



OCTOBER 2014

HANCOCK DRIVE/RIDE COMING OCTOBER 10-12

Once again we all have the opportunity to get together and drive on the historic back roads of Hancock, NH amid lovely fall foliage. This year's gathering will be in the same location as last year. Camping is again available and there will be a port pottie on hand.

Please let Cresca Albright (603) 525-3314 know if you will be coming and please don't just show up but call ahead as if rain makes the fields wet she may have to cancel. Directions and details are in the attached flyer.



BRANCH HILL A FUN DAY FOR ALL



Lobin Frizzell

The weather was perfect and welcoming for our first official hosting opportunity this year at Branch Hill. For those of you who don't know Branch Hill or haven't had the chance to ride or drive the area, you have no idea what you are missing out on! Seven riders and one driver came for the day and enjoyed the field and forest, trails and river views. Other folks stopped by to check it out and chat a little and declared they wouldn't miss the next opportunity to drive or ride there. Everyone enjoyed the day and although nothing



Gerry Youngman



ever goes as smoothly as planned, left with a smile on their faces. Thank you to everyone who came and helped. A special thanks to Pat Pearson for helping us get going in the right direction and to the Carl Siemon Family Charitable Trust for allowing us to share in this truly enchanted place. Hope we will see you all next year.

John & Sue Booth

*Chapman, Linda Stebbins,
Sonja Cahill, Renee Wormell, Bob Wormell*

L-R: Gerry Youngman, John Booth, Beth

ANDOVER RAIL TRAIL OUTING AT POTTER PLACE

September 21 saw the first organized carriage drive outing on a New Hampshire Rail Trail following rule revisions made by DRED last fall.



Potter Place Depot & group heading out

GSCA held an outing for drivers and riders out of Potter Place in Andover NH, and a fine time was had by all 15 who attended with horses. Five other GSCA members were present for the day, and several visitors also stopped by. In spite of threatening weather (including rain in most surrounding areas), only a few afternoon sprinkles were experienced in the Andover area. Folks came from as far away as Maine and Massachusetts and from nearby: a few carts and several riders took advantage of terrific footing and pre-opened gates for up to 12 level miles out and back on the Northern Rail Trail into East Andover. Three neighborhood return loops of varying lengths were marked on the route map, so folks were offered up to 18 miles of rail trail plus paved and dirt roads.



Gail Castonguay & friend Glenna hitching her Hackney/Halfinger cross

Most participants chose a 12-mile route with a loop-out, and all returned along the Rail Trail to the Potter Place parking area, which accommodated numerous horse trailers. In addition, a small railroad museum in the Potter Place depot plus a restored caboose presented additional interest and artifacts. People then hung out for picnic lunching afterwards, and shared horse stories as well.

During the day, we had a couple of visits from a friendly local Andover policeman, and also we were visited by representatives of the Friends of the Northern Rail Trail/NH, the volunteer group which develops this trail, that runs from Bow to the Lebanon area and is now almost completely restored for recreational use. GSCA welcomes at least 4 new members joining for this Rail Trail outing.



Thanks goes to the Department of Resources and Economic Development, especially to Patrick Hummel, Volunteer Trails Coordinator, and to Chris Gamache, Trails Bureau Chief. A paid Permit was issued by DRED, and the Trails Bureau allowed drive hosts Rick and Connie Moses to open a dozen rail gates for the day. All in all, an enjoyable

Donna Charbonneau & her son Jeff Bell with her Canadian, Rowan



New members Members, Judy, riding, & Tom Duda, driving

Lunch Bunch L-R: Judy Duda, Gail Castonguay, Tom Duda, Rick Moses, Laurie Graham, Donna Charbonneau, Jeff Bell



time was had by all participants! We should all remember on inclement days to check projected radar weather for the outing area, and to NOT let ourselves get discouraged by rain outside our front door! Also folks can call the drive hosts the morning of the drive. Some had wondered if this drive would be cancelled or postponed-- however, very few GSCA outings are able to have a "rain date," and this drive could not have been rescheduled! We hope to see a repeat and expansion of this Andover Rail Trail outing next year, as it is an ideal location for long flat trotting out, and a rare opportunity to enjoy carriage driving on a NH Rail Trail. Connie Moses

TOUCHSTONE FARM OFFERS EQUINE WELLNESS SEMINAR OCTOBER 10-12

Touchstone Farm, in Temple, NH, is presenting an intensive weekend seminar for horse owners and equine professionals interested learning how to better maintain the health and well being of their equine partners. The workshop will take place at Touchstone Farm, Friday to Sunday, October 10-12, 2014. A post-seminar workshop on animal communication will be held on Monday, October 13.

The Equine Wellness seminar focuses on the latest and best strategies for assessing and maintaining wellness of horses who work in traditional and therapeutic lesson programs as well as privately owned horses. This seminar has a special focus on equine stress and its impact on equine wellness.

The seminar format includes presentations, demonstrations, and hands-on training sessions. Topics include research on equine cortisol (stress hormone) levels, including new results from a research study conducted by Tufts University at Touchstone Farm, care of older horses, and making end of life decisions for horses. Demonstrations include equine massage, equine Reiki, and energy work with equines.

Of special interest to first responders is hands-on training on Sunday in the use of the Original Rescue Glide, a flexible guide that offers a safe and humane way to move and transport down horses.

Several local and national organizations are sponsoring the seminar: The Cheshire Horse, Eaton and Berube Insurance, Markel Insurance, Call of the Wild Energy Therapy, and SmartPak.

Onsite accommodations are available at Stepping Stone Lodge, which is also the location of all presentations, discussions, and meals.

The registration packet, seminar fees, and full schedule are available on the Touchstone Farm website, www.touchstone-farm.org. For questions or more information, contact Boo Martin at 603-654-6308 or email her at bmartin@touchstone-farm.org.

THE CARRIAGE BARN HAS MANY NEW ITEMS IN FOR THEIR FUNDRAISING SALES TO BENEFIT EQUINE ASSISTED THERAPY PROGRAMS.

Hundreds of Horse blankets, Sheets, Coolers, Rugs, Neck Covers to choose from. Also Saddle oads, Saddles, Tack & other supplies, Breeches, Boots, Half chaps, Gloves and other apparel. many of these items can be found with photos on their web site. www.carriage-barn.org. go to fundraising ales & pick category "this just in...." More will be listed in coming weeks.

All Used, As is. Assume cleaning probably necessary. Buyer picks up or pays shipping & handling. Cash, check money order & pay Pal accepted.

The Carriage Barn is a 501c3 Not-for-Profit Organization that 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.

Program activities further this purpose by utilizing horses to provide opportunities for disabled individuals to form unique relationships that nurture and empower them in a way that brings new insights, self-

confidence, improved communication, and relaxation. In the context of a quiet, natural outdoor setting, these activities provide a serene learning environment.

Programs include therapeutic horseback riding & carriage driving, Occupational, Physical, and Speech therapy, summer camps and clinics, as well as horseback riding & carriage driving.

FOR SALE

1992 Jayco Hunter 1150 Slide in truck camper Lightly used & in good condition. **Perfect for GSCA campouts!** Requires 3/4 ton pickup. Stove, refrigerator, heater, air conditioner. Table converts to second bed. Shower/bath combination. Comes with microwave, coffee maker, toaster, table grill, dishes cooking gear, nearly new duvet & linens for bed, towels etc \$2500. John & Ginger Laplante (603)783-4702, canterbrk@ [aol.com](mailto:canterbrk@aol.com).



UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

OCT 10-12 **GSCA FALL FOLIAGE DRIVE/RIDE.**Hancock-, NH. **Contact: Cresca Albright (603) 525-3314**

OCT. 11 **ANNUAL SPURWINK FARM PLEASURE DRIVE.** Cape Elizabeth,ME.Contact: <http://www.mainedrivingclub.org/Nov>.

NOV 1 **GSCA PLANNING MEETING.** Weathervane Restaurant, Bedford, NH. **Contact: Connie Moses (603) 490-9694**

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



Happy Halloween

THE GRANITE STATE CARRIAGE ASSOCIATION

Virginia G. Laplante, Editor

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*The Granite State
Carriage Association*

