Members with dues paid for that calendar year. This enables our club insurance policy to cover you and your guests. Also, GSCA liability releases must be signed by each party, as well as any land-owner releases if needed. It has been noticed that at one drive last year, some attendees were not current on their dues for that calendar year. We're sure it would be desirable to all to be covered by club insurance, just in case.

Drive/Ride Outing Hosts will need to be sure their Membership List is up-to-date and to double check each attendee's dues standing for the current year; membership dues can be collected at the Outing as necessary, the same as for any non-member who attends with a horse. Have Membership Application forms on hand.

Non-driving or non-riding Guests of a member are covered without paying dues but still must sign the liability release(s). Attendees can download Liability Releases from our club website-- <http://www.GraniteStateCarriage.org> -- on the "Outing/Host Resources" page. HOSTS NOTE: the updated Membership List, as well as Releases and the GSCA and MDC Associate Membership Application Forms, may be downloaded from our website-- <http://www.GraniteStateCarriage.org> -- Also find there downloadable "Fact Sheet" to fill out and accompany your Flyer, also "Drive Hosts Guide" with info and tips. Do check the site within a couple days of your Outing, in case a recently-updated Membership List has been added.

The Slower Road Website

A SAFETY INSPECTION FOR A MODERN CARRIAGE

Posted on the Slower Road Website by Jennifer

As we sloooowly make our way into spring (even though it's already May!), we offer this list of suggestions for inspecting a modern horse-drawn carriage before heading into the driving season. This information was provided by one of the CAA's directors.

1. Wash the carriage completely and thoroughly, but do not use high-pressure water on the hubs.

2. Look for any distortion of the body, or parts being out of square. Do this with a critical eye (pretend you're looking at the carriage to buy it).
3. Inspect all snap shackles, shaft loops, pole straps, etc. for wear.
4. Check for loose bolts or parts that may be bent or worn, especially singletree mounts, etc.
5. Tighten every bolt on the carriage.
6. Look over all welds, etc. for signs of cracks.
7. Lift each wheel off the ground in turn and make sure they all spin freely.
8. Under normal driving conditions, repack the bearings every three years; every two years under heavy use; and every year if the wheels are submerged in water. Repack these with regular grease, NOT wheel-bearing grease, which is a high-temperature grease and is not appropriate for the low temperatures of carriage wheels.
9. At the same time, check the wheels to see if any are bent or wobbly.
10. On four-wheeled vehicles, make sure that the fifth-wheel system is tight and lubricated (open-chain spray is a good lubricant, but WD-40 is not). Dismantle and clean up this area every six or seven years and, if practical, change the king bolt or its equivalent then as well. Do not reuse any lock nuts.
11. Look at the wheels' alignment. They should have a little toe-in and a little positive caster when at rest, which will result in a straight-running wheel when underway.
12. Remove the shaft and singletree pivot bolts and inspect these areas. Replace them if they show any wear. On two-wheeled vehicles, check the shafts for signs of cracking or fatigue.
13. On the brake system, check the master cylinder for fluid and top off if necessary. If the fluid levels were low, apply the brakes as hard as you can and recheck the fluid levels. If, after doing this several times, the fluid level is still low, check the brake system for leaks. Make sure you use the correct brake fluid.
14. Inspect the brake discs for wear and clean them with a disc-brake cleaner. Inspect the brake pads, removing the callipers if necessary.
15. Sand off any rust or corrosion and then touch up these areas with paint. Flaking paint can be a sign of a bent or cracked part. Most commercial (not automotive) paint suppliers can match paint to a sample, such as a singletree.
16. Wax the carriage with a good wax.
17. Oil all moving parts, including the brake linkage, seat slides, singletrees, snaps, etc.
18. Remember to conduct this safety inspection each year, ideally in the winter or early spring, which will give you plenty of time to make any necessary repairs before you'll be wanting to drive the carriage again.



LOOKING FOR A GOOD DRIVING HOME

Standardbred Gelding. Offering Pro Jazz for free to a good home for active pleasure driving. He is a 16H Standardbred, 20 yrs old, perfect health. No accidents or incidents. He has been driven commercially in Portsmouth, NH for the past 10 years. You can see him on my web page: www.carriagetrails.net. I am offering his cart and harness for sale at a reasonable price. He can be seen in Dover. Call Judy at 603-431-2542, or cell: 603-396-5653.



UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

- JUNE 2** **GSCA ELLET & SHIRLEY SEAVEY MEMORIAL DRIVE.** Auburn, NH Contact: Linda & Eric Wilking, (603) 731-0513.
- JUNE 2 STURBRIDGE VILLAGE CARRIAGE RALLY. Sturbridge,MA. Contact: Jim O'Brien. jobrien@osv.org or www/osv.org
- JUNE 7-9 SUE ROGERS CLINIC. Land's end Farm, Reading, VT. Contact: Sue Rogers (802) 952-8458
- JUNE 8 CONN. VALLEY DRIVING CLUB HDT. Haddam CT. Info. www.cvdridingclub.com/
- JUNE 14-16 ORLETON FARM 15TH ANNUAL PLEASUSRE DRIVING SHOW.Stockbridge,MA.Contact: www.colonialcarriage.org
- JUNE 16-23** **GSCA ACADIA NATIONAL PARK DRIVE/RIDE WEEK** Reservations required, check to see if there is still stabling available. Contact: Laurie Goodwin (603)483-8797
- JUNE 22 TROTting TOWARD A CURE TRAIL RIDE **Drivers Welcome** To benefit Multiple Sclerosis Society. Kokal Farm, Greenfield, NH. Contact: Cindy Stedman (413) 237-3310.
- JULY 5-7** **GSCA SUE ROGERS DRIVE/RIDE.** Land's End Farm, Reading, Vt. Reservations required. Contact Sue Rogers. (802) 952-8456.
- JULY 14 WALDINGFIELD HDT. Ipswich,MA. Information: <http://www.americandrivingsociety.org/>

GSCA DUES FOR 2013 ARE NOW DUE

Dues are due by the end of April each year.

Below is a list of paid up members for 2013

If you are not on this list this is your last newsletter. Please renew now as we don't want to lose you!

Allaire, Ann Marie Baxter, Leslie	Harvey, Jean	Pirkey, Cindy & family
Brennan, Corin	Hauri, Angie & Marius	Powers, Jan
Bryan, Laurie	Herrick, Dave & Liz	Roemer, Nancy & Jon
Burnham, Jim & Nancy	Holman, Helen	Roth, Linda
Cahill, Bob & Sonja	Hunt, Deborah	Rourke, Dorothea
Chetkowski, Emily & George	Jarvis, Nancie & Ralph	Sensel, Sandra
Chiappetta, Ginger	Kochakian, Laurie	Shreive, Shannon
Cook, Jenette	Libis, Claudia	Sintros, Amy
Coursey, Doug & Andrea	Marshall, Tom & Lydia	Smith, Therese
Davidson, Bob	Mathisen, Carolyn	Stebbins, Linda
Ebbeling, Kierstyn	McCormick, Lori	Terkelsen, Marie
Egge, William & Joyce	McIntire, Tom & Danielle	Townsend, Carolyn
Fellows, Alison J.	McLeod, Catherine	Turgeon, Joanne
Finke, Carrie & Tim	Merrill, Stephanie	Turner, Tracy & Paul
Flatley, Ellen	Mills, Malcolm & Joy	Vaughn, Betsy & Martin
Forcier, Ken	Miskoe, Sylvia	Vieira, Steven
Fortier, Keith & Dawn	Morrison, Jim & Elaine	Wilking, Eric & Linda
Gammon, Donald & Karen	Moscone, Terry	Wilkinson, Kim
Gerelli, Sally Ann	Oliver, Janet	Williams, Ralph
Glidden, Ray & Norma	Parks, Bess-Arden	Williams, Marilyn
Gosselin, Carolyn	Phippard, Beth	Wormell, William & Renee
Greenan, Becky	Pirkey, Cindy & family	Martin, Isabella
		Moses, Connie & Rick

I hope I haven't missed anyone. If I have, my apologies and please let me know. Ginger

**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



THE GRANITE STATE CARRIAGE ASSOCIATION
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