



# NEWSLETTER

The Granite State Carriage Association  
<http://www.GraniteStateCarriage.org>

**January 2019**

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## **NEW EVENT!!! GSCA SNOW GAMES FEBRUARY 9TH**

Ever wanted to see how fast you and your horse can race around hay bales? If your horse can pull a sleigh, plastic sled, a person on skis, or anything else safely or you just want to ride and you'd like to see how well you can maneuver through round hay bales, come to this event!

There'll also be a loop just to enjoy driving/riding.



This is a fun event IN which you compete only against yourself.

Enjoy getting out to meet your friends and new folks while having a fun filled day! Have a cup of hot cocoa and chili.

NOTE: pre-registration is suggested just in case the event needs to be postponed/cancelled. Contact Denise Reed Gagnon (Host)

This is a free event for 2019 GSCA members (don't forget to pay your 2019 dues on the website via paypal - <https://www.granitestatecarriage.org> or send a check to the GSCA treasurer - Eric Wilking at 162 Pickpocket Rd, Brentwood NH 03833)  
See flyer for additional details.

## **SLEIGH DAY SET FOR FEBRUARY 17TH**



Five miles of groomed trails and 60-acres plus open fields for you to sleigh on! So drag out those sleighs and come give it a try. We always have extra people to help out if you need an extra hand while unloading, hitching, etc. Easy trailer parking.

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We will once again have Bob's famous corn bread to go with the Chili, and Becky makes the best ever chocolate chip cookies! Please feel free to bring a favorite of your own to share. Hot coffee and hot chocolate too! Sounds like a day not to be missed. All the details are in the attached flyer.

## **HELP ASSURE GSCA'S FUTURE!! OFFICER CANDIDATES NEEDED NOW!!**

Granite State Carriage Association wants and needs your help! YOU CAN SERVE YOUR CLUB... hold the reins for a while and help guide GSCA into the future! Ensure we continue our successful programs with your relatively small commitment! The entire association benefits from new ideas and "new blood" coming into positions on the GSCA Board.

Each position has many rewards in self-satisfaction and the opportunity to significantly influence our organization. Any association member can run and can serve. The Nominating Committee each year connects with many members and searches for candidates to run. It's not an easy task to find volunteers, although only 4 regular Board of Director meetings are held each year, of which one is the Annual Dinner Meeting.

### **What is the Board and its terms of office?**

Your association is run by an elected "Board of Directors" of four Officers and three Directors, who each serve 2-year terms, with a maximum of 3 consecutive terms.

### **How many Board meetings are held?**

As spelled out by GSCA's Bylaws, the Board meets four times yearly. One of those meetings is the Annual Dinner Meeting early each year (fun for all, you'll probably be going anyway!), and another is the Planning Meeting late in the year. This leaves only two other "called" meetings to manage association business, plus

sometimes an additional one as needed. A quorum of five is needed to vote on issues during a Board meeting, and Board members are encouraged to not miss three consecutive meetings.

Recently the Board has used tele-conferencing to facilitate meetings and cut down on driving times. This will continue and likely become the norm.

### **WHERE ARE THE NEW CANDIDATES???**

In 2019, at the Annual Meeting scheduled for March 24, candidates are necessary for four positions. Many current board members offer to run again if they are not terming out. However, often there is only one candidate for each office on the ballot.

**MORE CANDIDATES CAN RUN— for any office!!**

Find GSCA Bylaws on our website for each officer's function-- [www.granitestatecarriage.org](http://www.granitestatecarriage.org) under NEWS/RESOURCES> Library

Outgoing officers often mentor and assist the incoming officer during an orientation period. There are also detailed descriptions of each office which serve as a "User's Manual" of sorts.

Sometimes in small, all-volunteer organizations it may be heard that "the same people run the club all the time." That remark may be true in some cases, but when happens in GSCA, it is only because "new" candidates do not come forward to volunteer and run for office.

### **PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING to run for one of these positions:**

Vice-President, for 2-year term \*\* Treasurer, for 2-year term \*\*Two Directors, for 2-year term each

**VICE PRESIDENT**— "The Vice President performs the duties of the President in his/her absence. The Vice President assists drive/ride hosts and coordinates the regular events and programs of the Association."

**TREASURER**— "The Treasurer collects membership dues, is responsible for payables and receivables, maintains all financial accounts of the Association, maintains the membership list, and provides a mailing list to the Secretary, Newsletter Editor and event hosts as necessary. The Treasurer proposes a budget annually for consideration by the full Board or Directors and presents a financial report at the annual meeting of the membership."

**DIRECTOR** — Attends board meetings providing valuable input, participates in voting, and assists with the operations of association activities as necessary.

A Director shall not have "unexcused absences from [more than] three (3) consecutive scheduled Board meetings or three (3) meetings annually."

### **FILING DEADLINE is Jan. 31, 2019**

For further consideration, please contact a member of the nominating committee below:

Sonja Cahill (978) 319-8298 [rjcmoosecaboose@yahoo.com](mailto:rjcmoosecaboose@yahoo.com)

Leslie Baxter (603) 860-6487 [lakevue100@comcast.net](mailto:lakevue100@comcast.net)

For a copy of the Officer's "User Manual" contact: Connie Moses [cmoses@metrocast.net](mailto:cmoses@metrocast.net)

## **GSCA BOARD GOES 2 MEETINGS**

**by Connie Moses**

The Board of Directors of your Club is moving towards "online" meetings via video-conferencing. (Finally, you say??) Whereas in the past, folks have managed to meet around a table— even when it meant driving long distances— in the last couple of years the officers have used Go2Meeting at least once, and on January 8, Google "MEET" was tried out. We might try out "Zoom" as well.

Thanks to a board member's access to such subscription services— or the free MEET service from Google — GSCA business discussions can be more convenient to attend, and be more easily scheduled. At least we all do have computers! Our experience with MEET was not without its problems however. Is it still in development? Some found it tricky to enter the meeting, or to “turn on” their computer's camera and microphone by allowing Google Meet to access them.

The voice transmissions seemed OK in the beginning, but gradually deteriorated by the end until most people could barely understand each other, due to some sort of interference we guess. Transmission was very garbled. The videos of people's faces had a time lag as well, which I recall happening in Go2Meeting also.

If anyone has experience troubleshooting such issues, your input would be greatly appreciated! LOL!

### **NICE TESTIMONIAL FROM ONE OF OUR NEWER MEMBERS**

On 11-04-2018 10:13 PM, Robert N Harvey wrote:

Sonja,

Thank you for the photos! Shelburne was a wonderful trip! Thank-you so much for the last minute harness adjustments on our first day out. You and Bob were a great help, especially when you "ponied" Button behind you and Casper. Marsha Cloutier also helped with my mini harness.

Yes, we really enjoy the GSCA. Rick and Connie got us involved when we met them at Acadia, a few years ago. The GSCA is a great group. We belong to other riding clubs, but found ourselves going on more and more GSCA trips. And, the annual meeting is a hoot!

We are already looking forward to next year. Shelburne was Casper's "last hurrah". Casper (27 y/o) is retiring. We just brought home a 9 year old Newfoundland Pony that stands 11.2. Our 4 y/o granddaughter is riding him. We are also teaching him to drive. So, he will be Neil's new driver. Deb will continue to drive Button.

We really appreciate all the advice that the group has given us. Any sport has risks. And, as you know, driving has it's share. The club has helped make this endeavor safer and more enjoyable.

Thanks again, and see you on the next trip!  
Neil and Deb

### **LOSS OF LONG TIME MEMBER, BARBARA HURLD**

We are sad to report that our long-time GSCA member Barbara Hurld passed away on Nov. 25, 2018. She was 92 and will be fondly remembered as a supportive and active member driving her horses till 80.

Condolences may be sent to Nancy & George MacGown, 56 Mill Lane, Seabrook, NH 03874. A celebration of her life is being planned for the Annual Mtg. March 24.



## FOR SALE

**Piano box, two seat bob-sleigh with shafts.** Is black with gold pin stripping, upholstered back rests and removable cushions in maroon. In good shape over all, the dash will have to be replaced at some point, has a couple small holes, and the runners will need to be repainted, but one can harness up and go sleighing. Asking \$900, and comes with sleigh robes and foot warmer. Also a black bear sleigh robe with Tiger/glass eyes on the reverse side for \$150. Tis the season for sleighing if anyone in the market. Bess Parks [bess.parks@hhhc.org](mailto:bess.parks@hhhc.org)



## UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

- FEB 9** " **GSCA SLEIGHING GAMES DAY. Rhapsody Farm. Warner,NH. Contact: Denise Reed Gagnon. [denisereedgagnon@gmail.com](mailto:denisereedgagnon@gmail.com). 603-470-5747**
- FEB. 16,17 **GMHA SLEIGHING WEEKEND.** Contact: [tracy@gmhainc.org](mailto:tracy@gmhainc.org)
- FEB 17** **GSCA SLEIGH DAY. Lebanon,NH. Pre registration required. Contact:Carylon Townsend [cmtownsend2@gmail.com](mailto:cmtownsend2@gmail.com)(603) 448-3478, cell: (603)359-1505**
- MAR 24** **GSCA ANNUAL MEETING /AUCTION. Red Blazer, Concord,NH. Contact Connie Moses. [cmoses@metrocast.net](mailto:cmoses@metrocast.net)**

### **A RECREATIONAL HORSE CLUB FOR DRIVERS AND RIDERS**

**JOIN US NOW 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 \$25.00 up to 2 adults & children under 18.**

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



**Sleighting in the city**

**THE GRANITE STATE CARRIAGE ASSOCIATION**

**Virginia G. Laplante, Editor**

**137 Old Tilton Road**

**Canterbury, New Hampshire 03224**

**CELEBRATING 40 YEARS**  
**1978-2018**  
*Granite State  
Carriage Association*

