



Skyline Farm hosted its 5th annual invitational art exhibit and sale last fall. "Homegrown" showcased the work of talented Maine artists and artisans. Diana Logan photo

Down The Lane



SKYLINE FARM
95 The Lane
North Yarmouth, Maine
(207) 829-9203
www.skylinefarm.org

WINTER 2011

12th Annual "Sleigh Day" and "Winter Delivery" Museum Exhibit

12th Annual "Sleigh Day" coming right up!

On Saturday, Feb. 12 from 12-3 p.m., Skyline Farm is hosting its 12th Annual Sleigh Day, in conjunction with its new exhibit, "Winter Delivery." Dress warmly and come to this double-header where horse-drawn vehicles are both displayed in the museum and driven outdoors.

Enjoy an unforgettable adventure through an open field of snow! Your \$8 admission fee includes one sleigh ride given by Luther Gray of Monmouth and his handsome pair of Percheron horses. Free for Skyline Farm members (become a member today!) and children ages 5 and under.

At 1 p.m. horses and drivers, both in fur coats, demonstrate their skills in the outdoor arena. Spectators can imagine what life was like when snow meant sleigh parties and socializing as long as one had a warm muff and a one horse open sleigh. Two gentle ponies will be available for the children to pat. Bring your snowshoes for a 2 p.m. trek through the woods trail.

NOTE: Sleigh drivers with all types of sleighs and equine breeds are welcome to participate - free of charge. Although no fancy turnout is required, some drivers will be dressed in the style of "Currier & Ives" from this bygone era.

Hot food and drinks will be for sale inside the heated Visitor Center. Storm date is Sunday, Feb. 13. For more information, please call Pamela Ames, (207) 829-5708, or visit www.skylinefarm.org.

Museum Exhibit - "Winter Delivery"

Opening in conjunction with Sleigh Day:
Saturday, Feb. 12, 12-3 p.m. (Snow date: 2/13)

Regular hours: Sundays, Feb. 13-Mar. 27, 1-4 p.m.

Bring a friend to view "Winter Delivery" vehicles that were commonly seen on Maine's winter roads in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Skyline Farm Carriage Museum's new exhibit, which is open on Sundays, 1 to 4 p.m., Feb. 13 through March 27 or by appointment, features such horse-drawn vehicles as an oil delivery wagon, school bus sleigh, and both city and country sleighs.

The winter exhibit also examines the inventions and influence of two successful New England businesses: Portland's Kimball Factory brought innovation to horse-drawn transportation and then the automobile; and Thomas Goodall and family ran innovative horse blanket and plush lap robe factories that employed thousands of Maine workers at Sanford Mills into the 1950's.

Unusual hitching posts, the old-time "parking meters", round out the display. Children can journey back to the magic of a simpler time by trying on antique winter apparel and jingling various sleigh bells.

Admission is free, but donations are gratefully accepted. Dress warmly, because the museum is not heated. For more information, please call Gregory Cufey, (207) 239-5782, or visit www.skylinefarm.org.

New Skyline Farm President - Kristi Wright

My husband and I had just purchased the old Amos Lowe Place in North Yarmouth when our new neighbor Dick Maddox told us about Skyline Farm. He said the place – just down The Lane from Ames Farm Center – had been a riding stable where many people once learned to ride. Now, volunteers ran the farm and they had a nice carriage museum there and some riding trails too. If I liked horses, Dick said, I might be interested in the farm. And so, my family moved to North Yarmouth in late August 2006 and by Fun Day I had signed up to be a Skyline volunteer.

Ever since, my husband, Patrick, and children, Donnie, 7, and Nora, 4, have been happy to join with other Skyline friends and supporters in helping this non-profit fulfill its mission.



In forefront, Kristi and Mr. Peanut Butter at the 2010 Sleigh Day. Gregory Cuffey photo

Our route to Maine was not very direct. I was raised in Grand Junction, Colorado, where I learned to ride from my grandmother and father and spent several summers working cattle and washing dishes for distant cousins on their mountain ranch. I went to journalism school at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. Upon graduation, I went to work as a reporter for the Omaha World-Herald. There I met and married a fellow reporter, Patrick Strawbridge, a Navy-kid who had graduated from Traip Academy in Kittery.

After we married in April 2001, Patrick went to law school at Creighton University in Omaha, and I continued to work for the newspaper. We had Donnie in October 2003. After Patrick graduated from law school that spring, he spent the summer studying for the bar in Colorado. Then we made the big move to York Beach, Maine. Patrick worked for the Law Court in Portland. I took care of Donnie and we lived in Patrick's parent's beach house. The next year, we moved to Little Rock, Arkansas, where Patrick worked for Judge Morris Arnold on the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals. We had our little Arkansas baby, Nora, in May 2006. In August 2006, we returned to Maine and moved into our old farmhouse with its sturdy barn and grass pastures.

Working for a Boston law firm, Patrick splits his time between Boston and Portland. I continue to stay home to take care of the children and do the chores. Both kids are crazy about horses and we love exploring Skyline on foot, by snowshoe and on horse. In addition to our family's work at Skyline, we are involved in the North Yarmouth Congregational Church. Patrick is a deacon and last year, I served on the Search Committee that hired the new minister, Rev. Martha Spong. We hope to live in North Yarmouth for many, many years.

OFFICERS & MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PRESIDENT: Kristi Wright; **VP:** John Sowles; **Treasurer:** Jennifer Kimball; **SECRETARY:** Sheila Libby Alexander
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PROGRAM DEVELOPER: (not a board position) Erin Bishop

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: (not a board position) Patti Mikkelsen, mikks@maine.rr.com (207) 926-5660

Book Signing Recap

On Dec. 11, a stack of newly published copies of Lynda McCann's new book, "The Mis-Adventures of Tink and Frado" sat on the coffee table of the Skyline Farm Visitor Center and was a welcome sight to eager readers. The author graciously inscribed personalized notes to the many purchasers of this 150-page book chronicling a white pony named Tink and his many friends including his best friend, Frado, a Jack Russell Terrier.

Lynda, who is the editor of *The Horse's Maine*, said that this is her first book. She has been writing short stories about Tink and Frado for 19 years and grouped 15 of them together to form one larger story. Popular 27-year-old Tink, also on hand at the book signing, was lavished with attention by a bevy of admirers.

The book, geared for ages 9 and up, is sprinkled with wonderful illustrations by Kathi Peters, wife of Skyline Farm Trustee Les Peters. Books can be ordered online at www.TinkandFrado.com, for a cost of \$12.94, which includes shipping and handling.



4H (Bits & Bridle) girls (Lindley, Emma and Maggie) along with Lydia Dahlgren (the girl riding pony - Tink - in the photo on the cover of the book) and Lynda McCann the author. Tama Spoerri photo

Harvest Day Recap by Jen Kimball

September 25 was a beautiful, sunny, hot, autumn day. There were many families enjoying outdoor activities at Skyline Farm. Several people were attracted by Farmers Market vendors with their fresh eggs and veggies, homemade soaps and lotions, cloth lunch bags, floral arrangements and more.

Children enjoyed climbing on antique tractors, hula hooping, playing bean bag toss, blowing bubbles and finding treasures in a haystack. Some of the older kids participated in sack races. Lots of children had several fabulous "tattoos" decorating their faces, hands and arms, courtesy of the girls from a Yarmouth High School drama class, who were very busy at the face painting table.

For those who wanted to pick their own apples, Justin Deri provided tractor drawn wagon rides to and from Hansel's Orchard. Gary Kenney and his team gave horse drawn wagon rides through the field and gardens to the pumpkin patch, for others who wished to pick out a pumpkin. Many families opted for both!

It was a fun filled day and very nice to see so many families enjoying the farm!

Art Show Wrap-Up by Pamela Ames

"Homegrown," Skyline's benefit sale of fine art and crafts inspired by Maine's bountiful natural resources, offered a broad array of fine crafts and art to suit every taste and budget. For eleven weeks, Maine artists' paintings, photographs, sculptures, and fine crafts were showcased in Skyline's Visitor Center and Exhibit Hall, complemented by several interesting antique carriages and sleighs from its collection.

Many thanks to Kathi Peters and Karen Pettengill for once again curating the show, which included Maine painters Beth Carlson, Diana Johnson, Renee Lammers, Kathi and Karen, Anne Tarbox, and Wade Zahares; photographers Donald Verger and Laura Young; sculptor Jordan Smith; custom woodworkers Louis Charlett and Tom Dahlke; and artisans of fine crafts, including jewelry, glass and pottery Benjamin Coombs, Douglas Corrigan, Susan Horowitz, Gail Kass, Lois Kenney, Tony A.C. Kulik, Mike Mason, Lynda McCann-Olson, Deborah Peters, and Nance Trueworthy.

A portion of each sale and 100% of the proceeds from the Silent Auction, featuring thirty items donated by artists and artisans, benefited Skyline Farm. It was a win-win situation for all, including the museum visitors who were able to shop for the holidays in a relaxed, attractive setting. This high caliber show continues to be one of Skyline's most important fund raisers.



Four riders are having a great time at last fall's Skyline Benefit Trail Ride/Drive despite the frigid weather. Becky Totten photo



Betsy Hallweaver, Lois Knight and Abby Pearson create penny rugs. Pamela Ames photo



Jeff Herbster demonstrates the art of sitar playing at a fall workshop. Patti Mikkelsen photo



The size and scope of the Marshall collection astonished visitors. Sue Shaller photo

Skyline Benefit Trail Ride/Drive

Sunday, Nov. 7, 2010 marked the 5th annual Skyline Benefit Trail Ride/Drive held at Kennebec Morgan Horse Farm. All 50 participants were treated to the wonderful carriage trails, weaving through fields, woods and along lovely water vistas.

At the conclusion of this beautiful ride in brisk fall weather, partici-

pants enjoyed food aplenty; especially the hot soups and cider.

Thanks to all the participants and volunteers for their continued support of this event. Also, a Big Thanks to Margaret Gardiner and the whole Gardiner family for their generosity in opening their trails for Skyline's benefit and our participants' enjoyment.

Fall 2010 Workshops

One of the workshops held in conjunction with the Homegrown Fine Art and Crafts Show last fall was making penny rugs. Anne Tarbox led this professional, yet relaxed class. All participants went home with a beautiful new penny rug.

Another workshop featured sitar playing by Jeff Herbster, a profes-

sional musician for over 40 years. Jeff is a performer and teacher of one of the oldest classical music traditions in existence: Hindustani music. The sitar emits beautiful, peaceful, yet haunting sounds.

For more information on Jeff, or any of the eight instruments he plays, see www.mainesitar.com.

The Marshall Collection Tour Recap by Gregory Cuffey

The "Marshall Collection" Tour

The October sunshine highlighted the autumn New Hampshire leaves on the way to the "Marshall Collection" tour. A diverse group numbering sixteen assembled at 11 a.m. to meet Sut Marshall and begin an exploration back in time.

The industrial building that houses the collection is nondescript. The private collection can be quite a shock walking through the front door. One's eyes are overwhelmed being greeted by the first row of large, colorful, ornate Gypsy Wagons. I overheard visitor Dick McGlincey comment "astonishing" and others exclaim that the collection was "overwhelming".

We witnessed one of the most magnificent horse drawn collections in the world.

Each vehicle on display has a bit of history written about it by Ken Wheeling, a noted carriage historian from Vermont.

We all went away with an expanded knowledge of specialty vehicles and new insights into how they might have fit into cultural, social and economic history.

The trip proved to be a wonderful day for all. We would like to thank the Marshalls for graciously opening up their extensive collection to benefit Skyline Farm.



Guy Vigue of Yarmouth, Maine handcrafted this rocking horse that was raffled off last year to benefit Skyline Farm. Trustee Sandy Green was the lucky winner of the raffle who may be giving the prize to her newborn grandson Colton William Copp of Cumberland, Maine when he is old enough. John Sowles photo



Approximately 70 guests attended a Harvest Dinner where they enjoyed a three-course meal prepared by gourmet chef Jeff Landry. Tables were set up inside the carriage museum. Jennifer Wiessner photo



In August 2010, a group of classic car enthusiasts known as Skillin's Raiders visited Skyline Farm. Pictured are Lynn and Peter Noyes leading a segment of the 25-car field. After the visit, event organizer Betty Cary reported, "Everyone enjoyed visiting (Skyline Farm). Many had never been there before. Skyline Farm was one of the best places to visit last year with our group. We are always thinking of places to go, and your place was memorable for every one of us!" Pamela Ames photo



A similar U.S. RFD Mail vehicle will be on display in the Winter Delivery Museum Exhibit. Photo from the Marshall collection

Developing a Farmers Market at Skyline Farm Being Contemplated

In a move that continues to emphasize the "Farm" in Skyline Farm, the Board of Trustees in January approved forming a committee to explore developing a farmers market at Skyline Farm.

Skyline Farm joins with Justin Deri of Deri Farm in seeking the potential for this opportunity. A committee will be made up of two community members, two to

three Skyline Board Members and/or volunteers, plus Justin Deri.

Anyone with questions or concerns or who is interested in serving on the committee should contact Kristi Wright at (207) 829-2167. The new committee is scheduled to report their findings at the March Skyline Farm Board Meeting.

The total cost to repair and improve Storage Bay #2 is \$15,225. Skyline Farm is seeking funding from a variety of sources:

\$ 5,000 from State of Maine grant

Progress: \$ 5,000

Thanks to: New Century Historical
Facilities Grant;
Requires matching funds

\$ 5,000 from private foundation grants

Progress: \$ 1,000

Thanks to: Phineas W. Sprague
Memorial Foundation

\$ 5,225 from individuals and special fundraisers

Progress: \$ 2,000

Thanks to: Six individuals



This is an exterior view of a gaping crack in the masonry of Storage Bay #2. Pamela Ames photo

Repairing Storage Bay #2's crumbling foundation and unstable concrete block walls is the second step in the overall goal to best preserve and protect Skyline's vehicle collection. Proper preservation and storage of the collection is essential to the fulfillment of Skyline's mission and goals.

The goals of the current project are to:

- prevent the destruction of 25-30 stored vehicles if Bay #2's leaning wall collapses, causing the roof to cave in on the vehicles inside

- better preserve vehicles stored in the facility with proper drainage, rodent control, and ventilation.

You continue to be the foundation upon which this organization exists, and we continue to be thankful for your help and support. If you can donate to Storage Bay #2's preservation project, please use the donor form on the next page and check the box indicated.

Your contribution will help Skyline Farm preserve & display its diverse, unique collection of horse-drawn vehicles for the public to enjoy.

Facilities Update by Paul Lones

2010 was a busy year at Skyline Farm from a facilities standpoint. As the Skyline Farm Carriage Museum collection continued to grow, much of our focus in 2010 was improving storage for carriages and sleighs not currently on exhibit in the museum.

Skyline Farm's primary storage space is in the three large sheds located behind the museum. Of the three, two needed structural and weatherization work.

Work has already been completed on Carriage Shed #3 and work on Carriage Shed #2 has begun. Skyline Farm appreciates the support of its trustees and other supporters who made possible the work on Shed #3. The work on Shed #2 is partially funded by a State of Maine New Century Historical Facilities Grant which requires matching funds.

In addition to the completed and planned work on the Carriage Sheds, other 2010 improvements included:

- New signage for trails and ten new bird nesting boxes, thank to volunteers Elizabeth Asbell and Julia Butler of Yarmouth High School as part of the YHS Alumni Association Grant they were awarded last summer. Trustee Bill Ambrose hung the birdhouses all around Skyline's property.
- Improvements to the far end of the picnic grove to improve access and parking for events, thanks to Greg Cuffey and Pam & John Ames.
- Outdoor projects done by North Yarmouth Academy students and Boy Scout Matt Nickerson.

Skyline Farm is a wonderful location for community service and other volunteer efforts. Any individuals or groups interested in helping on a project, please contact Kristi Wright at (207) 829-2167.

Name _____ Street _____
 Town _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Support level: \$35 \$50 \$100 \$250 Other (please specify amount) _____

Please check box if you would like to specify that your gift goes toward the repair of Storage Bay #2.

Please make check payable to Skyline Farm and send to: Skyline Farm, P.O. Box 144, Yarmouth, ME 04096.
 Skyline Farm is a 501 (c)(3) organization. Gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. **Thank you for your gift.**

Your 2010/2011 support of Skyline Farm is sincerely appreciated!

ANNUAL APPEAL

\$100 or more:

- Alexander, Sheila & Bill
- Bahlkow, Gary & Kathleen
- Booth, Mary & Mike
- Brown, Fletcher & Charlotte
- Bunton, Cathy
- Chapman, Karen
- Crosby, Jennifer
- Dahlgren, Carolyn B.
- Dolloff, Dick & Cathy
- Dolloff, Ronald & Lillian
- Donovan, Henry & Lucy
- Evans, Mr. and Mrs. John
- Gervais, Ed & Joyce
- Green, Sandra
- Hansel, Turner & Margie
- Harder, Calista
- Henriques, Cynn timer
- Holman, Helen
- Lindsay, Peter & Katie Murphy
- Milliken, Peter
- Murray, Francis W. III
- Robinson, Maren
- Scully, Sandra
- Seitz, Ann
- Semmes, Richard
- Solman, Robert
- Sowles, John
- Sowles, Peter
- Sowles, William
- Stockly, Holmes & Didi
- Wiessner, Greg & Jennifer
- Williams, John & Holly
- Wright, Minturn

ANNUAL APPEAL

Less than \$100:

- Beatty-Rose, Dan & Ann
- Brubach, Patricia
- Buck, Janet & Robert
- Buggia DVM, Lawrence
- Burgess, Meredith Strang
- Coleman, Craig & Kristin
- Dodge, Marylee
- Gardiner, Margaret
- Holmquist, Brita
- Johnson, Mykel & Margy Dowzer
- Jordan, Marcia
- Kauffman, John
- Kimball, Jennifer
- King, Gary
- Knight, Lois & James
- Libby, Deborah J.
- Morrison, Diane & Stephen
- Parker, John Van C.
- Raymond, Laurie
- Reed, Marion
- Shook, Phyllis & Charles McAleer
- Studdiford, Bonnie
- Thurston, Evelyn & David
- Walsh, Fredi & Jason Darling
- Williamson, Ann

BUSINESS SPONSORS

\$500 LEVEL:

Finest Kind Caterers

\$250 LEVEL:

- Ames Farm Center
- Averill Insurance
- Bath Savings Institution
- Hansel's Orchard

MEMBERSHIP

\$100 or more:

- Ambrose, Priscilla & Bill
- Ames, John & Beth
- Ames, Pam & John
- Gorman, Jim & Maureen
- Henriques, Cynn timer
- Holman, Helen

MEMBERSHIP

Less than \$100:

- Ahlers, Alvin & Mary
- Armstrong, Thomas & Rachel
- Baier, Ursula
- Cronin, Paul
- Humphries, Tara (Student Equine)
- Lovejoy, Westy (Ellen)
- Peters, Pam & Gary
- Phillips, Martha
- Pierce, Alice Mary
- Pierce, Jack & Dassy
- Russell, Jean (Equine)
- Thurston, Donna (Reg & Equine)
- Totten, Becky
- Wright, Kristi (Equine)
- Wyatt, Eileen

BUSINESS SPONSORS

\$100 LEVEL:

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- Sweetser's Apple Barrel & Orchards
- The Notes, a Free Weekly Magazine



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Skyline's Jenny Lind Buggy played a role in Yarmouth High School's Fall production of *Oklahoma*. YHS theater Director and Skyline Farm supporter Betsy Puelle asked to borrow a Surrey with the fringe on top. Skyline's Surreys are a little on the large size, and the Jenny Lind buggy is technically not a Surrey but it fit on stage and has fringe on top. "Jist Married" photo by Rusty Adams

2011 SKYLINE FARM CALENDAR OF EVENTS - All are open to the public.

All event proceeds benefit Skyline Farm, a nonprofit organization, which owns an historic farmstead, including a carriage and sleigh museum, and offers trails through its woods and fields for public use. FMI: Call event chair, go to www.skylinefarm.org, info@skylinefarm.org, or (207) 829-9203 (leave message).

- Feb. 13 through Mar. 27** **"Winter Delivery" Museum Exhibit**
Sundays, 1-4 pm or by appt.
Explore vehicles that were commonly seen on Maine's winter roads in the 1800s and early 1900s. Free admission, donations welcome.
Info: Greg Cuffey (207) 239-5782 (see page 1)
- Feb. 12** **Sleigh Day & Sleigh Rides** 12th annual
Saturday, 12-3 pm (Storm date: Feb. 13)
1 pm Sleighing demonstration. Ponies to pat.
2 pm Snowshoe through the woods.
\$8 per person includes one sleigh ride around the field. Free for Skyline members and kids under 6. Hot food available for purchase. Museum open.
Info: Pamela Ames (207) 829-5708 (see page 1)
- Mar. 5** **Sledding Party (if there's snow)**
Saturday 10 am-12 noon
A great opportunity for families with young children to get together for a morning of sliding down the gentle, snow-covered rolling hills of Skyline Farm. Warm up with hot chocolate and goodies. Free.
Info: Jen Kimball (207) 829-6278
- Winter** **Winter Outdoor Fun**
Anytime during daylight hours
Go sliding in the fields or snowshoeing in the woods!

- May 7* Plow Day 3 with Deri Farm (May 14 rain date)
 - May 15 "Summer Delivery" Exhibit through Aug. 21
 - June 11* Pony Rides; "Introduction to Horses" class
 - June 18, July 16 and Aug 20* Carriage driving clinics
 - June _* Trail Ride in the Snowfields area of Pownal, Maine
 - July 9 "Summer Celebration" Barn Sale, Pony Rides, Kids Activities; Lobster Bake, Silent Auction, Dessert Social
 - Aug 13* Pony Rides
 - Sept. 11 Henry Fest Music Festival
 - Sept. 17* Dog Day 4: "Kids & Dogs" (Sept. 18 rain date)
 - Sept. 24* Harvest Day, 5k & 10k Walks, Hay Rides to Apple Orchard, Harvest Dinner
 - Nov. 6 Skyline Benefit Ride/Drive in Woolwich, Maine
 - Nov. 18 Artists' Reception for Fine Art & Crafts Show
 - Nov. 19 Fine Art & Crafts Show, Silent Auction thru Dec. 11
- * indicates a tentative date