



MYSTERY DRIVE IN CANTERBURY DREW A FEW BRAVE SOULS

On the heels of the April Fool's blizzard, when maybe 6 varieties of brave flowers were in bloom, Ginger and a hopeful Claudia set out to review a couple of Canterbury routes. Ginger had dug into her personal archives and thought it might be time to resurrect Ye Olde Sharp Eye drive from days of yore. With Ginger's wit and Claudia (and Eleni)'s editing, a drive was born!

The first drive of the Carriage Association year dawned a little bleak with a dubious forecast, but the pair plunged ahead. A good thing, too. The day cleared up and was fabulous - sunny and warm, only a few black flies - and 10 showed up to take on the Mystery Drive. First were Connie and Rick Moses with friend Marilyn.



"The Mosesmobile" with Rick, Connie & friend Marilyn aboard



Sonja & Chance

Another carriage followed, then Sonja and Bob Cahill with Chance on his first trail ride of the year. (Sonja walked, then Chance was kind enough to let her get on for a bit). Another pair were mounted, as they



The Pearsons & their trottingbreds

weren't sure enough of the weather to bring their carriage. One look at the Moses-mobile, and they thought maybe they had made a mistake. NEXT time we'll see their carriage! Late in the morning the Pearson's rolled in, not having a great day at all. Birthing goats and traffic had



Mala Tyler & Faith Duclos drove the single

intervened, and we were just glad to see them at all. Once they harnessed up and got going, they were glad they had come. And that pony pair they were driving? The cutest.



Kent & Nancy Gauither

And the best part?? The rain held off until the Pearson's were just about back, the last group out and they only got a few sprinkles. Everyone had a great time solving the riddles on their lists, and a great time driving the picturesque roads of Canterbury. And one group counted I think 35 varieties of bloom, just one week after there had been 6. Spring was in for sure!--Claudia Libis.

SMALL TURNOUT AT BILLINGS ENJOYED A LOVELY DRIVE / RIDE

The day started out with rain threatening for our drive/ride at the national park in Woodstock, Vt. We had one brave driver, Stephanie Merrill, Danville, NH, who brought her very lovely welsh cobb "Hattie". We had a volunteer-Steve who was very helpful and accompanied our driver. Two of us rode our horses along with Stephanie and enjoyed a two hour drive/ride through the Mt. Tom Park.

The roads were dry with a gentle slope and a lovely quiet drive around Pogue Pond. Spring flowers were up and the trees all leafed out. A nice beginning of the season conditioning drive/ride. The rain held off until we got back allowing us to have lunch and let the horses rest before loading back them in the trailer for the ride home. We all had a great day!



Stephanie Meryl & Hattie, photo by. Bill Hebden

MOCK ADT ADVANCE NOTICE, PLEASE RESPOND!

All persons hoping to participate in the Mock ADT/Play Day on Sept. 4 in Greenfield NH (during the Greenfield Drive) please contact Rick Moses-- 603-528-1531 or rickmoses@metrocast.net -- Assistants are also needed to help in the Play Day preparations, please volunteer!

SUMMER HORSEMANSHIP CLINICS AT THE CARRIAGE BARN

South Hampton, NH -- The Carriage Barn is pleased to announce that its 5th Annual Summer Horsemanship Clinics will be held at Black Magic Farm, in South Hampton, NH, weekly from June 27th through August 26th.

These clinics are for beginners and independent riders ages 6 to 10 & 10 to 15. Learn about horse care and handling, nutrition, first aid, and horseback riding.

Black Magic Farm has been located in South Hampton since 1988. We are pleased to have a wonderful country setting in which to hold our Summer clinics.

Horsemanship clinics will run Monday through Friday 9 am to 3 pm. Students must bring their own lunch, beverages, and snacks. Parent supervision is not required. Space is limited and early registration is encouraged. For those that cannot attend a full week, riding lessons are available daily all Summer, as well as The Carriage Barn's annual Kids Carriage Driving Clinics.

Clinic proceeds help support The Carriage Barn's therapeutic riding & driving programs. For more information, please contact The Carriage Barn at carriage-barn@comcast.net or 603-378-0140.

SERIOUS OUTBREAK OF FATAL RHINO EHV-1

There has been an outbreak of a horrid equine disease: Rhino EHV-1 (Equine Herpes virus). This is a mutant strain of the neurological variation of Rhino, **there is no vaccine for it, and it is lethal.**

There are multiple confirmed deaths due to EHV in Arizona, California, Utah, Colorado, Canada, Idaho, and unfortunately, is spreading like you cannot believe. It is believed that a horse with the virus attended the NCHA Western National Championship cutting in Ogden, UT and has caused a massive cross contamination. All the horses that are dead or are being treated were vaccinated for Rhino, it doesn't matter, this strain does not respond to any vaccine. The first death was a Canadian cutting horse that attended the Ogden show, there have been more in Weld County Colorado, there is a barrel racing stable in Colorado that has a confirmed case, which shows that it is rapidly and easily spreading through different disciplines and through many venues - CSU is now full and most Vets are not accepting Rhino horses, and have considered worldwide experts in this matter. This is considered an emerging disease. It is behaving in an extreme manor. A similar outbreak occurred before, and at CSU, despite the fact the school runs one of the nation's top veterinary biosecurity programs, the EHV virus spread to over 20 equine patients on the premises, and spread out of control.

The EHV-1 organism spreads quickly from horse to horse and the neurologic form of the virus can reach high morbidity and mortality rates. The incubation period of EHV-1 is typically 2-10 days, but there has been a case of a horse showing symptoms as many as 12 days after contamination. In horses infected with the neurologic strain of EHV-1, clinical signs may include: nasal discharge, discoordination, hind end weakness, recumbency, lethargy, urine dribbling and diminished tail tone. Prognosis depends on severity of signs and the period of recumbency. There is no specific treatment for EHV-1. Treatment of symptoms may include intravenous fluids, anti-inflammatory drugs and other appropriate supportive treatment. **Currently, there is no equine vaccine that has a label claim for protection against the neurological strain of the virus.**

This is not an airborne virus! Humans cannot get it but they can spread it. It is spread by contact just like the common cold, horse to horse, horse to human, human to horse and by equipment contaminated by an infected horse or human who has touched an infected horse or equipment.

Horse-to-horse contact, aerosol transmission, and contaminated hands, equipment, tack, and feed all play a role in disease spread. They cannot stress enough about the cross contamination, this deadly virus can be on anything - your steering wheel in your truck, door handles, trailer latches, your purse, your hat, sunglasses, cell phone, pop or food wrapper, bucket, feed pan, hay bag, rubber bands, brushes, tack, boots, clothing, ANYTHING you touch or rub against could have the virus on it!

PLEASE monitor your horses, the first symptom of this disease is a spike in temperature of 102 degrees. Horses with severe clinical signs of neurological EHV-1 illness are thought to have large viral loads in their blood and nasal secretions and therefore, present the greatest danger for spreading the disease. Immediate separation and isolation of identified suspect cases and implementation of appropriate biosecurity measures are key elements for disease control.

This is a serious matter that demands immediate attention, becoming aware and knowledge about this detrimental outbreak is a necessity – and we ALL, as equine owners, trainers, and event producers MUST do our part to STOP the spread of this horrible mutant and deadly virus. Serious thought needs to be made on hosting events within infected states and their bordering neighbors. Many national level events that are scheduled within the next month have been CANCELED to STOP THE SPREAD of this disease.

This information is taken from very reliable sources, here are a couple articles you can read for yourself below. We will be hearing a lot more about this, please stay alert to the latest information.

<http://www.idahocha.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/EHV-1-Alert-14May2011-ISDA.pdf>
www.idahocha.com

TRAIL NEWS

MONIES SOUGHT TO RESTORE HIGH BRIDGE IN LYNDEBORO

Connie Moses received a letter from Kim DiPietro on behalf of the Lyndeboro Trails Association and the Piscataquog Land Conservancy asking GSCA to support the restoration of High Bridge across the South Branch of the Piscataquog River which is a major trail link to the miles of gravel roads in Lyndeboro, New Boston and Frankestown. The trail system which uses the bridge was used literally by hundreds of equestrians, bicyclists and hikers who enjoyed the beautiful gorge of the river and the old mill site beyond. All this came to a halt when a horse put his foot through the bridge. Luckily there was no serious injury but the bridge was closed.

The Lyndeboro Trail Association applied for and won a maximum grant of \$25,000 from the NH Bureau of Trails to restore the bridge for recreational use. They need to raise an additional \$25,000 to complete the work. The new bridge will be accessible to carriages (which the old one was not) but not motorized vehicles. They asked GSCA to help them with the project. Our board voted to donate \$100 to the bridge fund.

POSSIBLE RIDE/DRIVE EVENT WITH THE ESSEX COUNTY TRAIL ASSOCIATION ECTA

Avis Rosenfield is working with the Pres. of ECTA to create a ride through the public lands of Bradley Palmer, Willodale & the private estates including Appleton Farms. If you aren't familiar with these MA trails they are beautiful & compatible for buggies & horses with plenty of room for both. If we can get this together it will be a Fall benefit ride and I will plan buggies out in one direction & riders out in the other so our paths do not need to cross unless we are at a wide open field/road so we can give way to the buggies.

Let me know if anyone would be interested. avis.rosenfield@yahoo.com

IF YOU USE THE TRAILS AROUND THE MASSABESIC WATERSHED

You can join the Snowmobile club for parking access

If you enjoy riding Tower Hill Rd trails in & little massabesic (aka Maze section South of Depot Rd) or around Tower Hill Pond (North of Depot Rd) here is your opportunity to have access to a Private Parking Area. I have negotiated with SNHSS (snowslickers) a reduced membership rate for Trail riders.

For a 1x Fee of \$10 you receive a computerized gate key, for an annual \$20 Fee you become a member. This organization maintains all of the trails within this area, as well as the adjoining Bear brook St. Pk and Pawtuckaway St. Pk.

Read the attached flyer (at end of this newsletter) and complete the attached form (it is a word doc so you can type onto it by deleting the underscore lines next to each heading).

BTW check out the SNHSS website as they host many events at their clubhouse throughout the year for members.

Please share this with your friends See you on the trails If you have questions send me an e-mail.

Avis Rosenfield

IMPORTANT TRAIL RULE CHANGES

If you ride the trails within the Massabesic Lake Watershed you will need to know The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) and Manchester Water Works (MWW) are proposing to amend existing rules for the protection of Lake Massabesic. This watershed is a public drinking supply for the city of Manchester, and portion of towns; Auburn, Bedford, Derry, Goffstown, Hooksett and Londonderry. MWW, who manages the property, has asked that equestrians follow the rules voluntarily while the rule