



Lower Connecticut  
River Valley Horseman's Club

*Promoting Equine Awareness Since 1962*

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



## Newsletter

March 2011

### *From The President*

Dear Friends

I can actually see grass in my yard for the first time since Christmas Day. I can never remember a winter like this. Normally when we get snow it melts before it snows again. This ice was terrible. I've heard of more people with frozen pipes, leaking roofs, and injured animals. Homes hurt his knee in February, roughhousing with Max, and was confined to a stall until the ice went away. I hope all of you are safe and healthy.

I apologize for canceling the January meeting and the February ride but there's no point in anyone getting hurt. I guess we've been spoiled by previous mild years where we were able to keep going all winter. The groundhog says spring is right around the corner and I am ready!

The Holiday Party went off on January 22, a week later than planned, on a frigid night. I had 3°F when I got home. Mother Nature had decorated Shirley's eaves with icicles but the food was delicious and the company was warm. Some of us got a quick tour of the new barn. Beverly did not dance. I don't know if anyone took pictures.

On Saturday, February 12, I had the opportunity to represent LCRVHC and BPC by serving on a trails panel at the 40th Annual Eastern Competitive Trail Riders Association (ECTRA) Conference. Other panelists included Laurie Giannotti, Trails and Greenways Coordinator for CT-DEP; Amy Stegall, Diane Ciano, and Jan Collins from the Connecticut Horse Council; Rob Butterworth from Connecticut Forests & Parks; Paula Burton from CT-NEMBA (New England Mountain Bike Association); Scott Hatch from the Pulpit Rock Trail Blazers in Maine; and Becky Kalagher (president since 1990) and Karen Fleming-Brooks, both from the Bay State Trail Riders Association. There was also a woman from New York, sorry, but I didn't get her name or affiliation and it wasn't in the program. The topic was loss of trails for equestrian use and how to stop it. Problems identified included liability, development, getting away from an agriculture-based society, segmentation of the horse industry, degrading of existing trails due to overuse and lack of maintenance, and lack of access. Discussion included finding opportunities for education/



Some of the happy riders on the Annual Freeze Your Butt Ride at Hammonasset State Park

communication/awareness, overcoming apathy, rider rudeness, how to be responsible stewards of the land, practical manure management (and perception of the problem), trail etiquette, sharing trails, keeping trails open for multi-use, cooperation with other user groups, our aging volunteer workforce and recruiting new trail stewards, good trail design to mitigate user conflicts and more. Over 90 ECTRA members were in attendance and I heard folks say they were from as far away as Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Michigan as well as New York and New England. I came away with some ideas, which you will all be hearing more about in the months to come.

The February meeting was well attended—for a wet, cold night. The planned program on Rider Safety was postponed as the Horsemasters of CVPC didn't have a chance to prepare. Their meeting was cancelled due to weather so they weren't ready but Rob says we should be good for March. Lynda Perry has offered to take over planning member-only rides and try to do more than one a month. Her tentative schedule is included in the calendar.

On March 5 Roger Ferraro, Trish Panico, and I went on a field trip to pick up our new Muck Truck in Massachusetts (photo included). We will have some kind of ceremony to christen it then put it to work as soon as the trails dry out!

## Upcoming Events:

**March 20 - MO Ride Hammonasset State Park.** Meet at the West Beach lot. Be ready to ride at 10 am RSVP to Lynda at [cymaronfarm@snet.net](mailto:cymaronfarm@snet.net) or 203 530-4324.

**March 24 - General Meeting**

Program: Rider and Horse Safety presented by the members of CVPC Horsemasters group.

**March 26 - BPC Work Party**

Scouting hike with Rob Butterworth.  
Meet at 8:30AM at Pattaconk Reservoir.  
RSVP Melissa ([roughdraftfarm@gmail.com](mailto:roughdraftfarm@gmail.com))

**March 27 - MO Ride//BPC Work Party**

Spring clean-up Clip & Ride on Quinimay Trail  
Meet at Weber Woods ready to ride at noon  
Plan to go to north as far as Route 80.  
RSVP Peggy ([hazageym@yahoo.com](mailto:hazageym@yahoo.com))

I hope to see you all at the March meeting. Please bring your membership renewals and ideas. Cider and cookies will be served. The Horsemasters of the CVPC will be doing a program on rider safety.

Melissa



## Progressive Ride Dec. 2010



*From Melissa's letter January 2011:*

The Christmas Progressive ride was cold! I didn't ride but I did go to the breakfast and lunch stops. Julie and Emily Berman and Dave Beaudette hosted the breakfast of quiche, muffins, fruit, and pastries. A pretty good-sized (and full) crew rode out at about

10:30 or 11:00. They broke into 2 groups—one did a faster-paced, longer route and the other did a shorter, slower-paced route.

All arrived at Kristin and Mark's house at about noon where they were served chili, soup, and hot open-faced sandwiches and admired the almost completed

house and very large Christmas tree. The counter-tops were literally being installed while we were eating.

Then back in the saddle and off to the Hayes Farm where Jane Samuels provided desserts and hot drinks.

Peg Lupone organized this event and I believe she took some of the photos.

*From Cathy Chase who also took photos:*  
Fun but cold! Made it to Kristin & Mark's place ... good to get out of the wind



*MOR -Freeze Your Butt Jan. 11*



## *Phil the Groundhog Goes For a Ride*

Lynnda Perry's Dutch Shepard, Mason takes Phil the groundhog for a ride. Next he visits Tanner and Trapper and tells them spring is coming soon!



## *Classified Ads*

### **Quarter Horse/Morgan Cross for Sale**

Candy is 8 years old and 15h. Quick, LOVES to be in the woods. Would be a great hunter pace or pony club horse. Started over ground and cross rails. Will trade for a large quiet pony or horse suitable for lesson program or \$2500.00 or B.O. Heidi 203 909-1954.



### **Dressage Saddle For Sale**

Smith Worthington dressage saddle, 16 inch seat with fleece lined carrier. Fit a 14.3 hand Morgan perfectly. Asking \$325.

Please call or email Patricia Daragan: 860 399-5234, p.daragan@att.net



## *Dressage Divas & Dancing with Horses*



Genie Dethloff and Shirley Tirrell show at the ERAHC open dressage show in Holyoke, Mass.

The weekend of July 23rd through 25th, Shirley Tirrell and I went to the Eastern Region Andalusian Horse Club Show and showed in dressage. Now one might assume that Shirley and I have an Andalusian or Lusitano (Iberian) horse - Wrong. I have a paint mare and Shirley a morgan gelding. So what led us to the show.

We both train with Patricia Norcia of Idlenot farm in Clinton. Patricia has six Iberians at her farm and was planning something awesome. When Shirley and I said we were glad to help, we didn't know what we were getting into or how much work it would be.

Patricia was planning the main entertainment event for the show, "Dancing With Horses", that involved a choreographed program of riders on six Iberian horses and four dancers on the ground interacting with the horses. The performance included many of the movements done through the higher levels in dressage. The performance was in collaboration with dancers from the Equus Projects, NYC, NY ([www.dancingwithhorses.org](http://www.dancingwithhorses.org)), dancer choreographer, Jo-Anna Mendl Shaw and with rider Jorge Gabriel, Casa Lusitana, Tyngsboro, Massachusetts.

There were months of rehearsals with support crew tacking and bathing horses, scooping manure in the arena, bringing riders and dancers drinks, runs for food, etc. We did all this help waiting for our small moment of fame.

The breed show culminated in an open dressage show on Sunday, all breeds invited. Since other breeds would be there to show on Sunday, Patricia added a parade of breeds to the Saturday night extravaganza performance. Now of course being good compliant students, Shirley and I agreed to show in the dressage show on Sunday. By doing this we bought our horses a "ticket" to the show and thus they were included in the parade of breeds. I had to prepare a two minute solo ride to show off my paint mare and Shirley an in-hand presentation of her Morgan.

The Dancing with Horses show went off without a hitch on Saturday night to a record sized audience. Chairs were added in front of the bleachers and many opted for standing room only sections added at the last minute. Advertising in the local paper and an entry fee of only \$5.00 made the show the best attended event in town.

I snuck Hope up to the door and let her stick her head out for a minute so that she could see the

*All photos of the dressage show from video tape taken  
7 by Maggie Dethloff*

people everywhere before we had to enter at a trot for the parade of breeds. My calm mare took it in stride and acted as if she moves in front of hundreds of people every day.

The performance of the dancers in full costume and the horses moving in unison to wonderful music was breathtaking. I was honored to be a part of it even if only in a supporting role.

Sunday morning was time for the dressage show. Shirley and I showed in what I call dressage preschool, Introductory A & B. The test you ride in the show has none of those fancy dressage moves but it does demonstrate that your horse is a willing partner, accepting of the bit, able to follow directions and can trot a truly round circle (harder than it sounds!). My mare Hope was her usual relaxed compliant gal; she never took a mis-step. Shirley's horse Younger was not so sure of the white plastic chains that made up the side of the arena and did his best to avoid them. It is really hard to do a round circle when your horse won't go to the edges! Other than that, Younger was his adorable adaptable self.

*[Editor's note: Shirley being the experienced trail rider that she is couldn't let a scary obstacle get in her way and went out and bought some white plastic chain to desensitize Younger before the next show.]*

Shirley and I were both proud of our horses and ourselves but couldn't wait to get out of those white shirts and breeches. Even though jackets were optional due to the heat, I wore mine so as not to have to go out in public in all white tight clothes!

One of the most interesting aspects of the show was the logistics of bringing nine horses to a

three day show when you only have only two-horse trailers. We had a five truck and trailer plus three car caravan up and back. Just loading supplies - hay, bedding, tack, etc. into the trucks was quite an operation.

The comradery was great; many of Patricia's students and all of her family went to help, even if they weren't riding. Simple acts of kindness like returning from a class to find



out someone else had mucked out your stall for you were the norm for the weekend. I was very lucky to have my daughter Maggie there to help me and Shirley for the show; for once she did what ever I asked without complaining (*just kidding Maggie!*) and I was truly grateful. Some of our club members came out to support us, if I remember correctly Doro Fuller, Cathy Chase and Sue Davenport and my husband Lloyd. I can't wait for next year.

***A similar performance will be done as a fundraiser for High Hopes Therapeutic Riding Center on Sunday, May 1st at 3pm. See the flyer on page 10.***





*All photos of the performance taken by Jim Coleman, Mt Holyoke College*

The Equus Projects  
Dancing with Horses  
in  
**CELEBRATION**



Special benefit performance for the  
**High Hopes Therapeutic Riding, Inc**



with  
Soloists Jorge Gabriel and Patricia Norcia  
Choreographer JoAnna Mendl Shaw  
Sunday, May 1st - 3pm

High Hopes Therapeutic Riding Indoor Arena  
36 Town Woods Rd.  
Old Lyme, CT. 06371

For tickets and information contact: Alicia Barrows  
[abarrows@highhopestr.org](mailto:abarrows@highhopestr.org)  
860-434-1974 ext. 23

Photo, Jim Coleman

## Timber Sale in Quinamay Trail Area

A substantial timber sale is starting in Killingworth and Deep River (see attached map). The purpose of the forestry operation is three-fold. In most of the Killingworth section, the intent is to maintain the health and improve the growth rate of the healthiest oaks by harvesting their main competitors. On two small sections in Killingworth, the intent is to help sustain a new oak forest by allowing adequate sunlight to reach the forest floor so this past fall's acorn crop can germinate and develop after harvesting most of the existing trees. The harvest in Deep River will give existing oak seedlings and saplings, that developed after a previous harvest and two controlled burns, enough sunlight to eventually graduate to the over-story while still maintaining part of older pre-existing forest.

These harvests are important as most oak forests have not been able to perpetuate themselves under current conditions. Less valuable and shade tolerant birch, beech and maple are positioned to replace oaks as they are well established in the under and mid-story of most forests. Historically, oak forests have sustained themselves after frequent Native American and other fires, clear-cuts, and farmland abandonment. These activities are no longer prevalent in Connecticut and therefore the current trajectory is for oak to diminish. Since acorns are the most important source of protein for many

species of wildlife and oaks host the most abundant and diverse array of moths and caterpillars which in turn attracts a great abundance and diversity of birds, it is imperative to sustain oak forests.

For more information, go to below: "Why We Cut Trees on State Land" <[http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2697&q=322878&depNav\\_GID=1631](http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2697&q=322878&depNav_GID=1631)><[http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2697&q=322878&depNav\\_GID=1631](http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2697&q=322878&depNav_GID=1631)>

The timber sale was awarded to the high bidder, Perma Treat Corporation of Durham, CT. They are a major producer of railroad ties.

As part of their contractual requirements, Perma Treat will be responsible for improving sections of the roads in the state forest in order to minimize pre-existing erosion problems.

Hope you and your family enjoy the holidays.

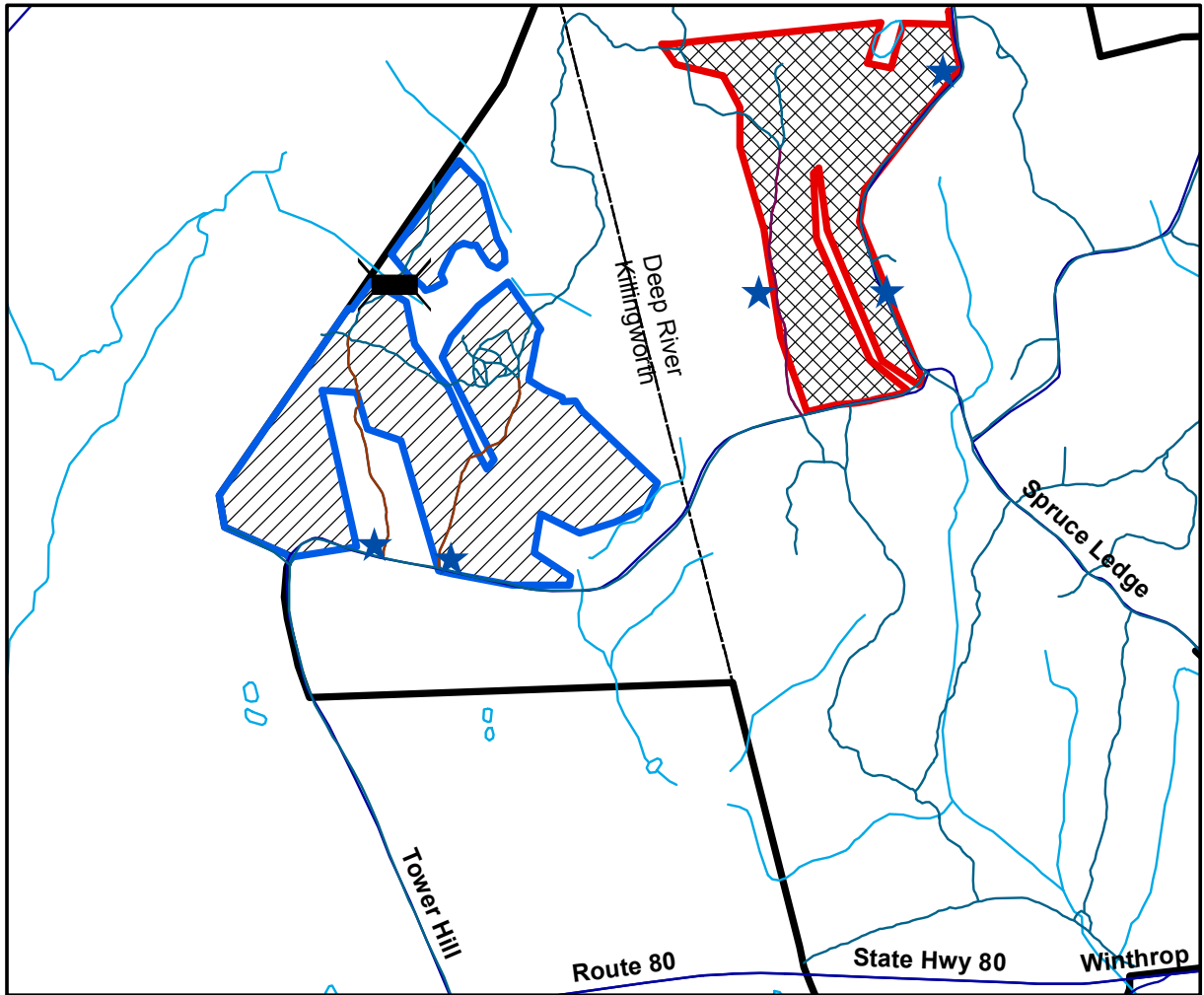
Regards

Emery












Emery Gluck, Forester  
Cockaponset State Forest  
18 Ranger Road  
Haddam, CT 06438  
Telephone (860)-345-8522

*See the map on the next page*

# "Exhibit A" Sale # E-975B Cockaponset State Forest Winthrop Block Stands 4.3 and 5.1 Deep River and Killingworth



## Legend

-  Stream\_Crossing
-  YardingAreas\_lyr
-  Woods Road
-  Skid Trails
-  Management\_Area\_Trails
-  Roads
-  Management\_Area\_Streams
-  Stand 5.1 (38 ac)
-  Stand 4.3 (54 ac)
-  Towns
-  Management\_Area\_Deproperties



## 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](http://www.clintonlandtrust.org) for details.

Here is 2011 tentative schedule for MOR rides:  
For questions contact Lynda  
[cymaronfarm@snet.net](mailto:cymaronfarm@snet.net)

March 20 Hammonasset 10 am

March 27 Weber Woods noon

April 9 or 10 Pattaconk noon

April 17 Bluff Point 10 am

May 1 or 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

### March

3-BOD meeting

12-CLCT work day

20-MOR Hammonasset 10 am

24-General meeting Program: Rider and Horse Safety presented by the members of CVPC Horsemasters group

26-BPC work party—scouting hike with Rob Butterworth. Meet at 8:30 AM at Pattaconk Reservoir. RSVP Melissa ([roughdraftfarm@gmail.com](mailto:roughdraftfarm@gmail.com))

27-MO Ride//BPC work party, Spring clean-up Clip & Ride on Quinimay Trail. Meet at Weber Woods ready to ride at noon. Plan to go to north as far as Route 80. RSVP Peggy ([hazageym@yahoo.com](mailto:hazageym@yahoo.com))

### April

7-BOD meeting

9-CLCT work day

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. RSVP to Genie ([geniede@comcast.net](mailto:geniede@comcast.net)).

14-15-MO Ride/BPC work party, Spring clean-up Clip & Ride on Quinimay Trail, Meet at Pattaconk Reservoir, ready to ride at noon. Hope to break into 2 groups and cover Route 80 to Beaver Meadow Road. RSVP Peggy ([hazageym@yahoo.com](mailto:hazageym@yahoo.com))

### May

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

1 or 15-MOR Lord Creek 10 am

### June

12-MOR North Woods, Guilford 10 am

### 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



**Genie Dethloff**  
**31 Overlook Farms Rd**  
**Killingworth, CT 06419**