**About GMHA**

**Green Mountain Horse Association**

**What is GMHA?**

GMHA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which supports a variety of equine activities at its 65 acre facility. GMHA is one of the leading equestrian competition and education sites in the US.

Since its founding in 1926, GMHA has been a significant force in the development of equestrian sports in the United States. GMHA's events draw a large number of equestrians to the area each year, contributing over $4.2 million per year to the local economy.

**What We Do**

GMHA hosts a busy schedule of 65 competitive, educational, and recreational equestrian events in the five disciplines of dressage, eventing, driving, hunter jumper, and trail riding. In addition, GMHA holds numerous educational clinics for all ages.

GMHA has been instrumental in developing and maintaining a network of trails, access to which is provided through the generosity of private landowners.

**Facility:**

- **Cross-Country Course**
  - Pre-Elementary - Intermediate

- **4 Rings**
  - with European Geo-Textile Footing

- **Stalls for 165 Horses**
  - (temporary stabling for 200+)

**Plus an on site café, meeting rooms, and bathroom facilities.**

**Our Mission**

GMHA is dedicated to providing and maintaining opportunities for educational and competitive activities for diverse equestrian disciplines. Our focus is on equestrian trails preservation, horsemanship, and youth education.

**Contact**

PO Box 8 • 5491 South Road
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www.gmhainc.org
Season Program Credits

**Photography**
- Abby Rowlee Photography • Flatlandsfoto
- Shawn Tinkham Photography
- Nick Goldsmith Photography
- Spectrum Photography

**Contributors**
- Hannah Bright • Jill Bogert • Kelly Cyr
- Bruce Perry • Ellen Tully

**Design & Production:** Karey Waters

**Cover Photo:** Meagan McDowell riding Silviana at the 2019 June Horse Trials. Photo by Flatlands.

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Season Program

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2020 Season Program

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Horses Not Required

Top 5 Reasons to Volunteer

We want YOU! Volunteers are needed—and no experience is necessary. Now is the time to get involved!

1. **Up-close views of the action.**
   Many volunteer jobs come with the best seat in the house for watching GMHA’s competitions. No matter what job you choose, you’ll be on the grounds with many lovely horses.

2. **Free food & chocolate!**
   GMHA volunteers are well fed! Depending on your shift, you can expect a delicious breakfast and/or lunch—plus snacks and a sampling of Dark Horse Chocolates.

3. **Support the sport.**
   Many GMHA events are completely reliant on volunteers to make them happen. Whether you’re a competitor or someone with a casual interest, our sport can’t continue without your help!

4. **Be part of the team.**
   Join top officials and staff to make the event a success. You’ll also get to know our incredible community of volunteers, many of whom are horse enthusiasts too.

5. **Soak up all the knowledge.**
   If you’re an active or aspiring competitor, volunteering is an extremely valuable learning experience. Learn more about the rules, see how the competition works, and get a new perspective.
Usually at this time of year, we are anxiously anticipating the arrival of spring at GMHA and preparations are well under way for another successful season. This is not a usual year. Everybody is struggling with travel restrictions and health concerns as we try to fend off this pandemic, together. This letter is usually looking forward to a bright and successful season at GMHA. We at GMHA are still looking forward to a successful summer through the cloudy lens of uncertainty. GMHA’s calendar has already been beset by postponements and cancelations. We are sure that there will be more. Stay up to date by checking our website (www.gmha.org) or our FaceBook page.

This year you will be greeted by some new faces in the office. First up will be our new Executive Director. Bruce Perry was chosen by the Board to fill the position after six seasons as Property Manager/Assistant Director. Wendy Allen came on as our Office Manager and Trails Secretary in December. After a season of mentoring, Hannah Bright is taking over the reins of the endurance and pleasure rides. Jill Bogert and Kelly Cyr are both returning and will make sure that their disciplines are all well taken care of during their stay.

GMHA will host the Area 1 Eventing Championships in September and for the next three years. GMHA continues to lead in Area 1 by holding the only FEI international event in New England. Our driving events continue to grow with the Combined Driving Event (CDE) in August and Driving Derby in September as both expanded and popular. The 84th Annual 100 mile endurance ride still draws competitors from near and far. A pleasant surprise has been the growth in the number of Pleasure riders coming to use the GMHA trail system.

Dressage competitions continued to be on a steady track. The summer Dressage Days was full and the Spring and Fall shows grew. Endurance and Competitive Trail Rides continued their long standing tradition of competition. GMHA will be offering the Positive Reinforcement Clinic again this fall. Last year’s one day clinic was a big hit and will be expanded to two days in October. The Junior Horsemanship Clinic (JHC) was again filling quickly, and attendance at this event has grown greatly in the last few years. This clinic is a great way for us to foster GMHA’s mission of education and to promote the continuation of our equestrian heritage. Unfortunately, due to the difficulties of keeping all the campers and staff safe in the social environment of a camp, we felt it unwise to hold JHC this year.

With all this uncertainty hovering over us, becoming a member, renewing your membership or donating to our Annual Fund becomes more critical than ever to sustain our future. We are a member based organization and entry fees alone do not cover the costs of putting on the high caliber competitions that everybody expects. GMHA members have been and will continue to be the lifeblood of our organization. With the expectation of an amended season for 2020, your membership or donation becomes more important than ever. We are sure that there will be more. Stay up to date by checking our website (www.gmha.org) or our FaceBook page.

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In 2019, Tracy Ostler announced that she would be leaving GMHA after five years as Executive Director at the end of the season. For her tenure, I had the pleasure of working with her as Property Manager and the last couple of years as Assistant Director. She was a steady hand on the tiller after some tumultuous times for GMHA. In August, GMHA’s Board offered the position to me, and in a moment of weakness, I accepted. I’d like to say that after six years as Property Manager, I am intimately familiar with what goes on outside the office. Learning what goes into getting all the other parts working cohesively will be an exciting challenge looking forward.

GMHA started the 2019 season with some new faces in important positions. Jill Bogert joined us the previous September and is in charge of Horse Trials, Dressage, JHC and some clinics. Hannah Bright joined us in March as our Trail Event Manager and spent the summer learning the trails and idiosyncrasies of endurance, pleasure and competitive rides under the tutelage of Chelle Grald. Kelly Cyr came on board in April heading up Hunter/Jumper and Driving disciplines along with the Starter Trials. Looking backwards, all three brought enthusiasm, excitement and a sense of fun to GMHA as we all learned together. Looking forward we anticipate another exciting and diverse year.

Wendy Allen joined us in December as our Office Manager and Trails Secretary. She brings with her experience managing horse farms and working in veterinary clinics. Also along for the ride is her Corgi puppy, Hobbit. She has started the job with enthusiasm and is learning the office software and anticipating all your upcoming questions.

Ally LaFlair came on as our intern. She quickly learned all the things that go on behind the scenes and be an integral part of our team. We are looking forward to her coming back in 2020.

Pretty soon the grounds crew, Rick and Jim, will be here opening things up and getting ready for the season. They always need help, especially this year when we are also looking for a Property Manager. So if you know anyone interested in helping keep the GMHA grounds in tip-top shape have them contact Bruce Perry to learn about seasonal opportunities.

—Bruce Perry
GMHA Executive Director

Staff Directory

Bruce Perry
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Jill Bogert
Dressage, Eventing & Educational Programs
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Kelly Cyr
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Ellen Tully
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Hannah Bright
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Wendy Allen
Office Manager & Trail Secretary
Wendy@gmhainc.org • Ext. 201

Who do I call • What’s new • Who’s doing what • We’re hiring
Greetings from grounds! We have been busy making improvements to the facilities.

The lights in C Barn are due to be replaced in the Spring. Replacing the old lights with energy efficient LED lights in the stalls and aisles that will work in all kinds of weather while saving GMHA some money. C Barn will join A and B barns whose lights were replaced last year. D Barn will be scheduled for replacement next year.

The leaky hydrant at E Barn has been replaced. One less puddle to walk around!

Our cross-country jump inventory continues to expand. Those of you who have driven by us this winter saw a pile of large logs by the manure pit in front of A Barn. These will be turned into jumps for cross country and hunter derbies while also being used for hazards on Marathon Day during the Combined Driving Event by our master jump builder, Jamie Gornall. Our neighbors, Birch Hill Farm, are logging some of their woods this winter. They have graciously donated some of their logs to GMHA to use in repairing existing cross-country jumps. We thank them for their continued support. These improvements should provide additional variety on GMHA’s courses. Sanding and painting Stadium Jumping standards and rails should improve the look of the Stadium courses.

The handicap ramp at the Pavilion has been rebuilt over the winter. Rotted boards have been replaced in the wooden bridge by Upwey making it safer for horses, carriages and vehicles. Upwey and Walker arenas are scheduled to receive new footing after everything melts. GMHA has it arenas on a three year rotation to assure that they stay in premium condition.

Summer is coming. But don’t worry, we will have the grounds ready when you all come up to GMHA!
The Connie McCollom Memorial Stewardship Award is presented each year by the Board of Directors to the individual who exemplifies Connie’s spirit and dedication to the overall well-being of GMHA. As you know there are many ways people show their support for GMHA. This year’s award recipient, Jane Hamlin, has been a fixture at GMHA for years. She enjoys teaching riders of all ages and abilities in dressage and eventing. While Jane is a FEI 5-star eventing judge, she can also be found teaching and coaching at GMHA’s clinics and competitions including our Junior Horsemanship Camp. She will spend long hours setting up stadium and cross country courses to provide the best educational experiences for GMHA’s students and riders.

In recent years, Jane has judged at the World Equestrian Games at Tryon, NC and the PanAm Games in Peru. In 2021, GMHA will be sharing Jane with the summer Olympics in Tokyo. We know that she will bring her experiences back to GMHA and to her students.

We are honored to have Jane in our GMHA family and are proud to present her with this award.
Do wills and bequests sound overwhelming? They don’t have to. Do you think that bequests are only made by really wealthy people? Not true. In fact, many people are able to give more through a bequest, also known as a planned gift, than they ever could during their lifetime.

Anyone can make a planned gift to GMHA, and it’s easy.

The first step is to find an estate planning attorney. Ask your friends, relatives and colleagues for references. They can be invaluable in answering questions big and small, simple and complex.

Once you’ve found an attorney, start thinking about your estate goals. Do you have family you want to provide for? Do you have charities that are especially meaningful to you? Do you want to give back to your community?

When you meet with the attorney, you will share these goals and talk about your assets and liabilities. This discussion will help the attorney develop an estate plan that works for you.

That’s it! You’re done.

Now, you can breathe easy knowing you’ve set yourself up to achieve your goals and support the people and causes most important to you. If for some reason your plans change, your estate plan can change also. Remember, your estate plan reflects your wishes and goals.

Leaving a planned gift to GMHA grows the endowment and makes you part of the Silver Stirrup Legacy Society; a group of special, forward-thinking people who want to ensure GMHA is here for future generations.

GMHA’s endowment is currently $2 million, with a goal of growing it to $5 million. Managed by Morgan Stanley, one of the world’s foremost multinational financial services company, GMHA’s endowment is structured such that the principal amount remains prudently invested and untouched. A percentage of the endowment’s income can be used each year for expenses.

GMHA expresses gratitude, posthumously, to Dr. Dan Rice, Silver Stirrup Member, for his gentleness, his kindness and his generosity, in keeping the future of GMHA in his thoughts.
Sue Schwaiger's love of GMHA started back in the 70's as a competitor riding at Training Level and worked her way up through FEI riding Prix St. George in 2017. And, as any good competitor knows, quality horse shows cannot happen without dedicated volunteers working hard behind the scenes to make it all run smoothly. In the early 2000’s, Sue was the Volunteer Coordinator for GMHA’s Dressage Days at that time. Since then, Sue has continued to contribute her time for nearly twenty years! One of her favorite positions is to be a Ring Steward at the White Ring where she enjoys watching the riders warm up their horses. She also enjoys scribing for our judges.

In 2020, Sue plans to continue her training on her beloved Danish Warmblood, Don Man, with daily riding, clinics and lessons. She has achieved her USDF Bronze and Silver medals, and says training is her focus now more than competing as this will allow her to have more time to volunteer at GMHA.

It is our pleasure to recognize Sue as GMHA’s 2019 Senior Volunteer of the Year. Thank you, Sue, on behalf of all at GMHA!

Casper Cole

By Kelly Cyr

I was immediately inspired by Casper’s work ethic. As I continued to work with her, I was also exceptionally impressed by her commitment to her education and her goals. Casper’s flexibility and adaptability were valuable assets as she successfully accomplished many different tasks that went beyond volunteer expectations.

Casper’s first volunteer experience at GMHA was as a cross country jump judge at the June Horse Trials. She continued to be an influential volunteer throughout the season at the Starter Horse Trials, Dressage Days, Festival of Eventing, and Combined Driving Events. When asked about her plans for the 2020 season, she expressed an interest in continuing to volunteer. She also has a goal of competing at the Starter Horse Trials.

I’m so happy GMHA is able to be a part of her journey and we are so lucky to have her as part of our community. On behalf of GMHA, we are proud to award Casper with the Youth Volunteer of the Year for 2019. Thank you for all that you have done for us!

Sue Schwaiger

By Jill Bogert

Sue Schwaiger’s love of GMHA started back in the 70’s as a competitor riding at Training Level and worked her way up through FEI riding Prix St. George in 2017. And, as any good competitor knows, quality horse shows cannot happen without dedicated volunteers working hard behind the scenes to make it all run smoothly. In the early 2000’s, Sue was the Volunteer Coordinator for GMHA’s Dressage Days at that time. Since then, Sue has continued to contribute her time for nearly twenty years! One of her favorite positions is to be a Ring Steward at the White Ring where she enjoys watching the riders warm up their horses. She also enjoys scribing for our judges.

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At the GMHA USEA June Eventing Clinic, you can expect to ride with four top clinicians over a professionally designed stadium and cross country course. Over the course of three days, riders will participate in two private dressage lessons, two group stadium lessons, and two group cross country lessons.

Robert Costello and John Zopatti will be returning for the 2020 clinic. Costello has been a successful competitor at both the Pan American Games and at the Olympics. He is also a level IV member of the USEA Instructor Certification Program. Zopatti is a USDF Bronze, Silver, & Gold Medalist, 4-time GCDA Trainer of the Year, and USEF Dressage Judge.

New to our team of esteemed clinicians are Eric Horgan and Diane Ritz. Horgan has over 20 years of world class competitive and training experience, including World Championship and Olympic events. He is also a level IV member and serves on the committee of the Instructor Certification Program. Ritz has achieved her USDF bronze, silver, and gold medals. Everyone can enjoy the meet-and-greet Tuesday June 30 after lessons are completed for the day. Converse about the day’s education and chat with clinicians while indulging in delicious hors d’oeuvres.

GMHA members are able to take advantage of the Members’ Day on the Monday between the competition and the clinic.
GMHA's programs and events are designed to help equestrian youth pursue their riding and horsemanship goals year after year.

**Summer Internships** are a great way to earn college credit towards your degree or gain valuable experience in the equestrian world. Learn what it takes to host sanctioned events from behind-the-scenes at our nationally-recognized venue!

**Volunteers** are the backbone and essential part of a successful event here at GMHA. We believe it’s important to get involved early so our youth understand the riding discipline they love. GMHA events could not run without the dedicated support and time of our volunteers. Don’t ride? That’s ok! There is something for everyone and we’re happy to teach you. Contact our event managers to get involved this season!

**Educational Clinics** are an important facet of GMHA’s mission. We offer a variety of lectures and riding clinics throughout the season. Check out our Positive Reinforcement Clinics in the fall, course walks during Festival of Eventing, Wheel Runners driving clinics, and the 64th Annual Junior Horsemanship Clinic.

Competitions are hosted in five disciplines that offer divisions for juniors and young riders at all levels of experience in endurance & competitive trail riding, eventing, dressage, hunter/jumper, and driving. Check out our calendar and you are bound to find something to suit your riding interests!

Scholarships and Awards are available through GMHA in activities specifically geared towards the young rider. These scholarships and awards allow young equestrians to pursue their equestrian dreams. If interested, please apply by the dates listed below:

**Young Equestrian Development Scholarship**

Assistance is available to young riders and allows them to compete or participate in a learning activity at GMHA. The application deadline is May 15, 2020.

**2020 Eileen Wilmot Award**

$2,000 Available

Sponsored by Birch Hill Farm, this award is given to the highest placing junior or young rider competing at the Festival of Eventing August Horse Trials competing at the Preliminary level to invest in lessons, clinics and competitions.

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**Junior Horsemanship Clinic**

June 21–28, 2020

GMHA will host its 64th Annual Junior Horsemanship Clinic (JHC) at the end of June. The JHC is New England’s premier eventing camp for young riders.

We are happy to report the return of many previous instructors and barn managers, as well as top clinicians from the Area 1 World Games Team. Bourgoin and Sutti have focused on the upper level riders. Last year we had 71 campers, with over fifty percent returning from the previous year! For those looking to make the most of the weekend at GMHA, we have the Starter Horse Trials on Saturday, June 20. Overnight stabling is available for competitors staying on to attend JHC the following day.

JHC’s main focus is to encourage young riders to become well-rounded equestrians with an emphasis on horsemanship. Good stable management practices, handling, grooming, presentation, basic veterinary care, nutrition and fitness preparation are as important as the mounted lessons in dressage, cross country, and stadium jumping. Mounted instruction is based around Eventing principles, but we accept all levels of English riding disciplines. Family and friends are invited to watch at the JHC Show-Off Day on Sunday, June 28 from 9am–noon, prior to closing ceremonies and departure that afternoon.

Campers bring their own mounts and find housing nearby through rentals or chaperones. The JHC brochure, application, and scholarship information is available at www.gmhainc.org. Application deadline is April 10, 2020.
This past summer co-worker and manager of our Junior Horsemanship Camp, Jill Bogert, gazed across the hall and asked “Do you remember a horse named Samba?”

My reply ‘Did I ever!’

In the winter of 2014, trailer after trailer arrived here carrying twenty-three Arabians, legally seized by Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society and brought here for several months of rehabilitation. Samba was the youngest of the group and made an immediate impression. It was reported that he dragged volunteer, Courtney Walker, across the yard from where he was being removed, and as they entered the Upwey barn another volunteer, kiddingly yelled out “You could do a fifty [miler] on that one right now!”

Yes, Samba, at nineteen, was the spunky one, handsome, and in better flesh than his herd mates.

All the horses were cared for through generous donations and by dedicated volunteers until they were cleared for fostering and/or adoption in the spring. Samba found a foster home with volunteer Charlene Bauer, who a year later when we did a follow up, reported that she never thought she’d like Arabs, but Samba converted her. After three months of basic ground work and round penning she swung her leg over him and off they went to the trail.

Samba’s good fortune continued when he made another convert. At thirteen years of age Lexi Orleans is full of passion for horses and it would be every horse’s dream to be owned by such a person. Lexi had owned and leased a variety of horses, and when she came by Samba in 2018, they just clicked. Her pet name for him is Bubba or Sam. They enjoy just having fun and she says of him “We have a special bond, so he likes to be in my space. Between all the horses I have had before, he is the best out of all of them. He is kind and has a great personality and treats me well”.

Last year Lexi and Samba rode Beginner Novice level at JHC and we so look forward to seeing them again this year.
Eventers love it at GMHA! We will host three USEA/USEF sanctioned events in 2020, along with our popular and fun Starter Horse Trials. Our quality events showcase a roster of the best officials in the industry—with amazing geo-textile footing for dressage and stadium, and professionally designed cross-country courses ranging from Intro to Preliminary, and up to FEI 2*-S and Intermediate level courses during the Festival of Eventing.

New this year…GMHA is excited to host the USEA Area 1 Championships during our September Horse Trials! We have the honor of hosting the championships for the next three years.

GMHA welcomes back Alice Andrews as our Event Organizer from Florida for our three sanctioned events along with in-house event manager, Jill Rogert as Show Secretary. Returning Show Jumping designers are:

- William Robertson from Kentucky for the June Horse Trials and September Horse Trials & Area 1 Championships
- Chris Barnard from Florida for the 2nd Annual Jumper Schooling Day and the Festival of Eventing

And, new this season, we are pleased to announce the following Cross Country Course designers:

- Mogie Beardon-Muller from Maryland for the June Horse Trials
- Morgan Rowsell from New Jersey for the Festival of Eventing August Horse Trials and September Horse Trials & Area 1 Championships
- James and Jamie Gornall, father and son team from Massachusetts and Vermont, will design stadium and cross-country for the Starter Horse Trials

**June Horse Trials**

**June 27-28, 2020**

USEA/USEF Sanctioned

Beginner Novice – Preliminary

Saturday: Dressage & Show Jumping | Sunday: Cross-Country

Start the season at GMHA with one of the first events in Area 1. We get started as soon as the snow melts to make sure cross country is gallop ready! Get your entries in early as this is a popular event.

**Who’s Behind the Scenes?**

**Eventing**

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**Starter Horse Trials**

**August 30, 2020**

Unrecognized One Day Event

Pre-Elementary – Training/Novice

The Starter Horse Trials gives you that big event atmosphere in a more relaxed and educational environment. The show is a great way to get started with your first event, introduce green horses to the sport in a low-key setting, or move-up a level before entering a recognized show. We offer the following levels:

- Pre-Elementary (2’)
- Elementary (2’3”)
- Beginner Novice (2’7”)
- Novice (2’11”) 
- Training/Novice (3’3”)

Not quite ready to tackle cross-country? Not to worry, we also offer a Combined Test division consisting of just dressage and show jumping for all the levels.

**September Horse Trials & USEA Area 1 Championships**

**September 12–13, 2020**

USEA/USEF Sanctioned

Beginner Novice – Preliminary

Saturday: Dressage & Show Jumping | Sunday: Cross-Country

Eventing at GMHA is still going strong with the September Horse Trials, and new this year we are hosting the USEA Area 1 Championships the same weekend! Check out qualification requirements on the USEA website at www.useventing.com. Book your lodging early, as this is the start of foliage season in the greater Woodstock area!

**COVID-19 Dates Change**

**Festival of Eventing – Next Page**

Photos by Flatlandsfoto.
The high point of the summer season for eventers at GMHA and Area 1 is the Festival of Eventing, held this year from August 7 to 9. This year we are allowing the Junior BN and BN Rider divisions to compete over the weekend. We are hoping that this change will allow some of our lower level competitors to experience the atmosphere of the full Festival and provide an enhanced educational experience to them. All novice divisions compete on Friday during the one-day horse trials.

The Festival is designed to be inclusive: Not ready to take on the fixed obstacles at speed? Go for a course walk with an expert on two feet, at a brisk walk. Or, ready to take on the big stuff? The Festival is the only offering of international level (FEI) competition in New England. We have a new course designer for the 2020 Festival. Morgan Rowsell joins us to design our courses, bringing a wealth of experience designing and building courses up through the 4* level. We look forward to seeing how he uses GMHA’s varying terrain to challenge and educate our competitors.

Want to relax and have fun with your horse friends? Join the block party tent and bleachers by stadium jumping on Saturday afternoon complete with a variety of locally grown and produced foods. Saturday evening, enjoy the Competitor’s Party with wood fired pizza from La Pizza Lupo. Custom pizzas, featuring local artisanal cheeses, charcuterie, vegetables, and greens prepared right in front of you and then cooked in the back of a fully restored 1952 Ford 600. Sunday will be a full day of fun and excitement with all divisions taking on the professionally designed cross country courses.

Volunteering at eventing competitions is always a lot of fun (and a source for the elusive free lunch). See your friends by ring stewarding in the warm up or try your hand at figuring out exactly what constitutes a refusal at a non-vertical element on Cross-Country day (don’t worry, we will get you educated with the help of our excellent Technical Delegate!) We are always looking for volunteers and members to join the Festival committee, so let us know if you want to help!

There is plenty to celebrate at the Festival of Eventing!

**Festival of Eventing**
August 7–9, 2020

**Friday**
Open Beginner Novice & Novice 1-Day Event + CCI2*-S & Intermediate Dressage

**Saturday**
CCI2*-S Show Jumping + I, P, T, BNR, BDN Dressage & Show Jumping

**Sunday**
CCI2*-S, Intermediate, Preliminary & Training Cross-Country

La Pizza Lupo truck.

Photos by Flatlandsfoto.

USEA/USEF/FEI Sanctioned • CCI2*-S • Intermediate–Beginner Novice
Spring Hunter Jumper Show
June 20, 2020

There is something for everyone at the GMHA Spring Hunter Jumper Show—from the beginner ground pole division to 3’ hunter, jumper, and equitation division—and everything in between. For the 2020 season, we will continue to affiliate with and offer medal classes for the Vermont Hunter Jumper Association, New England Horsemanship Council, and Capital District Hunter Jumper Council.

Don’t miss our very popular Hunter Derbies Sunday morning offered at 2’, 2’6” and 3’, held in the Upwey arena on European Geo-Textile Footing. GMHA membership is not required to compete, but member vs. nonmember stabling rates apply.

Summer Hunter Jumper Show
July 8–12, 2020

Five fun filled days of horse showing with a full range of hunter, equitation, and jumper classes. The Summer Hunter Derbies will be back for the 2020 season. These very popular classes in their first year ran with over 50 accumulated first trips. We look forward to continual growth of the Summer Derby classes in the future. Join these thrilling classes—held in the Upwey arena on geo-textile footing.

Team Jumper Challenge
July 8, 2020

Gather your barn mates to put together a team of 3 or 4 for the 2020 Team Jumper Challenge. Compete for prize money at the 2’6”, 3’, and 3’6” level. Times and penalties are combined for the fastest three riders on the team. The lowest cumulative team score will bring home the bacon!

Make it a barn party and compete for the Team of Teams Barn Award. This award is received by the barn that puts together three teams, one of which must be at the 3’ height or higher, and accumulates the most points between the three teams.

August Hunter Jumper Show
August 14–16, 2020

We’re looking forward to the same great Hunter Jumper Show on a different date. Mark your calendars for our new August date. We are offering our full range of hunter, equitation, and jumper classes as well as our very popular Derby Day to be held on Saturday, August 15. The Derby course will be set in the Jump Field on grass footing. Accumulate points at all three of our 2’6” and 3’ Hunter Derbies to be anointed the GMHA 2020 Hunter Derby Champion.

With the date change we are able to extend the competition to three days and three rings. Jumpers will compete in the Upwey arena, equitation will take place in the White ring, and hunter classes will remain in the Walker arena.

COVID-19 DATE CHANGE
Starter Horse Trials
August 30, 2020
See page 25 for more information about this fun and educational horse trials to help you get started with Eventing or introduce young horses to the discipline.

Jumper Schooling Day
August 5, 2020
Get a jump start on the competition ahead of Festival weekend at the Jumper Schooling Day. Our course Designer, Chris Barnard, will offer challenging courses from BN through Intermediate to get you warmed up before the horse trials. This event is open to everyone, not just Festival competitors! Entries open on June 23 and close on July 31, but post entries are accepted on day of the event.

Photos by Abby Rowlee Photography.
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www.landvest.com

Ruth Kennedy Sudduth – Vice Chair | 617-357-0455 | rsudduth@landvest.com

Four The Green | Woodstock, VT 05091 | 802-457-4977

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Celebrating Over 50 Years of Knowledge, Service and Results.
Season Preview

GMHA experience this trail riding season!

look forward to providing you with the best endurance rides at GMHA. Joining her this year is Hannah Bright who will be returning as the Ride Manager for pleasure, competitive trail and endurance rides. This year she will be joined by Wendy Allen, the Trail Secretary. They both have a wealth of experience in endurance riding.

By Hannah Bright

Trails

This year Hannah Bright will be returning as the Ride Manager for pleasure, competitive trail and endurance rides at GMHA. Joining her this year as trail secretary will be Wendy Allen. They both look forward to providing you with the best GMHA experience this trail riding season!

Competitive Trail & Endurance

The competition season begins with the Spring Distance Ride weekend. June 6-7 kicks it off with the Competitive Trail Ride and Drive. This year offers an ECTRA sanctioned 25-Mile Competitive Trail Ride and Drive and a 15-Mile Conditioning Distance Ride and Drive. June 7 is the ECTRA/AERC cosanctioned Endurance Ride. There will be a 50 mile, 30 mile limited distance ride, and a 10 mile introductory ride. This weekend is a great opportunity for spring conditioning for seasoned competitors, and for riders new to the sport to dip their toes in and get a feel for competitive or endurance riding.

Next up for competitive rides is the ECTRA sanctioned August 25/25/50 Competitive Trail Ride and Drive on August 1-2. Choose to ride or drive either day for individual 25 miles, or complete a 50-mile over both days.

Are you and your horse up for a challenge? Don’t miss the event of the season, Distance Days and the 84th Annual 100-Mile Ride. This historic three day competitive trail ride will take place on September 4-6. If you’re not up for 100 miles, there are plenty of other offerings to celebrate all distances of trail riding. Choose 75, 60, 40, 35, 25 or 15 miles on the most beautiful and challenging trails GMHA has to offer.

We celebrate pleasure riding this weekend as well with various distances to choose from on the famous 100-mile route. This event is not to be missed, and boasts the best awards, food, and social gatherings. The 100-Mile Banquet and Landowner Appreciation Dinner will be Thursday, September 3. This special evening is a thank you to the landowners who allow us to ride on their land, without them we would not be able to have these incredible trails. It also celebrates the riders going the distance, volunteers, and everyone who makes this historic event happen.

Going for the Trail Horse of the Year Award? It will be awarded at the end of Distance Days! The award goes to the GMHA member with the highest points and miles combined from the Spring Competitive Trail Ride/Endurance, 25/25/50, Distance Days, and the Fall Endurance (from the previous year).

The final endurance ride is the Fall Endurance, held on October 9. The foliage is peak, and trails are beautiful this time of year in Vermont. Come enjoy a challenging 50-mile or 30-mile limited distance endurance ride, sanctioned by ECTRA and AERC.

Our Hunter Pace will be October 17 this year. Enjoy a fun pace through the trails, fields, and woods surrounding GMHA with optional jumps. The goal is to finish closest to the hidden optimum time. Hacking and hunting divisions are offered so you can compete at a fast or slow pace.

Pleasure Riding

As always, pleasure rides are offered at all of our competitive rides. So even if you aren’t interested in competing you can still come ride on marked short or long distance routes. In addition, we offer our Memorial Day Pleasure Ride and Fall Foliage Pleasure Rides. Our pleasure rides offer many options to mix and match days, distances, frills or no frills. All pleasure rides are New England Horse and Trail affiliated so there are many opportunities to rack up the miles.

Kick off the pleasure ride season with the Memorial Day Pleasure Ride on Monday, May 23-24. This ride features a lunch stop at a scenic spot on the trail, or on Saturday, a catered dinner Saturday evening and enjoy it all off with brunch on Sunday. This event is a great way to get out with trail riding friends and celebrate the start of summer and trail riding.

Continued...
On July 5, we have the Twilight Pleasure Ride. This year’s ride is on a Sunday evening (so as not to conflict with your 4th of July plans), but still on a Members’ weekend. This way, you can come and stay the whole weekend and take advantage of the back-to-back Member’s Days and use of the Member’s trail loops. The evening ride will be followed by a potluck dinner.

The best time of year for trail riding in Vermont is in the fall and at our famous Fall Foliage Ride. You can experience four full days of foliage and spectacular views. Thursday features an offsite trailer ride (location TBA), and Friday-Sunday rides from the GMHA grounds on different trails each day. Lunch on Friday and Saturday will be served at a scenic spot on the trail. There will be special meals on Saturday evening and for Sunday brunch—with additional fun and social gatherings in the mix. Don’t miss out—this is the biggest pleasure ride of the year!

New this year, we are offering an extra day of pleasure riding following the Fall Endurance Ride. Make a long weekend of it and stay for the Komen Ride for the Cure on Monday, October 12. After that, every weekday is a Members Day until the end of the month—so take advantage of the opportunity to ride the trails!

See you out on the trail!
Dressage

Elegance from A to X

By Jill Bogert

Let the Music Carry You

July 25 • October 3

Take time to join us for an afternoon on the lawn behind the White Ring to watch the Musical Freestyles.

Dressage at GMHA brings riders from all over New England, Canada and the Mid-Atlantic regions to compete throughout the season at our three USEF/USDF recognized dressage shows. Classes from Introductory through Grand Prix are offered at all shows, and most are qualifiers for regional and national competitions.

All of our shows are spectator friendly events! Mark your calendars to see the Musical Freestyles on the Saturdays of each show weekend. Marvel as the horse and rider teams perform choreographed movements to music specifically selected to match the horse’s gait and personality!

Want to get involved? Contact GMHA to volunteer for any number of positions that will put you ringside for all of the action.

Who’s Who of Dressage at GMHA

When you first step foot on the historic grounds and sprawling stables at GMHA, we’ve already been hard at work for months in advance prepping for this very moment! This is what makes GMHA a favorite venue among our Dressage competitors in New England (USDF Region 8). Keeping the event organized and the show office running smoothly is Secretary Sue McKoon and in-house Event Manager Jill Bogert, working together for all three shows this season. Assisting Sue in the show office and with scoring is Michelle Ugartechea, along with Jillian Egan and Kerry Swain.

June Dressage Show

June 12–14, 2020
USEF/USDF Level 3 Show

In June, get qualified for the 2020 Dressage championships listed below:

- 2020 Adequan FEI North American Junior/Young Rider Championships
- 2020 USEF Children Dressage National Championship, Pony Rider Dressage National Championship, Junior and U16 Rider Dressage National Championships
- 2020 USEF Young Adult ‘Brentina Cup’ Dressage National Championship presented by Dressage Today
- 2020 Markel/USEF Young and Developing Horse Dressage Championships
- 2020 GAIG/USDF Regional Championship

Fall Dressage Show

October 3–4, 2020 • USEF/USDF Level 2 Show

2021 GAIG/USDF Regional Championship Qualifying Competition

Round out the season during fall foliage at GMHA! This two day show is a great opportunity if you’re looking to move up a level or putting the polishing touches on the level you’ve been working on all season! We welcome non-competing horses and stalls are available. So, bring the greenies out to school with that big show feeling! Intro tests through Grand Prix—and Musical Freestyles—are offered. Book your rooms early since this is leaf peeper season in the greater Woodstock area!
Spring Combined Test & Arena Driving Trials
August 1–2, 2020
Gradually ease into the combined driving season this spring. Start with a combined test on Saturday, then raise the intensity at the arena driving trials on Sunday. Marathon obstacles are set up in the White Ring to achieve the intense nature of the competition within a safe environment.

Saturday night enjoy a delicious BBQ chicken dinner in the youth center and join us in supporting the West Weathersfield Volunteer Fire Department. Unwind with music, food and great company. Catch up with your with peers about season triumphs and the great driving season ahead.

Navigator Clinic with Andy Marcoux
July 31, 2020 – New for 2020!
Cultivate valuable skills and develop a strong partnership as a driver and navigator team. This two part clinic is open to driver/navigator pairs, individual participants, and auditors to take part in a lecture and hand-on training sessions.

Combined Test & Combined Driving Event
August 21–23, 2020
GMHA continues to host the only Combined Driving Event in New England. We invite Singles, Pairs, Four-In-Hand, Tandem, and Unicorn turnouts in four divisions from Training to Intermediate II. The CDE event tests versatility for the horse in sport. Time penalties in cones and on the marathon course are converted to points and added to the driver’s dressage penalties. When all is set and done, the driver with the lowest number of penalty points will take the cake.

Did someone mention cake? Marathon volunteers can enjoy cake and ice cream at the end of the day!

Following the competitor briefing Friday, August 21, competitors are invited to indulge in a catered dinner party. This event is complimentary to competitors. Extra tickets are available for advanced purchase.

Fall Driving Classic
September 18–20, 2020
Participation on the Driving Derby grew by 100% from 2018 to 2019. We are looking for even further continued growth during the 2020 season. The Driving Derby consists of two rounds incorporating cones and marathon obstacles, making it a true test of speed and precision. The top five fastest combined times in each division will come back for a final chance to take home the championship title. To add to the excitement we will be bringing back our announcer and musical playlist.

This historic event will continue to have a Combined Test on Friday and Pleasure Show on Sunday. The pleasure show will start with the popular cones classes “Pick your Route” and “Reverse Psychology.” Drive through the beautiful fall foliage in the “Pleasure Pace” attempting to arrive at the finish marker on the exact second. The Pleasure show finishes out with ring classes in the Walker arena. Reinsmanship, and Working are offered for both Novice and Open drivers, Carriage Dog and more classes are available.
In Memoriam

Carol Ferguson Fitch
Perkinsville, VT, wife of Graham Fitch, passed on December 12, 2019. Growing up on her family farm in Springfield, Vermont, Carol had a love of horses and rode as a young girl. She later took up carriage driving and for many years gave lessons. Her love of horses was shared with her daughters.

Carol’s kindness and compassion was a valuable asset to GMHA. She and her husband, Graham, were the night owls in the Members’ Room during many of the events; keeping the lights on and making routine stable checks to ensure the safety of the stabled horses and giving peace of mind to the competitors following a day of competition. Our condolences go out to her family.

Coleman Hoyt
Husband of Cecilia Hoyt, Woodstock, VT, passed on October 9, 2019. Coleman was a successful business man, employed by Reader’s Digest for forty years and was Chairman of the Postmaster General’s Mailers Technical Advisory Committee in Washington, DC. After retiring in 1988, he moved full time to the family farm in Vermont and enjoyed raising horses, sheep, and Brittany Spaniels. Coleman was a strong supporter of GMHA and Cecilia continues to be a treasured addition to the events.

Daniel Rice VMD III
Hubbardston/Holden, MA, husband of Carol Rice, passed on August 23, 2019. “Doctor Dan”, a Silver Stirrup member, had many interests from sailing to world class service dogs to dog sled racing. We remember Dr. Dan most for his love of competitive trail riding, as both a competitor and a judge. He had amassed over 4000 ECTRA miles much of which was earned while competing here. One has only to look at the span of time the photos reveal. Dr. Dan, always the gentlemen was a pleasure to know.

Sarah Wong
Daughter of Gail Wong, Topsfield, MA passed on January 30, 2020. Sarah always enjoyed helping people and animals. Working in the equine industry became her profession and her passion as she cared, trained and raised horses and ponies for various competitions from 3-Day Eventing to Miniature Horse Driving. She will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

We will miss these wonderful members who contributed greatly to GMHA.
Who are you and how did you get to where you are?
We (Lauren and Peter) met in central Vermont when Lauren was managing a vegetable farm and Peter was the executive chef at Wild Roots Restaurant. From day one, we enjoyed working together and dreaming of starting a business that fit into our strong, agricultural community. After months of writing a business plan and connecting with more farmers and producers, we met with the Friends of the Brownsville General Store. The general store had closed in the previous year and this group had formed an LLC to privately raise the capital necessary to reopen the beloved store. We recognized that the fit could not be more perfect, so we made a few edits to our business plan, and with the help and support of the Friends of the Brownsville General Store, as well as many friends and family members, we opened the Brownsville Butcher & Pantry in November, 2018.

The Brownsville Butcher & Pantry provides our community with everything from staple grocery items like milk and eggs, to some rather obscure items like preserved lemons or unique cheeses, and everything in between. We source from many local farms for all of the meat in our butcher case, cheeses and other dairy, and produce.

Within the store is our 24-seat café, serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner. We love that on any given day, we will see many familiar faces who we know very well, and also new faces that come back around the holidays and special events. Regardless, we get to know our guests well and feel very proud to think that we are the community “watering hole.”

What challenges have you had to overcome?
We had to overcome many challenges just to get the building prepared for reopening the store. In the beginning, we thought we could make a few modifications and add a new heating system, but when all said and done, the building became a full gut job. We had to get creative with financing as the project grew larger.

There were limitations with the proximity to Millbrook, behind us, which we still feel today. We are currently facing one of our largest challenges, with the rest of the world, hurdling COVID-19. Each day we feel our business is evolving at a level unforeseen. But with challenges, often comes growth. We find ourselves getting even more creative when things do not go as planned.

How do you look to better your community?
We live in a very rural area, and with that comes benefits and drawbacks, just with any other type of living. We look to better our community by being involved, stepping up and pitching in (personally and professionally), providing our community with a place to gather and socialize, and being a resource for our community.

What are some of your proudest moments or products?
Our proudest moments are always those moments when a guest has a look of complete happiness biting into one of our sandwiches or French fries. Or when someone walks through our store, just visiting for the weekend and exclaims to their family, “they have everything that we always forget, here!” That is when we feel we have done our job, when we have our customers covered for this meal, and those following.

A stand-alone moment was last December when Governor Phil Scott came to visit our store. He described our establishment as an example of rural living, where we need people and businesses such as ours to pull together to get what we need done. Our town was lacking a hub without a store, and we all pitched in to pull up our bootstraps and revive our store. Scott’s visit was a proud moment in that we felt like the town was wrapping their arms around us and giving us a big hug after the enormous amount of effort we have put into this business over the course of the past two years.

Our staff are some of our proudest products. We have an incredibly strong team that produces amazing products, without them we could not accomplish what we have.
**Accommodations**

**GMHA Ranch House**
Stay right here on the GMHA grounds. Comfortable 2 & 3 bedroom apartments, wifi, fully-equipped kitchen, and deck overlooking the Upwey Ring. Renters must bring linens. Well-behaved dogs allowed, must be leashed at all times.
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**506 On the River Inn**
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**Aquene—The Mulman Guest House**
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**Cowshed Cabin Farm**
4 miles from GMHA; 2 bedroom, fully furnished log cabin, 4 stall barn with pastures on the trail network. Walk-out deck, porch, washer/dryer, TV, dogs welcome.
(802) 484-3780 • cowshedcabinfarm.com

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Accommodations
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triplecrownfeed.com

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