



Lower Connecticut
River Valley Horseman's Club

Promoting Equine Awareness Since 1962

www.lcrvhc.org



eNote

May 2011

From The President

Dear Friends

It seems like we're having a long, cool and rainy spring. My guys are finally shedding out, though still a bit raggedy. I noticed this weekend how spectacular the dogwood trees look against the green of the trees. I hope everyone has been getting a chance to ride.

The April general meeting/lunging demo at Idlenot Farm was excellent. Patricia and her students did an awesome job of showing some of the uses for and refinements of lunging and groundwork. As someone who previously sometimes lunged Homes to get the bucks out before I got on him, and also did some natural horsemanship on the ground to get his attention, I was very interested. Genie suggested that perhaps there might be a clinic possibility. If you are interested please let us know!

I have really been enjoying the member-only rides Lynda has coordinated. The May 1 ride at Bluff Point was lovely. I believe Lynda took some pictures, which may be included in this newsletter. Six of us rode out in the morning, over the train tracks to the farm and around back in a big loop back to the trailers where we had a snack and a drink and headed out again to ride the park area. And, imagine this, there were an equal number of men and women—that never happens!

I hear the Lord Creek ride was also interesting—starting with a rain shower for all! Sorry I missed it.

There are lots more rides and opportunities available. Check out the upcoming events and the calendar. Please turn out on National Trails Day to support our cooperative efforts.

We will blast reminders of events.

Melissa

**LOOK FOR PHOTOS
FROM OUR LAST
FEW MEMBER ONLY
RIDES IN THE
JUNE/JULY
NEWSLETTER**

Upcoming Events:

June 4 National Trails Day. Work party and picnic. LCRVHC and our affiliate nonprofit, the Bridle Path Conservancy, are coordinating with Connecticut Forest & Parks Association, the Connecticut chapter of the New England Mountain Biking Association, and the Salmon River Riders on a project to armor a section of trail in the Pattaconk Reservoir region of Cockaponsett State Forest in Chester. Bring work gloves, clippers and saws and be prepared to get dirty. Also remember to bring water and bug spray, We will bring the club's tools and the new Muck Truck will make its debut. We will be providing hotdogs for a potluck picnic after the work party. Thank you to Kathy and Bill Schuyler for hosting. All are welcome. Here is a link to what some of the CT-NEMBA guys have been doing. <http://ctnemba.blogspot.com/search/label/Cockaponset%20SF>

8 am kickoff; picnic at noon. Rob says bring your swimsuit for a dip in the lake after the work party.

Directions:

RT 9 to Exit 6 (Chester/RT148)

West on RT 148 for approx 1.5 miles

Turn right onto Cedar Lake Road

At Stop Sign (mile 1.8) go straight.

At fork in the road/traffic island/Pattaconk Reservoir sign (approx mile 3.0) bare right

After traffic island, take first left onto Filley Road (approx mile 3.2, road begins tar, but quickly turns to gravel)

Park at second yellow forest gate on the left (approx mile 3.6) There will be a sign for youth campsites.

Walk down gravel road behind the gate, past the outhouse, approx 1/4 mile to gathering area at shelter.

June 12. Member-only ride. Breakfast at 10 am Rough Draft Farm, 24 River Road, Clinton. Ride in Clinton Land Trust Kenilworth Forest. RSVP to Lynda (cymaronfarm@snet.net). I know it's going to come out so I'll admit it **here—it's my birthday, and yes, it's a big one (50) but what would I rather be doing than riding my horse with my friends? Hope to see you there.**

June 23. General Meeting bonfire and storytelling at Kristin and Mark's house. Peggy will lead the meeting as I will be at Greg's graduation!

June 26. Tyler Mill Ride, still waiting for confirmation on this date, time etc. Because there were so many snow days the soccer schedule might run over. Please contact Peggy if you are interested in this ride. (hazageym@yahoo.com)

July 28. Summer picnic at Sue Davenport's house. Club will supply burgers, dogs, and soft drinks. Bring something to share and your own beer or wine.

See calendar and web site for more.

Branford Chamber Event

Jim Griffin and Yankee, along with Edna Liberty and Roanni, represented the CHC-VHP at the Branford Chamber of Commerce's "Murder at the Blackstone Dude Ranch" interactive theatrical murder mystery event on Saturday, April 2nd. The event took place at the Blackstone Library in Branford, and was a fundraiser for the Chamber and library. Since it was set at a fictional dude ranch, we weren't in uniform, but everyone was informed we were with the VHP, and what the VHP does.

Saint Mary's Church, which Jim attends, is right across the street from the library. When 5:00 Mass let out, Jim took Yankee over to the church (with the help of the crossing guard who made sure to stop all traffic) to ask Father Bob if Yank could be a new parishioner.

Needless to say, with a couple hundred people leaving church, plus the library being right on Main Street, so there was plenty of pedestrian and vehicular traffic, there were a lot of double-takes when people spotted two horses on the library lawn.

Edna and Roanni deserve a special thank you for taking part. Early that same morning, they traveled to Rhode Island to take part in a NEATO twenty mile trail ride, then left Rhode Island at 3:30, drove back to Clinton to pick up Jim and Yankee, then headed to Branford, making it even a few minutes earlier than the promised arrival time of 5:30.

Beautiful weather and lots of friendly folks made this a successful event, and generated some positive publicity for the VHP.

By Jim Griffin



Photos by Ronnelle Ruggiero of the Branford Chamber of Commerce

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.

June

12-MOR Kenilworth Forest, Clinton Land Trust

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

26- MOR Tyler Mill, still waiting for confirmation on this date, time etc.

July

10-MOR Bluff Point 9 am

28-Summer picnic at Sue Davenport's house.

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*

June 12 Kenilworth Forest. 10 am

June 26 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

Ads

QH mare available for half-lease on farm in Westbrook, easy access to state forest trails - for details call Jen 860-575-8021

Horse for sale: double reg. quarter horse paint gelding 5 years old. He's 15 hands super nice ride and I have taken him out on the trails and he is good. I'm asking 6,000.00 or B.O. - for details contact Heidi Smith at heidihay@hotmail.com

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