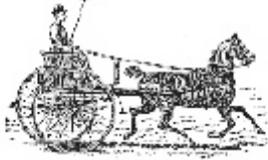


CELEBRATING 30 YEARS  
1978 - 2008  
The Granite State  
Carriage Association



# NEWSLETTER

The Granite State Carriage Association

<http://www.GraniteStateCarriage.org>

NOVEMBER 2012

## PLANNING MEETING DRAWS ENTHUSIASTIC GROUP

An enthusiastic group of members gathered at The Weathervane Restaurant in Bedford, NH on November 3rd to eat delicious seafood supper while planning our GSCA events for 2013. Many also participated in the Board meeting which proceeded the planning meeting.

The resulting preliminary calendar for 2013 includes most of our familiar popular drives but some have changed their dates. The calendar will go out with this newsletter.

## NEW CLUB BROCHURES

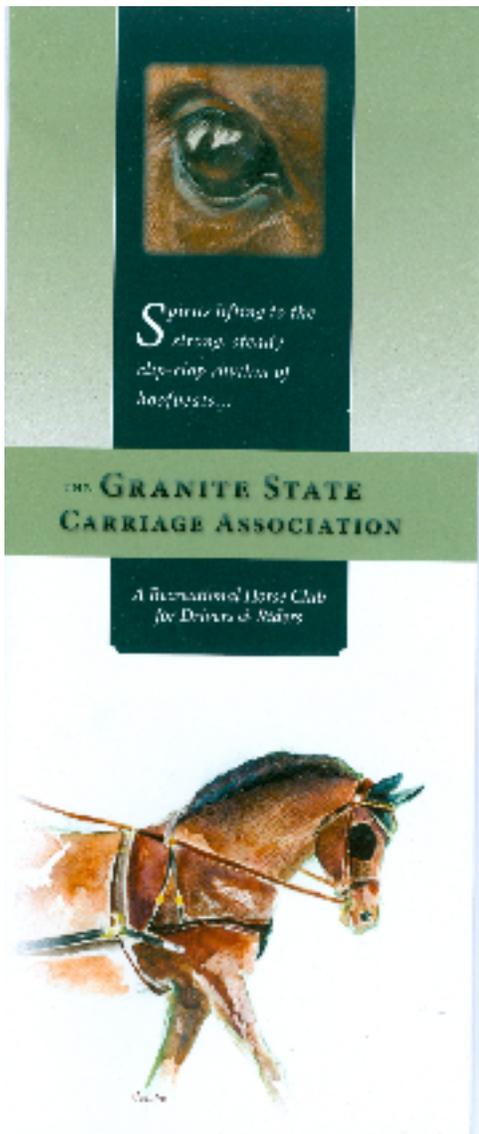
GSCA was promoted at Equine Affaire through our new brochures, which themselves promote our newly-live website at [GraniteStateCarriage.org](http://GraniteStateCarriage.org). Thanks to Linda Stebbins, Boo Martin, and Stephe Merrill for getting brochures to the EA, and to Dave Herrick for coordinating.

NOW the club needs YOUR help getting brochures out to the public! Any GSCA Members who might be able to distribute some brochures to area stables, training barns, businesses and organizations, please contact Dave Herrick, [drdaveherrick@gmail.com](mailto:drdaveherrick@gmail.com) or call Dave at 603-673-1314 or Connie Moses [info@GraniteStateCarriage.org](mailto:info@GraniteStateCarriage.org) 603-490-9694 about getting some and places you can offer to give them to. Please also direct anyone with potential interest in recreational horse driving and riding to our new website above.

The American Driving Society was especially complimentary of GSCA's brochures, and handed them out for us. ADS Members manning the table read the brochure and they said it literally "brought tears to their eyes," feeling what it was like being out in nature in a carriage. They also said it was the "best club brochure they had ever seen!"

Boo Martin and Touchstone Farm also gave out brochures for us in their booth, thanks BOO! Other places where our brochures were available were at Driving Essentials booth, the Equine Journal booth, and A&B Barns. Thanks to all for your help, especially Karen Desroches at EJ. People in the audience waiting for Lisa Singer's two talks on Getting Started in Driving were also very interested in having brochures, and the Morgan Horse Association took some for their hospitality booth and also in Barn C where the Assoc. members had several horses to use in demos.

If you haven't seen the brochure yet, you can download a copy off our new website <http://www.GraniteStateCarriage.org> from the Home page or the Membership Information page. Please do visit and send your feedback!



## **CALL FOR CANDIDATES FOR OPEN BOARD POSITIONS**

Due to Board terms expiring next year, a few positions will become available and need candidates. Most members have special talents and experience to offer to your club, which will allow every member to keep enjoying the outings and camaraderie which GSCA offers to all.

Last year John Greenall complimented our club as being the most active "for-fun" group he had ever come across. Let's keep it that way! If you can't commit to serve in an office, just let us know your skills in whatever areas and maybe you can be just a little bit more involved-- GSCA NEEDS YOU!!

### **Openings for 2013:**

Vice President (administrative and planning)  
Treasurer (accounting experience very desirable)  
possibly Secretary (minutes/record-keeping and promotion)  
TWO Director slots (attend BOD meetings and vote)

Visit our new website and see "GSCA Bylaws" for the Office descriptions! Or contact current officers for their description of their functions. Basically the Board meets only four times a year, in southern NH, and one of those meetings is the Annual Meeting which we know you'll be attending anyway!

### **Contact the Nominating Committee--**

Claudia Libis 603-463-9812 \*\*\*\*\* Eric Wilking 603-772-4423\*\*\*\*\*Ginger Chiappetta 603-543-9868  
or Connie Moses, Pres., at 603-490-9694

## **NEW GSCA WEBSITE!**

The website is a work in progress and will be growing over time. THANKS to those who have already contributed to the website.

### **We REALLY could use more members' input of the following:**

Pictures & stories  
Blurbs about what GSCA means to you  
Your favorite experiences or areas to drive or ride  
How you got started driving  
Your favorite horse-related links, etc.  
More ideas for website content  
PLEASE E-MAIL these to [info@GraniteStateCarriage.org](mailto:info@GraniteStateCarriage.org) .

Before long we will have your Members Area open on the website, where only club members via password can visit as a resource for all things GSCA. It will be private to the club and we look forward to your contributions and ideas for what this Members' Area can include! CHECK OUT the website and give us your feedback!!!

RE:

1. Types of information you'd like to see in this Members' Area
2. Specific content from you (E-mail to us) such as pictures, Tips, horse management, horse care and health, and driving info you come across
3. Links to useful publications, links to websites of interest, links to other horse clubs
4. Any reactions to this site, or user confusion you have encountered PLEASE E-mail the site content managers (Connie, Stephenie and Sonja) with the above.

PLEASE feel free to E-mail us your pictures or specific content you might share with the club -- no one will see them except club members.

E-MAIL: [info@granitestatecarriage.org](mailto:info@granitestatecarriage.org)

As a Member, you will be notified of our ongoing website additions via the GSCA FaceBook group and the GSCA Newsletter. Meanwhile, feel free to go ahead and make yourself a Login to this Members' Area if you wish! That way you can check in on our progress as we go along. THANKS FOR BEING A MEMBER OF GRANITE STATE CARRIAGE ASSOCIATION! We value your involvement.

A TON of work has gone into giving the club an impressive presence on the internet, with our own domain and customized content. Thanks to Stephenie Merrill and Sonja Cahill for your ideas and time and being

so willing to help the club expand its reach!

## **CALLING ALL GSCA CRAFTSMEN, WEBSITE OWNERS, BUSINESS OWNERS & ENTREPRENEURS!**

On our new website [GraniteStateCarriage.org](http://GraniteStateCarriage.org) we will be featuring club members who are craftsmen, artists, business owners and entrepreneurs. We will link to your website, put up photos of your products and skills, and promote your services for free! We have many talents and skills within the GSCA and our members and the general public will be interested to learn about you.

The site will be found by folks searching for carriage driving and horse-related information, so our site can offer another presence for you on the internet. All you need to do is send us description and photos of your service or products, and the URL of your website and/or contact information/business E-mail. Some info about yourself might be appropriate, whatever you would want to make public. Send all input and questions to [info@GraniteStateCarriage.org](mailto:info@GraniteStateCarriage.org) . Thanks!

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## **LOSS OF FORMER ACTIVE MEMBER**



*Don Kunar riding & June driving*

June Ann Kunar, 83 of Lexington, VA died Wednesday, November 14, 2012 at Stonewall Jackson Hospital. Mrs. Kunar was a retired executive secretary with Aurora Products after many years of service.

June enjoyed riding and driving horses and liked to volunteer at the Virginia Horse Center in Lexington. She was also a member of the Shenandoah Valley Driving Club, the Granite State Carriage Asso., Local dog clubs, and the Rockbridge Antique Car Club. All services will be at a later date. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Rockbridge SPCA, 10 Animal Place, Lexington, VA 24450 or to the Virginia Horse Center, 487 Maury River Road, Lexington, VA 25540. Arrangements are being handled by Harrison Funeral Home & Crematory, Lexington, VA.

June was a vivacious and funny woman who with her husband Don was very active with GSCA before moving to Lexington, VA in 1999. There they enjoyed their retirement with 3 horses, several dogs and cats on their lovely new farm overlooking the historic and scenic Shenandoah Valley. She and Don ran the former popular Warner, NH drives for several years, served on the board, and contributed much to GSCA over the years. Those of us who knew her will remember her fondly.

## **TEST YOUR LAMINITIS IQ**

**From EQUIS magazine, reprinted from [myhorse.com](http://myhorse.com)**

### **TRUE OR FALSE?**

#### **1. The words “laminitis” and “founder” mean the same thing.**

**False.** Although these words are often used interchangeably, they describe specific stages in a complex disease. Laminitis is the inflammation of the laminae, the thin, pleated tissues that connect the coffin bone to the hoof wall. Founder is the deformity caused when the laminae stretch and fail, leaving the coffin bone without support so that it rotates (“sinks”) downward, pulled by the deep flexor tendon. Not all horses with laminitis develop founder.

#### **2. Horses who graze dew-covered grass are at greater risk of laminitis.**

**False.** Theories linking the location and timing of grazing to laminitis incidence abound, and this is one of the most common. But research into fructan, a plant sugar thought to be a key trigger of laminitis, suggests that the early morning hours might actually be the safest time for a horse to graze. Fructan levels in grasses are lower during the early morning hours, after a night when the minimum temperature was above 40 degrees Fahrenheit. Fructan levels are highest in the late afternoon or evening on a sunny day.

### **3. Particular types of bedding can cause laminitis.**

**True.** Exposure to shavings made from black walnut (*Juglans nigra*) trees is a well-documented cause of laminitis. A chemical in black walnut called juglone, which can kill other plants and even earthworms, is the likely culprit. When exposed to black walnut shavings, horses typically begin to show signs of laminitis within one or two days. Bedding containing as little as 20 percent black walnut shavings can induce laminitis, so it's important to learn what type of wood shavings you have before using them.

### **4. Very hard footing can precipitate founder.**

**True.** Prolonged concussion against an unforgiving surface, such as asphalt, can lead to a condition commonly called "road founder." The force of each step literally pulls the laminae from the hoof wall; this is one instance in which a horse can founder without having had laminitis. Simply trotting across a street will not cause road founder. Most horses who develop the condition have galloped on hard roads for miles or spent years working on asphalt without protective shoes.

### **5. A coffin bone that has rotated as a result of laminitis will eventually return to its original position.**

**False.** Founder is forever, and a rotated coffin bone never regains its original position or attachments. However, corrective trimming and shoeing can help the hoof grow to match the new position of the coffin bone and form new attachments between the bone and hoof wall.

### **6. Particular dewormers and vaccines are known to cause laminitis.**

**False.** There is no evidence linking any deworming product or vaccine to laminitis. That said, laminitis can be a complication of a high fever or systemic illness, so a severe adverse reaction to any veterinary product could precipitate the condition. If you suspect your horse is having such a reaction, call your veterinarian immediately.

### **7. It's important to learn what caused a case of laminitis before treating it.**

**False.** The appropriate treatment will be virtually the same no matter what has caused the inflammation of laminitis or the physical damage of founder. Nonetheless, in some cases knowing what precipitated laminitis may help you to prevent a recurrence or protect other horses from black walnut shavings, moldy grain and other dangers.

### **8. There is a "right" way to shoe a laminitic horse.**

**False.** If one tried-and-true shoeing or trimming method restored laminitic horses to soundness, everyone would be using it. The reality is that there are varied approaches to helping horses with laminitis—from applying shoes backward to adding special pads to leaving the horse barefoot—and no scientific studies have yet proven one to be more effective than the rest. The best treatment or combination of treatments for a particular horse depends on the specifics of the case, which can change over time.

### **9. Laminitis occurs primarily in extremely fat horses and in ponies.**

**False.** Risks increase with obesity, and evidence suggests that certain bloodlines are more susceptible, but with enough metabolic stress, any horse regardless of size or breed can develop laminitis.

### **10. By the time a horse is lame, the damage of laminitis has been done.**

**True.** The 24 to 48 hours between the event or conditions that precipitate laminitis and the point when it is evident that the horse is in pain are known as the "silent period." Once a horse begins to exhibit discomfort from laminitis, the condition is impossible to reverse. One track of laminitis research involves investigating the complex metabolic mechanisms at work during the silent period so that one day we may be able to prevent them from triggering the cascade of events that leads to pain and permanent deformity.

### **11. Clover and alfalfa are dangerous for horses who are susceptible to laminitis.**

**True.** Clover and alfalfa contain relatively high levels of sugars and starch, both in pasture and as part of hay. These nutrients can start the chain of events that leads to digestive laminitis. Avoid giving clover or alfalfa to horses who are at an increased risk of laminitis, and check your fields periodically to make sure these plants have not appeared as volunteers.

### **12. Horses who have foundered are at an increased risk of another episode of laminitis.**

**True.** A horse who has recovered from a bout of laminitis eventually grows new laminae that reattach the coffin bone to the hoof wall. However, those attachments are not as strong as the originals, and the horse will forever be at increased risk of foundering again. Also, many "new" cases of founder are simply an exacerbation of an earlier episode, which may have occurred unnoticed or when the horse had a different owner.

## RENTAL

**Seal Harbor, Acadia National Park Summer Rental** Feel at home on Mt. Desert Island. Our 4 bedroom, 2 bath house is located in the quiet village of Seal Harbor just 1 mile from Wildwood Stables. The house is furnished with cable TV, VCR, and DVD player, wireless internet, gas grill, and washer and dryer. A large wrap-around porch includes a screened-in section and is perfect for relaxing or dining. Acadia National Park carriage roads and trails are virtually at your doorstep.

First floor: kitchen, dining room, living room, bath, laundry area, 2 bedrooms one with double bed and one with twin beds. Second floor: full bath and two bedrooms each with a double bed. Dogs permitted with owner consent. Parking limited to 2 vehicles but easy bicycle ride from house to barn. Deposit required.

For pictures and more information go to [www.homeaway.com](http://www.homeaway.com) and enter property number, **109128**. Or contact Joan and Allan Kleinman 781 861 0461.

## FOR SALE

**Historic GSCA Photos on CD!** Dave Herrick treated Annual Meeting attendees to a continuous slide show, created from GSCA archived photos and recent drive/ride events. Some of them may be YOU!! CDs will be made available of these interesting photographs. Dave Herrick has offered to make CDs for those desiring to purchase them. A \$10 donation to GSCA will be accepted by the Treasurer. Please contact Marilyn Williams, [mwilliams@courier.com](mailto:mwilliams@courier.com) to order, or send payment to GSCA Photo CD, Marilyn Williams, 54 Pilgrim Drive, Litchfield, NH 03052



## UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

JAN. 12 GMHA SLEIGHING COMBINED TEST. <http://www.gmhainc.org/calendar.html>

JAN 13 GMHA SLEIGH RALLY <http://www.gmhainc.org/calendar.html>

JAN.20.FEB.10 WINTER FIRESIDE CHATS. Mary Gray Driving Center.,Verrill Stables, Danville, NH.  
FEB. 10, 24 Contact: (603) 974-2357 or [mgdrivingcenter@comcast.net](mailto:mgdrivingcenter@comcast.net)

**FEB. 24 GSCA ANNUAL MEETING. Puritan Back Door Restaurant, Manchester, NH. Contact: Connie Moses \_ [info@GraniteStateCarriage.org](mailto:info@GraniteStateCarriage.org) or 603-490-9694**

FEB. 2 OLD STURBRIDGE VILLAGE SLEIGH RALLY. Sturbridge, MA. 9:30 - 4:00  
Contact: Ann Lindblad. [http://www.osv.org/activities\\_events/event\\_calendar\\_](http://www.osv.org/activities_events/event_calendar_)

**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: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ New Membership \_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_

**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 Marilyn Williams (603) 594-0987  
Mail to: Marilyn Williams, 54 Pilgrim Drive, Litchfield, NH 03052

