



# NEWSLETTER

The Granite State Carriage Association

<http://www.GraniteStateCarriage.org>

**April 2014**

## **TOUCHSTONE FARM TO HOST GSCA MAY PLEASURE DRIVE/RIDE SUNDAY MAY 18TH**

Touchstone Farm in Temple, NH will host the year's first GSCA fun Recreational Pleasure Drive/Ride. The drive will feature a clearly marked, "Go at Your Own Pace" Pleasure Drive (5 to 7 miles) through the dirt roads which surround Touchstone Farm. A delicious BBQ will follow, 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 and games. This promises to be a "Fun Play Day" for drivers of all ages and levels of experience.



It sounds like a really special fun day to begin the season for all of us. All the details can be found in the attached flyer.

Touchstone is also offering, on their own, a Special Warm Up clinic Friday night and Saturday for those wishing help and to give their horse confidence. A flyer on the clinic is also attached.

## **ELLET & SHIRLEY SEAVEY MEMORIAL DRIVE IN AUBURN, NH COMING JUNE 7, 2014**

Once again the Wilkings are putting together a wonderful drive on the many loops and trails on the Manchester Water Works property including the beautiful six mile loop around Tower Hill Pond.



The trail briefing will be at 10AM after which you may go out at any time. Bring a lunch and everyone will picnic together after the drive. This has always been a popular drive so don't miss it. All the details are in the attached flyer. Please note all manure must be picked up from the parking lot AND the trails. See below. I am sure that the Wilkings would welcome help with the latter.

## **REPORT ON THE MANCHESTER WATER WORKS MEETING REGARDING HORSES ON THEIR LANDS**

(courtesy of Trixie Lefebvre)

-Hello Everyone - I am very sorry to say that the Board of Water Commissioners were very anxious to get new Rules implemented despite the request of Manchester resident, Diane Russell, to hold off until she was given the opportunity to sit with Mayor Gatsas, which had been postponed earlier this month, to discuss this and possible solutions.

Despite ALL attempts to have them make their decision based upon data, the Board dug in and will be requiring all horses to be deviced with a "diaper" while on the gravel roads of the Watershed. Permits will be issued for organized rides through their Forester, John O'Neill, with the provision that trail droppings be picked up immediately upon completion of the organized ride. The four year battle was not successful and we, as horse owners, can only imagine the slippery slope this sends us on.

It would now appear that the general public needs to be educated in "what is a horse" so that the stigma attached to them by closed minded individuals such as the Director and the Board and the Forester does not spread.

The support shown by this community in giving of their time at Public Meetings, the Rallies and digging into your wallets speaks volumes for the type of individuals you are. We should be proud of the solidarity shown by this group. Unfortunately, we were not able to prevail.

At this moment, there is no certainty to a "what is next" BUT I certainly hope that if there is a "what", we can count on one another to assist.

Thank you for everything ~~  
Trixie L

## **CARRIAGE BARN SEEKING VOLUNTEERS**

Kensington, NH - The Carriage Barn Equine Assisted Therapy Programs is looking for volunteers to assist with Therapeutic Horseback Riding & Carriage Driving, Fundraising, Events, and Fun Activities. Volunteers are needed at various times throughout the week to work with horses and clients.



Adults and retirees welcome (volunteers must be at least 14 years old). Experience and horse knowledge is a plus, but is not required. Anyone interested in learning more can contact The Carriage Barn at 603-378-0140 or email [carriage-barn@comcast.net](mailto:carriage-barn@comcast.net), or check out our website at [www.carriage-barn.org](http://www.carriage-barn.org).

The program is offering services in Kensington, NH and seeks to promote the health and well-being of individuals of all ages with disabilities by enhancing their physical, psychological, cognitive and emotional healing and strengthening through equine activities. The Carriage Barn is a 501c3 Not-for-Profit Organization, as well as a member center of the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship, International.

## **CARRIAGE BARN HORSEBACK RIDING & CARRIAGE DRIVING PROGRAM ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS**

The Carriage Barn is now accepting applications for its Spring & Summer Horseback Riding and Carriage Driving Programs in Kensington, NH. Programs include Therapeutic horseback riding and Therapeutic Carriage Driving, as well as independent Horseback riding and beginner Carriage Driving. Weekly Horsemanship and Carriage Driving clinics are also being offered for April and Summer school vacations. All Carriage Barn clinics are inclusionary. For more information please contact The Carriage Barn at 603-378-0140, see our website at [www.carriage-barn.org](http://www.carriage-barn.org), or email [carriage-barn@comcast.net](mailto:carriage-barn@comcast.net).

The Carriage Barn programs seek to promote the health & well-being of individuals by enhancing their physical, psychological, cognitive & emotional healing & strengthening through equine activities. Program activities further this purpose by utilizing horses to provide opportunities for individuals to form unique relationships that nurture & empower them in a way that brings new insights, self-confidence, improved communication, & relaxation. In the context of a natural outdoor setting, these activities provide a serene learning environment.

The Carriage Barn is a 501c3 Not for Profit Organization and a member center of the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship, International. Our instructors are specially trained and experienced equestrians. The programs serve Rockingham County & the greater Merrimac Valley. It is an easy drive to a wonderful country setting surrounded by knowledgeable and supportive staff and volunteers. Clinic proceeds go to support The Carriage Barn's therapeutic programs.

### **SOME MEMBER PROFILES**

**Send us yours and we will be glad to print it!**

**Paula Levitt:** As a child, I had a friend whose father used a team of mismatched drafts in the woods. We would get up early and all pile into the truck with the horses loaded on the back and head for the area where they were logging. They usually loaded the truck with wood, turned the horses loose and they would come home on their own. When we were there we would wait all day and they would allow us to ride the horses home. Boosting us up to their backs, we used the hames to hold on. Sometimes we would fall off but could usually climb up the harness and get back on. I think that is where my love of drafts came from.

Today I have a pair that I use for wagon, sleigh and carriage rides. Our riding club, TROT, holds a sleigh rally each winter. This picture was taken at this winters rally. It is R Kay's Autumn aka Abby put to a



bobsleigh. The sleigh was donated to the town of Dixmont by Amos Kimball. They subsequently sold it for lack of a place to store it. It was restored by Alan Cyr of Bangor. It needed only a small repair to the wood on the back, new paint and upholstery. The shafts are new to accommodate Abby's size but use the original irons. This sleigh was made in Michigan. With me is 15 year old Tehya Dodge of Dixmont. She is entered in the junior classes and drove in the Currier and Ives class, placing first. The passengers in back are Lianna Hayden and her daughter.

Paula Leavitt Secty/Treas Maine Driving Club

**Linda and Dick Misiaszek** We are in the process of selling our farm property where we have lived, done business as a horse farm for over 20 years, in the lakes region. We bred, raised, sold, trained and showed our haflingers for many years. at our high point we had over 25 haflingers here. We did lot of buying and selling, well-trained haflingers for riding/driving. traveled many years out to Amish country Ohio, Missouri, Indiana, Michigan, etc, to bring home haflingers for re-sale.

With our reputation of showing haflingers in hitch driving at all the fairs, thru New England, we were able to have a good business. also did many riding/driving lessons on our farm. ran summer day camps, and was asked to participate in the fantasia show at Equine affair in Ma. where I drove a 4-abreast hitch of haflingers to music routine. under the lights!!!!

In our retirement years, we have given up showing, and I just participate in competitive trail rides.

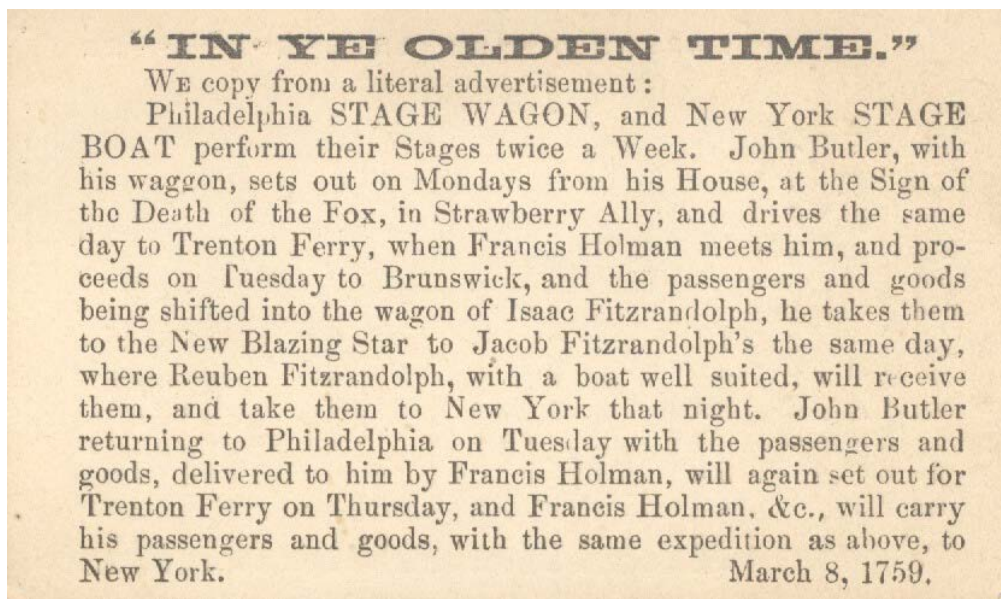
Linda and Dick Misiaszek, who will soon retire to a mini-farm with 3 haflingers to enjoy.



*At the Freyburg Fair*

**DO YOU REMEMBER READING ABOUT THE HORSE - SARGENT RECKLESS - SOME TIME AGO IN THE NEWSLETTER?**

Now there is a book about her and her service with the Marines in Korea. They Called Her Reckless - A True Story of War, Love and One Extraordinary Horse by Janet Barrett is about the small Jeju pony who became the real-life warhorse of the Marine Fifth Regiment during the Korean War. Acquired to haul shells to the recoilless rifles at the front line, Reckless did that and so much more: packing ammunition beyond what anyone thought possible, saving lives, raising spirits, and winning the love and respect of all who knew her. It can be ordered from Amazon for \$15.95 or from the author by calling: (860) 526-5431 or e-mailing: [Aboutreckless@Comcast.net](mailto:Aboutreckless@Comcast.net) Also see attached flyer.



*Sent in by Dave Herrick*



**UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST**

- May 6-10      PATH INTERNTIONAL DRIVING WORKSHOP & CERTIFICATION Touchstone Farm, Temple, NH Contact: Kris Young [kyoung@touchstone-farm.org](mailto:kyoung@touchstone-farm.org)
  
- MAY 10-12    GMHA 2 PHASE & ARENA DRIVING TRIAL. Training, Preliminary & intermediate. Contact: Karey Waters, c/o Green Mountain Horse Association, PO Box 8, South Woodstock, VT 05071; W: (802) 457-1509; Fax: (802) 457-4471; e-mail: [karey@gmhainc.org](mailto:karey@gmhainc.org)
  
- MAY 18**      **GSCA SPRING DRIVE/RIDE.** Touchstone Farm, Temple, NH. Contact: **Boo McDaniel (603) 321-5255.**
  
- MAY 10-11    GMHA 2-PHASE & ARENA DRIVING TRIAL Contact: Karey Waters (802) 457-4471, [karey@gmhainc.org](mailto:karey@gmhainc.org)
  
- JUNE 7**      **GSCA SEAVEY MEMORIAL DRIVE** Auburn, NH. Contact: **Linda & Eric Wilking (603) 731-0513, [wilking1@comcast.net](mailto:wilking1@comcast.net)**

**2014 DUES ARE NOW DUE. PROMPT PAYMENT WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED!**

**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



**Is it Spring yet?**

**THE GRANITE STATE CARRIAGE ASSOCIATION**

**Virginia G. Laplante, Editor**

**137 Old Tilton Road**

**Canterbury, New Hampshire 03224**

**CELEBRATING 30 YEARS**  
**1978 - 2008**  
*The Granite State  
Carriage Association*

