



Lower Connecticut
River Valley Horseman's Club

Promoting Equine Awareness Since 1962

www.lcrvhc.org



eNote

April 2011

From The President

Dear Friends

Finally Spring. Our 4-stall barn is bursting at the seams with 6 horses. We have a pair of 3-year old Suffolk mares (picture included) staying with us while awaiting transport to their new home in Virginia with Kevin's logger friend, Carl. Of course they're in heat. Our normally quiet geldings are all stirred up. Homes likes them (too much), Max hates them (jealous?), and Hero and Wedge just try to ignore them and hope they'll go away. They're cute and sweet but the truck can't come soon enough for me.

I'm so glad winter is finally over. Outdoor activities have started. Lynda Perry has plenty of member-only rides planned and we have some meeting programs that should be interesting and/or entertaining. We will again be cooperating with CFPA, NEMBA-CT, and others for activities on National Trails Day. Sue Davenport has offered to host the summer picnic. Please get your membership renewals in so you don't miss anything.

The March 24 meeting included a presentation on rider safety by CVPC Horsemasters' Rob Hathaway. The video was pretty convincing. The USEA has recently changed its rules to require helmets when mounted at any phase of eventing and in dressage up to the highest levels. Rob was preaching to the choir but it was a good reminder that LCRVHC is committed to safety and helmets are required at our mounted events. New member, Phoebe Leith spoke briefly about traumatic brain injury from her perspective as a pediatric anesthesiologist. Thanks to all who helped with this program.

On March 26 Peg Lupone, Kristin Elliott Leas, Tom (the bridge builder) Elliott, and I met with Rob Butterworth (CFPA) and Don Hazuka (NEMBA-CT) to evaluate a bridge to see if it could be brought up to horse-safe condition and check out some projects for National Trails Day. We decided this bridge can be upgraded but is not a good NTD project, as it will involve lifting the bridge to put a foundation under it. Needs to be done in late summer or early fall when the water level is lower than in June. (14

Editor's Note:

**PLEASE RENEW
YOUR MEMBER-
SHIP NOW, IF YOU
HAVEN'T ALREADY.**
FORM ON PAGE 3

Cute Note:

Gina McManus attempted to refill the trail map box at Weber Woods on April 3rd, but was surprised to find out a flying squirrel has taken up residence in the box. She and a gentleman who was there at the time have marked the box with a "Do Not Disturb the Squirrel" sign. Until mama squirrel moves out there will be no trail maps at the Weber Woods parking lot trailhead.

Cont from pg 1
hours total)

On April 10 the BPC held it's first Clip & Ride of the year. 4 riders and 3 walkers worked on spring cleanup of the north half of the Quinimay Trail. Lynda Perry, Elena Lupone, Ken DeWitt, and Sue Davenport rode north from Pattaconk Reservoir, moving winter blow-downs, re-marking a section that was rerouted due to erosion, and replacing missing markers. Gloria Elliott, Peg Lupone, and Kristin Connell worked south of the reservoir to either Route 148 or 80. If you haven't done a Clip & Ride it's good desensitizing training for your horse (or a nice hike!) and not at all difficult. (17.5 hours total)

I just want to remind everyone that this club is only as active as it's members. If you want to do something, let us know, or do it and invite us along. Member-only rides are a good opportunity to get your horse used to riding in a group with people who will be sensitive to your needs. We can always break off into smaller groups or a slow group if it's your first time out. If you have an idea for an activity or program, tell me, or any board member, and we'll try to work it out. Genie has done a great job with the web site. It is an up-to-date source of club-related information, check it out often!

I hope to see you soon.

Melissa



Upcoming Events:

April 28 - General Meeting will be held at Idlenot Farm on Cow Hill Road in Clinton. Introduction to Lunging and Ground Work, a demonstration by Patricia Norcia. Questions to Genie (geniede@comcast.net)

Directions: 188 Cow Hill Rd, Clinton. *Caution, do not try to follow street numbers as they go back and forth and are not the same sequence on both sides of the street.*

From North: South on rt 81 from rt 80 in Killingworth 3 miles, Right on Egypt Lane (Just south of Stomp and Crush and wine shop. At end go right on Cow Hill rd. Idlenot is first farm on right ~0.2 miles, you will see pasture and red buildings. OR South on Greenhills rd from rt 81 1 mile, left on Cow Hill, go 2.3 miles, pass both entrances to Heritage Circle then 3rd drive on Left, white house with red buildings.

From South: I-95 exit 63, north on rt 81 in Clinton, ~1.5 miles then left on Egypt Lane (follow directions above from north).

May 15 member-only ride at Jane Davison's gorgeous Lord Creek Farm. RSVP to Lynda Perry (cymaronfarm@snet). Helmets required on this private property.

The May 26 General Meeting program will be a Police Dog Demonstration by members of the New Haven Police Department at Rough Draft Farm, 24 River Road, Clinton.

The June meeting will be a bonfire and storytelling at Kristin and Mark's house. Peggy will lead the meeting as I will be at Greg's graduation!

See calendar and web site for more.



Please fill in all information and sign and date the Release and Waiver of Liability.
 Mail completed page along with your payment to:
 LCRVHC, P.O. Box 657, Killingworth, CT 06417

2011 Membership Categories

Family \$25 Individual \$15

office use: Check amt. \$ _____ # _____

- Enclosed is an additional amount of \$ _____ for our ongoing work to maintain and preserve trails.
- Enclosed is a separate check to the Bridle Path Conservancy in the amount of \$ _____ (tax deductible).
- Please contact me for volunteer help! (This is a working club and all members are encouraged to volunteer for committee chairs, trail maintenance, events organizing help and/or food donations.)
- I am NOT able to receive my newsletter via e-mail.

Name(s) _____

(For family memberships please include all names; use a separate sheet if necessary)

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Telephone (home) (____) _____ (cell) (____) _____ (work) (____) _____

E-mail _____ New Member Renewal

Release and Waiver of Liability

By signing this release and waiver, I understand that I am giving up (waiving or releasing) any right I have to sue or make any claim which I might have or which might subsequently arise or occur against the Lower Connecticut River Valley Horsemen's Club, Inc. (hereafter referred to as LCRVHC), including but not limited to, the officers, members, participants, and landowners; for any injuries which I might sustain while horseback riding, driving, or attending/participating in any LCRVHC event or activity. I understand that I am indemnifying (holding harmless) any horse ridden, driven, loose, or handled by another and the owner or handler while so engaged in the event of an injury to myself, my property and/or others. It is my intent to give up all the rights provided by law and release the club, landowners, etc. (the releasees) from all claims for bodily injury, death, or property damage, including without limitation, claims arising in whole or in part from the releasees' own negligence. I do so knowingly and voluntarily. I further agree to pay all legal fees pertaining to this event, if any are incurred.

New 2011: LCRVHC is committed to safety. It is a membership requirement that all participants wear a riding helmet meeting ASTM/SEI standards when attending mounted meetings and events.

For Club Membership:

Signature of primary member _____ date ____/____/____
 (If a minor, a parent or legal guardian must sign)

Signature of Spouse _____ date ____/____/____
 (for family membership, parent of minor child of divorced member, etc.)

For Taking Part in an Event:

Signature of primary member _____ date ____/____/____
 (If a minor, a parent or legal guardian must sign)

Everyone must complete:

Emergency contact information

Name(s) _____ Telephone(s) (____) _____ (____) _____
 _____ (____) _____ (____) _____

Sad News, Horses Need Home

Some of you may remember John Masalski, former club member. He died in the beginning of April. He kept his horses @ George Hollisters home. George is looking to place them ASAP.

Free to good home:

20+ yr old Palomino - California. 12+ yr old Appy/Percheron mix - Montana. Would be great if could go together. Easy keepers - hay only. UTD on shots. Sane trail horses.

Please call George @ 860-391-2463 or Gina @ 860-664-1907

2011 Calendar

All General and Board of Directors (BOD) meetings will be held at Evarts Fire Museum at 7 pm unless specified otherwise.

CLCT work plans are made about a week ahead, see web site www.clintonlandtrust.org for details.

April

9-CLCT work day MO Ride/BPC work party, Spring clean-up Clip & Ride on Quinimay Trail, Pattaconk Reservoir, noon. RSVP Peggy (hazageym@yahoo.com)

Postponed: 17-MOR Bluff Point 10 am

28-General Meeting, program: An Introduction to lunging and ground work demonstration by Patricia Norcia at Idlenot Farm, Clinton. Questions to Genie (geniede@comcast.net).

May

1-Dances with Horses Fund Raiser at High Hopes Therapeutic Riding Center, Old Lyme, 3pm

14-WLCT Nature trail walk and maintenance, 9:00 AM, questions Kristen Elliot Leas, 860 399-5224

15-MOR Lord Creek 10 am, RSVP to Lynda at cymaronfarm@snet.net.

26 General Meeting, program: Police Dog Demonstration by the New Haven Police Department at Rough Draft Farm, 24 River Road, Clinton.

June

12-MORN North Woods, Guilford 10 am

Ads

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23-General Meeting, Program: bonfire and storytelling at Kristin and Mark's house.

July

10-MOR Bluff Point 9 am

August

7 or 21-MOR and BBQ

21-The Lord Creek Farm Horse Trials

September

18-MOR Pattaconk 10 am

25-The Lord Creek Farm Hunterpace

*Here is 2011 tentative schedule for MOR rides:
For questions contact Lynda
cymaronfarm@snet.net*

Postponed: Bluff Point 10 am

May 15 Lord Creek 10 am

May ? Camp out at Deer Lake

June 12 Clinton Land Trust 10 am

June Tyler Mill?

July 10 Bluff Point 9 am

August 7 or 21 BBQ

September 18 Pattaconk 10 am

October 2 Pachaug 10 am

October 16 Weber Woods 10 am

November 13 Chatfield Hollow 10 am