

**RENEW, BUY OR GIFT A MEMBERSHIP - Also available at [thegrta.org/shop](http://thegrta.org/shop)**

The GRTA is a qualified 501(c)(3) organization supported entirely by its membership and generous contributors who recognize the importance of conserving our natural heritage of open space, historical trails, and the tradition of horseback riding for the benefit of the community and future generations. Thank you for your support!

Please choose from the following - **fully tax deductible** - memberships:

- |                                        |                                    |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ( ) \$ 50 Social                       | ( ) \$350 Equestrian Center        |
| ( ) \$75 Young Equestrian (Under 21)   | ( ) \$400 Conservationist          |
| ( ) \$200 Individual Rider             | ( ) \$500 Patron of the trails     |
| ( ) \$300 Trail Preservationist Family | ( ) \$3,500 Individual Life Member |
|                                        | ( ) \$5,000 Family Life Member     |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Check Enclosed; \_\_\_\_ MasterCard; \_\_\_\_ Visa; \_\_\_\_ American Express

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ Card #. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature. \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**GRTA, PO Box 1403, Greenwich, CT 06836 (203)661-3062 [www.theGRTA.org](http://www.theGRTA.org)**



Newsletter of the Greenwich Riding & Trails Association

# NETWORKER

TheGRTA@theGRTA.org www.TheGRTA.org 203-551-3062

**Spring 2021**

## Save These Dates!

**Trail Clean-up**  
*Saturday, April 24th, Nichols Preserve*

**Dogwood Ride**  
Saturday, May 8th  
Sabine Farm, Greenwich  
Riders up at 8:30

**99th Annual Greenwich  
Horse Show**  
Sunday, June 13th

**Hunter Pace**  
Sunday, October 10th  
June Hill Farm

*Events may change due to current  
circumstances. Please check  
[www.TheGRTA.org](http://www.TheGRTA.org) for possible  
cancellations or additions.*

Dear Friends –

A huge, huge thank you to all who supported us last year -- we so, so appreciate it!!

We are optimistic, as we enter this new spring season, that we can have some socially-distant fun and still be safe. We have eliminated or pared down some of our important events in order to maintain safe distances..

The PHA has decreed that horse shows are now ok, but unfortunately, no spectators are allowed yet. As a result, we will have to postpone our most popular tented luncheon & auction at the show until next year. Also, as the availability of the Milliken Property is somewhat uncertain at this writing, we might have to move the show to a location nearby.

Our schedule of events is listed at the left, but please visit us at **[TheGRTA.org](http://TheGRTA.org)** for the most up-to-date information, as the on-going impact of the Pandemic requires us to remain flexible with our scheduling.

As we are moving towards online communication exclusively, please keep your membership up to date (see back page or go online) and be sure to include your email so you don't miss out.

As always, we want to thank you, our precious landowners and conservation land managers ,who allow us to ride across their properties, keeping strategic trail links open. We are so appreciative!!

We hope to see you out there!

*Anita Keefe*  
President

«First Name» «Last Name»  
«Address»  
«City», «State» «Zip»

*The GRTA preserves, promotes &  
and the tradition of horseback  
riding for the community & future  
generations.*

**PO Box 1403  
Greenwich, CT 06836**



FIRST-CLASS MAIL  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
STAMFORD, CT  
PERMIT NO. 3848

Trails Report

It has been about a year since I wrote the last trail report -- a very unusual year.

Diego remained fully employed, but we decided to skip the summer help last year. Looking back, there was probably one trail-blocking call per week, on average.

Diego worked in almost all areas of the trail network in Greenwich and Stamford. He spent many days mowing the Milliken fields and several days mowing and clearing Nichols, where he has also created some new trails.

The Dogwood Ride course was perfect, both sides of Round Hill Road, but sadly had to be cancelled due to extremely wet footing.

With no major damage nor projects, all was good until a serious storm hit in early August. It took Diego a few months to catch up, but he was also able to prepare a most fabulous Hunter Pace course, which couldn't have been better! As it turned out, the Pace was the only equestrian event we were able to hold all year, due to Covid-19 and the weather.

Last year we lost a very special landowner, Katherine Graham, who owned two beautiful fields off Riverbank Road. I recall in my youth there was a fixed show ring fence of sheep hurdles in the middle of the field closer to the road. The PHA had an annual one ring show on her property, which was then owned by her parents. Also, it was the birth place of the Hunter Pace, with the creativity of Harry Keefe and Fred Nives. The luncheon back then was basic and homemade - a huge pot of soup cooked in Donna's kitchen for days. The Pace moved to where it is now when Katherine built her house in the far field. We hear the fields are to be preserved and we thank her and her family for their ongoing generosity for use of the many trails in their fields and woods.

Please let us know if you have any trail issues. In early April we plan to gear up for the Dogwood Ride, which is scheduled to be held on May 8<sup>th</sup> this year. Thanks, *Rusty Parker*

Volunteers & Committee Members Needed!!

Saturday, June 12th, to set up for the Greenwich Horse Show, which will be held the next day on June 13th.

Volunteers are needed on Saturday from 8:30AM - 5:30 and anytime on Sunday during the show. All types of jobs are available — setting up for the show, setting up fences to putting silk flowers in the flower boxes, etc.

Please contact [Rosary@Murphybrothers.com](mailto:Rosary@Murphybrothers.com) or call her at 914-490-4758 or Jacko Day at [daypod6@gmail.com](mailto:daypod6@gmail.com) or 203-249-2211.

Many thanks for your help!

Networker

The newsletter of the Greenwich Riding & Trails Assoc. (GRTA)

Box 1403

Greenwich, CT 06830

Tel: 203-661-3062

[www.thegrta.org](http://www.thegrta.org)

Editor: Anita Keefe

Published: Three times a year.

Please send articles, photos, ads, comments, suggestions, etc. to:

[akeefe@optonline.net](mailto:akeefe@optonline.net)

Ads now also include 3 FREE months on our website!

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE LISTED both on our website and in this tri-annual newsletter.

\$25 – Members - small paragraph

\$35 - non-members - small paragraph

\$50 - business card or small paragraph with picture

\$100 - 1/2 page - Networker ONLY with reduced copy for website

\$150 - Full page - Networker ONLY with reduced copy for website

Please email copy to [akeefe@optonline.net](mailto:akeefe@optonline.net) & send check, payable to GRTA, to Anita Keefe, 21 Aiken Rd, Greenwich, CT 06831 or go to [www.thegrta/shop](http://www.thegrta/shop) to pay online.

Classified

► **HORSE STALLS AVAILABLE**— in back country Greenwich. Stable includes feed room, tack room and bathroom. Access to GRTA trails. Property has 3 grass paddocks and riding ring area. Full board, partial board or stable lease option. Family owned property. Affordable rates. Contact Andy at 203-391-4121.

► **CARE-GIVER AVAILABLE**— for the elderly. Also, can care for horses, pets, and house sit. Drives, cooks, light housekeeping. Prefers live-in position. References. Call Ricardo at 914-309-4984.

► **BOARDING AVAILABLE** - in back country Greenwich in private, friendly barn. Access to GRTA trails, 12 x 12 matted stalls, 90' x 180' outdoor sand ring w/sprinkler, wash stall with hot/cold water, turnout, tack room. Please contact Rosary Murphy at [Rosary@murphybrothers.com](mailto:Rosary@murphybrothers.com) or 914-490-4758.

► **SEMI-FERRAL CATS & KITTENS**— need homes. All are fixed and vaccinated and would make great barn cats. They're not friendly/house pets – but we believe they deserve a chance to live. No adoption fee – only require they have access to food, water & shelter from the elements. Currently in Norwalk & Port Chester. Contact [purrsouls@gmail.com](mailto:purrsouls@gmail.com). Blake Polett of Animal Nation.

► **HORSE PROPERTY / ESTATE RENTAL WANTED.** Private GRTA family looking to rent in Greenwich or Westchester starting approximately June 1, 2021. Ideally, property would have at least an 8-stall barn, 4-5 corrals, indoor & outdoor riding arena, and living quarters. Ideal situation would include a 4+ bedroom house on the property. Please contact Robin Bodell at [greetrara@gmail.com](mailto:greetrara@gmail.com) for more information.

“When people say, it’s just a horse....they just don’t understand.”

Why It’s Important to Plant Trees — Greenwich Tree Conservancy

- ◆ The intrinsic value their aesthetic beauty brings to our lives.
- ◆ Their consistent filtration of air, water & pollution.
- ◆ A tree can produce enough oxygen for a family of 4 for 1 year.
- ◆ Trees provide wind abatement, screening & increased security.
- ◆ Shade trees can reduce utility bills significantly.
- ◆ Trees absorb 30% of rain through their leaf system & another 30% through their roots.
- ◆ Healthy trees can add up to 1.5% to a residential & business property values.
- ◆ Trees support diverse wildlife ecosystems.
- ◆ When used as symbols to honor people & events, trees possess commemorative and historical value.

