

2012 Events

January 7: Club Meeting: Tack Cleaning and Movie Night

EAST HADDAM GRANGE ~ 6:30 ~ POTLUCK

You know you have to **make time to clean and inspect your harness**. You know you need an **incentive** to do it. Don't wait until driving season, the winter season is a great time to get to it! Bring your harness, bridle (saddle, if you like). That old leather halter could use some attention too.

Synthetic harness? Even a synthetic harness needs to be taken apart, dirt scrubbed from behind buckles, and inspected for wear and weak spots.

Don't compete? You have a large investment in your equipment, and in your safety! Clean equipment is safer for you and more comfortable for your horse.

Your harness is already clean? GOOD! We want you! Tell us your tips and tricks. And (ahem) we're sure we can find something for you to clean!

Really REALLY don't want to clean harness? Come for the conversation and the camaraderie. Tell us your stories, and we'll tell you ours.

Some supplies and rags will be available. Several movies available – WEG, Live Oaks, or bring your favorite. Hot chocolate will be featured, in addition to the usual potluck. Meeting agenda includes a preview of this year's planned events.

February 4: Club Meeting: Bevin Bells of East Hampton

East Haddam Grange ~ 6:30 pm ~ Potluck followed by program

Bevin Brothers, one of the oldest continuously operated factories in Connecticut (making hand-crafted bells since 1832), is the last remnant of a once-thriving industry that earned East Hampton the nickname "Bell Town, USA." East Hampton once produced 90 percent of the world's sleigh bells. In addition to traditional sleigh bells, Bevin Brosnow produces cow bells sold at football games and ski races, teacher's bells, tea bells, patio and yacht bells, even the hand bells that Salvation Army workers ring outside retail stores. "It's nostalgia," Bevin says. "Bells make attractive sounds that bring back so many important moments in a life — weddings, the dinner bell, Christmas. They conjure up images that were important in people's lives."

That nostalgia runs deep in the New England experience, even if few people recall exactly how sleigh bells came to symbolize winter and the Christmas season. In the 19th century, when roads were narrow and curved, sleigh runners gliding over the

snow were almost completely silent. Harness bells were introduced to warn pedestrians and others on the road about the approach of another sleigh, and were considered so important that many states passed laws requiring their use.

See more at <http://bevinbells.com/>

March 3: Club Meeting: Jerry Trapani Presentation

10:00-3:00--Jerry Trapani brings a lifetime of experience with horses, carriages, farriery and more. His talks are always well attended, and you won't want to miss this all day event. Topics include hooves and hoof care, both shod and barefoot, carriages and harnesses, and the CAA proficiency test process. Potluck lunch.

CVDC membership or donation required.

Come for an hour or stay all day! Please bring a dish to share.

About Jerry: An accomplished Whip and "Horseaholic", he enjoys driving his team of 4 black Morgans, and riding them as well, with his wife and friend of 34 years, Rita, from their home on Long Island, Shadbelly Farm. In 1985, he authored the book "Equine Hoof Care," published by Arco Press. Now out of print, it sold over 35,000 copies worldwide. Certified by The American Farriers Association, The Guild of Professional Farriers and the Brotherhood of Professional Farriers, he has written many articles for magazines and books and is a popular speaker on many equine topics. Jerry has been elected to the board of the Carriage Association of America and was the safety committee chair and is now the Carriage Showcase Committee co-chair. He has helped design several successful carts and carriages. He has also completed the Carriage Association of America's highest level of Driver's Proficiency and is a certified instructor and evaluator. He also does carriage and harness appraisals and has been an expert witness in several equine-related cases. He and Rita judge at dressage, events and sleigh rallies and do clinics for all levels of equestrians. He was the founding president of the Paumanok Driving Club and the Vice Chairman of the Friends of Connetquot on Long Island.

April 7: Carriage Museum Tour: Wordell's Carriage Museum

You do not want to miss this jewel, right in our back yard! The Wordell's have an incredible collection of carriages, sleighs, wagons, large, small, wheels, runner. Ranging from fancy Brewsters to the tiny mail carriage to the huge gypsy van wagon. **RSVP is required, contact Rita at program@cvdrivingclub.com or at 800-204-9314.**

Wordell's Carriage Museum 509 New London Rd (Rt 85) Salem, CT 06420

(Old Ransome Farm is located on Rt 85, between Rt 82 to the North and Rt 161 to the South.) 11 am start time. If we have a particularly large group, we will have two times. (Mr. Wordell requests a \$5 donation from visitors.)

April 14 and 15: Spring Clinic with Larry Poulin

~ High Hopes, Lyme, CT

Internationally renowned driver **Larry Poulin** will again bring his experience and insights for CVDC's 2012 spring clinic. Best known for his success in combined driving, Larry competed an unprecedented 10 times at the World Championships, and won 8 USET Pairs Championships here in the US. He teaches all levels of drivers and all types of turnout. His focus on training the horse and developing the whip will enhance your driving experience, whether for show or for pleasure. Larry will conduct individual 45-minute sessions, beginning at 8 am.

**Don't miss this opportunity!
Last year's sessions filled within a week,
so reserve your spot early!**

Details:

§ CVDC Members \$100, first come, first served. Register by March 15 to secure your spot! One session per driver. Additional sessions available after March 15.

§ Non-members \$125, registrations accepted after March 15. Fee includes one year CVDC membership.

§ Auditors: \$20. Excellent sound system, you won't miss a thing. (Drivers: one groom free of charge.)

High Hopes has a spacious indoor arena with non-dusty footing and a heated viewing lounge with seating. Bathrooms, vending machines, and wide barn aisles. Easy in-and-out and parking for trailers. Stalls available @ \$35/day if needed.

Some refreshments (coffee, etc.) will be provided. Please bring a light lunch for yourself.

Send check made out to CVDC, Coggins and Rabies Certificate to

Marguerite Hayber, 109 Chittenden Rd., Amston, CT 06231 / 860-267-6552 / marguerite@hayber.us — mention preference for Saturday or Sunday, AM or PM slot.

April 28: Spring Pleasure Drive: Beacon Woods Stable: Glastonbury, CT

Kathie Rindge has made arrangements for an exciting new venue for our first drive of the 2012 season. Join us on Saturday, April 28, at 11 am, for a drive through Meshomasic State Forest, located (in part) in South Glastonbury. 4 gravel roads, rolling

hills – if all roads are taken, up to 17 miles of trail! Maps will be available with mileage and turn-around points (no loops). Parking and “staging area” are offered to us by Beacon Woods Stables. Bring your lunch and plan on having a GREAT DAY!

Please call Kathie Rindge to let her know you are coming: 860-228-3801.

(For GPS, use 298 Clark Hill Road, South Glastonbury, CT 06073, watch for Beacon Woods on your left shortly before that destination)

DIRECTIONS:

1. From RT. 2 West take exit 10 at end of ramp, go left to stop sign. OR
2. From RT. 2 East take exit 10 at end of ramp, go right to stop sign.
3. Turn right onto New London turnpike go 0.6 mi
4. Turn left at stop light onto Chestnut Hill Rd go 0.8mi
5. At stop sign Turn left onto Hopewell Rd go 0.5mi
6. Take slight left onto Woodland St go straight across stop sign 1.5 mi
7. Turn left onto Clark Hill Rd go 0.8mi
8. Turn left onto Beacon Woods Lane to parking

May 5: Obstacle Building with Marc Johnson: Woodland Farm, Lyme

Marc Johnson’s obstacles have been borrowed and copied all up and down the East Coast.

Come find out what you need to build your own – just think of all the practice you will get in once you have an obstacle at home!

Marc will show-and-tell as he builds portable and storable hazard components in the morning, followed by an after-lunch “trot-through” and Q&A about different ways to flag an obstacle to be both challenging and safe.

Event begins at 10 am at Cynthia Bliven’s Woodland Farm, 194 Beaver Brook Rd, Lyme CT 06371. Please bring your lunch and a chair.

May 20: Co-Drive with LHDC: White Memorial

11:00am - All Ages

White Memorial

80 Whitehall Road

Litchfield, CT, USA 06759

Other Info

White Memorial Foundation 80 Whitehall Rd., Litchfield, Conn. 06759

Contact Dick Mangino @ richardmangino@att.net or 203-272-5257

June 2: Annual Meeting and Election of Officers

6:30pm at East Haddam Grange

488 Town Street

East Haddam, CT 06423

Other Info:

Annual Meeting, Election of Officers and final Horse Driving Trial preparations

June 9: CVDC Horse Driving Trial

August 18: Newport Coaching Weekend: The Elms

When Saturday, August 18, 2012

8:00am - All Ages

Where The Elms ([map](#))

367 Bellevue Avenue

Newport, RI 02840

The Elms is the location of the Coaching event. It was the summer residence of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Julius Berwind of Philadelphia and New York. Mr. Berwind made his fortune in the Pennsylvania coal industry. In 1898, the Berwinds engaged Philadelphia architect Horace Trumbauer to design a house modeled after the mid-18th century French chateau d'Asnieres (c.1750) outside Paris. Construction of The Elms was completed in 1901 at a cost reported at approximately \$1.4 million.

Other Info The most elegant of events, in the most elegant of towns! Let's carpool!

"On Saturday, August 18 at 10 a.m., there will be a Coaching Exhibition on the grounds of The Elms. Admission to the grounds is free for this opportunity to see the coaches and horses up close and experience the skill involved in maneuvering them."

<http://www.newportmansions.org/events/a-weekend-of-coaching>

September 8: Club Meeting: Equine Law and Liability

East Haddam Grange, 6:30 pm, potluck followed by program.)

We look forward to seeing everybody after a busy summer! Join fellow club members for an informative discussion on **EQUINE LAW AND LIABILITY**.

Speakers Doug Dubitsky, attorney specializing in equine matters, and Ron Hocutt, insurance agent, will cover the basic aspects of equine law and insurance most important to individual horse owners.

Buying/selling/leasing a horse

Your horse in the custody of others (boarding, training, etc.)

Injuries/damage caused by your horse

The Equine Activity Warning Sign

Insurance: Homeowners, Liability, Mortality/Medical, Care/Custody/Control

Liens, Claims, Disputes

Equines in Your Estate

BRING YOUR QUESTIONS – AND YOUR SENSE OF HUMOR. (Some of these equine cases can get sort of crazy.)

September 22: Cones Memorial Drive and Picnic: Cones Farm

What Cones Memorial Drive & Picnic

When Saturday, September 22, 2012
11:00am - All Ages

Where Cones' Farm ([map](#))
318 East Haddam Colchester Turnpike
East Haddam, CT 06423

DIRECTIONS:

From Route 9, take exit # 7

Follow Route 82 towards and through East Haddam, CT. That is- exit Route 9, go 2 miles, turn left at the blinking red light, turn right at the first stop light, go over the East Haddam bridge and, still on Route 82, go up the hill (out of the Connecticut River valley) for 2 miles until you come to a stop sign (where you must turn). Turn left onto Route 151. Pass the East Haddam Fire Station and then the East Haddam Grange. (Both on your right) Turn right at the first yellow caution light you come to. You have just turned onto East Haddam- Colchester Tpk. Go for 2 miles. Go over the

Moodus reservoir. Cone's farm will be on your right 1/4 mile past the reservoir. Park in the field on your left.

From Route 2, take exit #16

From the exit ramp take Route 149 South to the stop light at Route 16. Cross over Route 16 and go for approximately 3 miles. Go down Sipple Hill (there is a sign) and take a left onto Mott Lane. (Do not pass by the Moodus Reservoir) Take Mott Lane to the end. Turn right, and you are at Cone's farm. Park in the field on your right.

**Other
Info**

This drive is a club favorite. Join us at 11 am for a friendly jaunt (up to 5-6 miles on local roads, some dirt, some paved). Follow up with a picnic lunch - Ken and Deb Ouelette will provide meat on the grill, please bring a potluck dish and a chair. Contact Randy Sabatino for more information: 860-873-3894.

October 13: Club Meeting: Biting the Driving Horse with Jeff Morse

Explore the art, science, logic and myth of selecting and using bits that work for carriage driving horses. Jeff Morse has a wealth of experience as a trainer, competitor and Morgan enthusiast. And he is a terrific speaker! Don't miss this chance to talk about how a horse's mouth works, how different bits work, and the connection between the two. Show and tell included!

Potluck starts at 6:30, followed by speaker. East Haddam Grange, Rt 154, East Haddam.

October 21: Club Drive: Hammonasset Beach

11:00am

[Hammonasset Beach State Park \(map\)](#)

1288 Boston Post Rd
Madison, CT 06443

A pleasant place for a drive! Contact the ranger first at (203) 245-2785.

Other Info

Bring a chair, your lunch and water for you and your animals. Contact Randy Sabatino for more information: 860-873-3894.

November 4: Field Trip: Tufts Large Animal Veterinary Hospital, MA

November 18: Club Drive: Nehantic Turkey Trot at Woodland Farm

194 Beaver Brook Rd, Lyme, CT 06371

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18 ~ 11 AM

Come along for a pre-Thanksgiving "Turkey Trot"!

Nehantic State Forest has miles of good dirt roads on rolling hills. We are planning a 5-6 mile drive. Whips can do anywhere from 2 miles to 10 if they choose, mile markers will be posted. The first (and last) mile are on a lightly traveled dead end road. Plenty of parking at Cynthia Bliven's Woodland Farm, where we will also join for lunch (firepit and marshmallows if we feel ambitious!). Bring your lunch and a chair. For directions, click on the Nehantic Drive link in the right sidebar. For more information, please call this drive's sponsor, Cynthia Bliven, at 860-434-3213.