**GREENWICH RIDING AND TRAILS ASSOCIATION**

# TIME LINE

1900 Quaker Ridge Stable off of Riversville Road opened (subsequently becomes On the Go Farm, Soundview Stable, and Epona Stable); torn down in 2007

1902 Bridge Street Stable built by John Wahl and his brother Frederick Wahl, father of Theodore “Teddy” Wahl

1. Greenwich Riding Association built stable at Field Club and hired Frederick Wahl to run small riding operation and the beginnings of a hunt group (which would later be organized into the Fairfield and Westchester Hounds); he is assisted by his 14 year old son Teddy Wahl

Raynal C. Bolling named first Master of Hunt

1st Greenwich Horse Show held at Nutdourne Farm, Port Chester, NY

1. Greenwich Riding Association formed by Karl Ely, James Perkins, Charles Lanier, Henry J. Fisher, Emerson Root Newell, Raynal Bolling and Roger S. Baldwin
2. National Steeplechase and Hunt Association recognized the Fairfield and Westchester Hounds

1920 Greenwich Polo Club founded by Alvin Untermeyer

1. Samuel F. Bridge . . . employed continuously at a salary of $125 per month . . .includes the use of his Ford truck, and a horse when needed . . . bridle path gate designed and built which “may readily be opened from horseback” [[1]](#footnote-1)

Emerson Newell, Chairman, Rogers S. Baldwin, Henry J. Fisher, Edgar D. Pouch, J. Alden Twachtman were appointed to the Bridle Path Committee

Bridle Path Ride held 5 p.m. July 29 starting from Field Club Stables through William Rockefeller property, Meadow Lane, Wilson Meadows, Hemlock Gorge, Sterling and Close properties to Round Hill Church . . . after supper continue through the Moore, Redfield and Fisher properties back to the stables

1. Round Hill Stables built by Round Hill Club off of Pecksland Road, thanks to efforts of Emerson Newell, Karl Ely and others; members now able to ride and board horses; first enclosed ring in Greenwich (perhaps transformed from indoor tennis court)

Round Hill Country Club bridle path established

Map of bridle paths sent to each member

1. Teddy Wahl became riding master at the Round Hill Stables (remains there until his death in 1976, assisted over time by daughters Dorothy and Barbara Wahl); created the Professional Horseman Association

Fairfield and Westchester Hounds split into Goldens Bridge Hunt (Westchester country) and Fairfield Hunt (Greenwich country) became separate entity from Greenwich Riding Association

Henry J. Fisher, Chairman, Roger S. Baldwin and J. Alden Twachtman were appointed Bridle Path Committee

1. Greenwich Horse Show relocated to Yale Farms, Greenwich

1927Everett Ostrander hired to maintain trails; construction of 210 gates in three years **(**subsequent trail men: Bud Purdy, Todd Novotny, and Diego Orozco)

1929-1933 William V.C. “Tally” Ruxton, Joint Master; organizes junior drag hunt

1931 Newell Trail dedicated in memory of Emerson Newell; plaque installed on rock by Henry J. Fisher at hole #13 on Round Hill Golf Course

1933 Richard “Robbie” Robinson becomes Master of the Fairfield Hunt

1. Mike Carroll relocated his stable from Townsend property (now Indian

Knoll Road) to present location off of Riversville Road

1. Merritt Parkway constructed with three underpasses for the trails

Greenwich Polo Club disbanded; revived in 1983

1939-40 Margarita “Migi” Noble Serrell serves as Joint Master with “Robbie”

Robinson of the Fairfield Hunt

1940 Suffolk Challenge Plate for Junior Hunt Team at Madison Square Garden won by Greenwich riders (Barbara Wahl, Kathlyn Jennings, Peggy Klipstein) representing Fairfield and Westchester Junior Drag Hunt

1942 Suffolk Challenge Plate for Junior Hunt Team at Madison Square Garden won by Greenwich riders (Ethel Skakel, Zella Kunhardt and Barbara

Wahl) representing Fairfield County Junior Hunt Club

1. New England Pony Club established; “district commissioners”

Elise “Sis” Kelsey and Ann “Dicky” Parrish (subsequently merged with

Goldens Bridge Pony Club)

1. Suffolk Challenge Plate for Junior Hunt Team at Madison Square Garden retired by Greenwich riders (Frances Pryor, Imogene Bragg and Jory Butler) representing Fairfield County Junior Hunt Club
2. Fairfield Hunt became a drag hunt
3. Kelsey family purchased Stubis Farm property on Lake Avenue from Joseph and Helen Wilshire, included a small stable built in1927
4. Kelsey Pony Day Camp begun
5. Fairfield Hunt cast hounds for the last time in Greenwich

Round Hill Stables separates from Round Hill Club

1. Greenwich Riding and Trails Association chartered as non-profit organization, reorganized byThor Ramsing,Helen Castles, Mrs. James “Tinkle” Warfield, Frank R. “Bud” and Betty Parker, Fred Jeffrey

1st Day in the Country chaired by Tinkle Warfield and held at Moore

Property on Mooreland Road; subsequently relocated to Alvin Untermeyer Property (also home of the United States Equestrian Team for a period of time) on Taconic Road, Heron Property on Lower Cross Road and currently at Milliken Property on Pierson Drive

Connic Stable opened on June Road in Stamford (subsequently becomes

The Paddock, Windswept Farm, and is currently Mead Farm)

1960 Ernest Thompson Seton Reservation dedicated for benefit of Boy Scouts

(land subsequently traded with Henry J. Fisher to create access road and 100’ buffer for riding trail)

1. Teddy Wahl purchased the Round Hill Stables property from the Round

Hill Club, with support from Walter B. Devereux

Greenwich Horse Show relocated to Heron Property on Lower Cross Road

1. 1st Hunt Ball held at Round Hill Club, chaired by Norma Bartol

Greenwich Pony Club established, district commissioners Ann Pierce and Lalande McCreery Keeshan

1970 Hunt Ball held at Indian Harbor Yacht Club

1972 Hunt Ball held at “Chieftains”, the Gimbel estate on King Street

1st Dogwood Ride held at Donna and Fred Nives’ property on Lake Avenue and chaired by Donna Nives (subsequently relocated to deKwiatkowski estate on Lower Cross Road and currently at Sabine Farm on Round Hill Road)

1974 1st Hunter Pace originally held at Fred & Donna Nives’ property on Lake Ave north of the Parkway; subsequently relocated to Altschul Field off of Riverbank Road, Sabine Farm on Round Hill Road and chaired by Harry Keefe & Donna Nives. Currently located at Hughes-Wonham/ Finkelstein Field off of Carrington Drive and Howard Road),

1976 Pegasus Greenwich Chapter started by Florence Asch and Peggy Klipstein

Larned, based at Donna and Fred Nives’ farm on Lake Avenue

1. Greenwich Horse Show relocated to Milliken Property on Lower Cross

Road

Pegasus relocated to Round Hill Stables

1. Greenwich Polo Club, created by Peter Brant at Conyers Farm

1987 Pony Club Benefit Barn Dance, Kelsey Farm on Lake Avenue

1. Annual Program established
2. 1st Greenwich Riding and Trails Association Benefit Polo Match at

Conyers Farm on North Street, organized by Adalbert “Adie” von Gontard

1. Hunt Ball held at “Chieftains”, the Gimbel estate on King Street
2. Pegasus relocated to Kelsey Farm

Kentucky Derby Ball held at Conyers Farm

1. Old Mill Farm (Mayer property on Old Mill Road) purchased by Mel

Gibson

Landowners Picnic at deKwiatkowski estate on Lower Cross Road

1. 75th Anniversary of the Greenwich Horse Show

NETWORKER (newsletter), created and edited by Lucy Bernstein;

1999-2003, edited by Alice Fisher; 2004-present, edited by Anita Keefe

1st Annual Keefe Trail Ride and Picnic, hosted by Harry and Anita Keefe at their property on Aiken Road

Hunt Ball held at Claus property on Round Hill Road

1. Round Hill Stables torn down
2. Hunt Ball held at Whisper Ridge Farm on John Street
3. Diego Orozco hired as Trail Manager

*The Thoroughbred Horse: Born to Run and Jump* (Bruce Museum

Exhibit), cocktail preview party with auction to benefit GRTA, chaired by Susan A. Weiss

1. Black and Tan Hunt Ball held at Treibeck estate on Burying Hill Road
2. 50th Anniversary of the Day in the Country

1st Barn Tour, chaired by Lindsey Thune

1. Greenwich Riding and Trails Association acquired Nichols Preserve on

West Lane from The Nature Conservancy (94 acres), chaired by Jennifer Freedman

Hunt Ball, celebrating Greenwich’s History and Preservation of Open

Space, held at Bright Brook Farm on John Street

1. Mary Jane Wallace retired as secretary after 52 years
2. Trail Clean Up introduced by Anita Keefe

Hunt Ball held at Thomas Peterffy’s estate on Lower Cross Road

1. Hunt Ball held at Thomas Peterffy’s estate, in honor of Marie “Mamie” and Adalbert “Adie” von Gontard
2. First Gala, honoring Fred and Donna Nives, held at Indian Harbor Yacht Club
3. Hunt Ball held at Belle Haven Club, in honor of Elise “Sis” Kelsey,

Norma Bartol, and Walter Stratton

2012 Hunt Ball held at Greenwich Country Club, in honor of Greenwich Land Trust

1. Hunt Ball held at Thomas Peterffy’s estate in honor of 100 years of GRTA
2. Barn Tour, Dogwood Ride, June Show, Day in Country, Hunter Pace,

Stetson’s & Stilettos continue our celebration of 100 years

1. 95th Annual Greenwich Horse Show held at Milliken estate, Dogwood Ride at Sabine Farm, Day in Country at Milliken estate, Hunter Pace off of June Road and Stetson's and Stilettos in Dollard indoor ring

2017 96th Annual Greenwich Horse Show held at Milliken estate, Dogwood Ride at Sabine Farm canceled due to weather, Barn Tour, Day in the Country at Milliken estate, Hunter Pace off June Road and Silver Horse Ball at the Round Hill Club.

1. Annual Report of Bridle Path Committee for the year 1922 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)