



January/February 2015

Lower Connecticut  
River Valley Horsemen's Club



### President's Letter

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a merry Christmas and I wish everyone a healthy and prosperous 2015. A new year means it's membership renewal time. Please get your renewals in early. There is a form with this newsletter and we will have forms at the Holiday party so bring your checkbook! Remember you must renew by March or risk being dropped from the roster and no longer getting e-mail notification of events.

Membership renewals go to the PO Box. Alyce Mallek is still acting Membership Coordinator. Please write clearly so Alyce doesn't have to call you to clarify your e-mail address or other information. Thank you. Membership forms are also included in this newsletter.

It seems like a lot has happened since the last newsletter.

We held a combined LCRVHC/BPC Board of Directors meeting on November 6 where Tom Elliott and Rebecca (Russell) Ziobron were confirmed as new directors at large for the BPC. Tom told us the Town of Westbrook was awarded a \$650,000 open space matching grant toward the purchase of the Miley/Russo properties. He will keep us posted as to when the BPC and LCRVHC can get involved. These properties help towards our long-term goal of extending the Quinimay Trail south to the Sound.

Speaking of the Quinimay—Pending the replacement of the BPC president, LCRVHC VP Chuck Sharples stepped into the gap and met with Alex Sokolow regarding 2015 National Trails Day plans. We will be working on the Quinimay north of where we worked in 2013. Details to come.

Chuck and Marlisa also met with a tax attorney regarding our difficulty filling 2 complete boards to keep both organizations going and it turns out there might not be the problems with overlap that we thought—but PLEASE, if you are interested in the future of either organization PLEASE step up. We have been running LCRVHC with the secretary position split up between 3 people for over a year now. The same few folks are carrying too much of the burden. It's your club, you will get more out of it if you participate actively!

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**January 24** LCRVHC Annual Holiday Party. Hosted by Tom and Gloria Elliot, 274 Chittenden Hill Road, Westbrook. Club will provide a spiral ham and non-alcoholic punch. BYO beer or wine and a dish to share. Please RSVP to [lcrvhc.org@gmail.com](mailto:lcrvhc.org@gmail.com) by January 20 so we can have a head count. Indicate what you plan to bring, if possible, so we can maybe head off too many of the same thing.

**February 1.** Welcome the ground hog and celebrate Lynda's birthday with a MO Ride at Bluff Point—weather permitting. For details and to RSVP contact Lynda Perry ([cymaronfarm@snet.net](mailto:cymaronfarm@snet.net))

\* \* \* \* \*

**Please check out the skeleton of the 2015 LCRVHC Calendar at the end of this newsletter. After so many years of leading this club I (and your board members) am out of ideas for programs. Please e-mail me if there is a topic you would like to learn about, if you have a skill to share, or any other ideas or thoughts. This club is what you make it so participate! We will be brainstorming at the January 8 BOD meeting, at 7 pm at Kristin and Mark's house, all are welcome. Or e-mail your ideas to [lcrvhc.org@gmail.com](mailto:lcrvhc.org@gmail.com)**

The annual Chatfield Hollow Chili MO Ride on November 9 was a lot of fun, as always. About a dozen riders in 2-3 groups did about an hour-and-a-half loop through the park, followed by chili, cornbread, desserts, and beverages. Yum! Thanks to Sue Davenport and Emmy Pavelka for hosting this popular ride. Following the ride we held a brief special meeting regarding LCRVHC making a \$500 contribution from our trails account to the Trust for Public Land toward the purchase of the Preserve Property. The vote was unanimous and I had almost 20 yes votes via e-mail prior to the ride. The BPC also made a donation in the same amount.

On December 7 eight riders and several unmounted members attended the Christmas Progressive Ride. Parking and breakfast was at Dave Beaudette and Julie Berman's house. We rode a section of the hunter pace route, arriving at Kristin and Mark's beautifully decorated home for lunch about noon. At that point Ben Wilke and I loaded up Doolin and Homes and went to Madison to bring Santa to town with Able, the Amish draft horse. The rest enjoyed a leisurely lunch then rode back to Dave and Julie's for dessert at the trailers, hosted by Gina McManus. Thank you to our gracious hosts for doing this three years in a row! And a big thank you to Dave, Lynda, and Gina for managing the logistics of moving my trailer and managing the dessert so I could do the parade for my dad. Thank you also for all the good wishes for his speedy recovery. He's home from the hospital and doing great at physical therapy! Maybe next year he'll drive Santa himself again!

I hope to see you soon.  
Melissa

## IN THE WORKS FOR 2015

Jeff Goodson Natural  
Horsemanship Program

A Place Called Hope  
Raptor Rehabilitation  
and Education

Judy Bosco has offered  
to give a Hands-On  
Photographing Horses  
Clinic

Jane Samuels has offered  
to lead a member only  
ride at Goddard State  
Park in Rhode Island

## Winter Trails Workshop

### Where:

CFPA Headquarters (16 Meriden Road, Rockfall, CT)

### When:

Saturday, January 31, 2015 - 9:00am - 12:30pm

### Who:

All are welcome

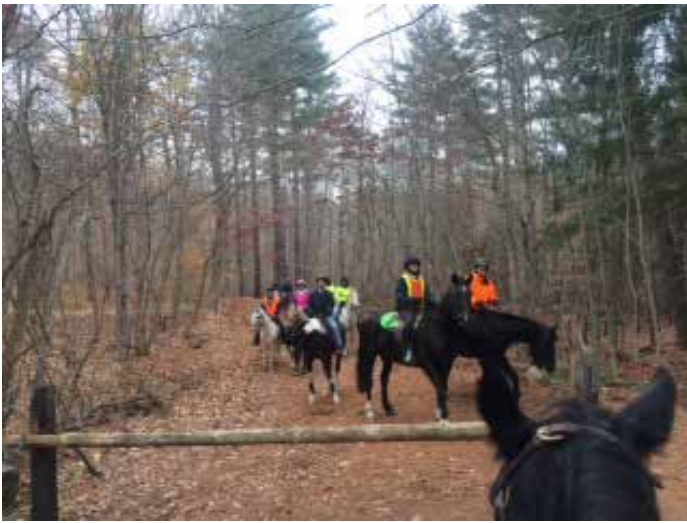
### Event Info:

Join us for our annual winter trails workshop. This workshop will give trail volunteers, land stewards, town managers and parks & rec personnel a solid introduction to sustainable hiking trail design & layout, trail tools and equipment, trail funding and trail blazing. Meet other trail enthusiasts, learn new skills and advance your own understanding of best practices in trail stewardship.

The morning session will be indoor. After lunch we will have an optional field hike if weather allows. Please bring appropriate outdoor wear.

Registration and morning snacks begin at 8:30am. Workshop will begin promptly at 9:00am. Please sign-up below to help us plan appropriately.

Questions, contact Clare at [ccain@ctwoodlands.org](mailto:ccain@ctwoodlands.org)



Thanks to Joe Secondino for these pictures from the Chili Ride (above) and the Christmas Progressive Ride (below)



Middletown  
Agricultural Science &  
Technology Program

presents

*Continuing Education  
Winter Conference*

Agriculture Education for Adults



January 10, 2015  
(Snow Date: January 17, 2015)  
8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Middletown High School  
200 LaRosa Lane, Middletown CT 06457  
860.704.4599 / www.middletownschools.org

# Welcome to the Continuing Education Winter Conference!

The Middletown Agricultural Science & Technology Program is pleased to present the 2015 Continuing Education Winter Conference as a way to provide Agriculture Education opportunities to interested community members who are no longer in high school.

Pre-registration fee of \$20 includes materials for all classes, lunch and a selection of 20 hours of Continuing Education workshops (which will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis).

Several workshops are approved by **CT DEEP for Pesticide Applicator Recertification Credit**; please see course descriptions for details. All Animal Science workshops are appropriate for **PATH Int'l Continuing Education** hours.

The program is planned for January 10, with a snow date of January 17. In case of inclement weather, all pre-registered participants will be emailed and we will also alert local news media outlets.

We are pleased to present an exciting panel of highly qualified speakers on a diverse range of agricultural topics; classes are open to all interested members of the public.

Registration form can be found on the last page.

## Schedule of Events

8:30 –9:00 a.m.—Registration and Coffee

	Animal Science Classroom	Plant Science Classroom	Natural Resources Classroom	Ag Mechanics Classroom
9:00 to 10:15 am	Geoff Goodson: Natural Horsemanship	Gail Reynolds: Landscaping with Native Plants*	Tom Worthley: Backyard Maple Syrup Production	Michael Keilty: Sustainable Ag Research & Education
10:30 to 11:45	Chris Huppe: Pegasus Gait Analysis	Joan Allen: Vegetable Garden Pests*	Eric Chamberlain: Identifying Invasive Pests*	Joan Nichols: Agricultural Advocacy
11:45 to 12:15	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
12:15 to 1:30 pm	David Bradham: Carriage Driving	David McAvoy: Managing Greenhouse Tomatoes*	Katie O'Brien-Clayton: Water Quality Monitoring Program	Allen Petell: Living With Black Bears
1:45 to 3:00 pm	Casey Sugarman: Understanding Equine Behavior	Cat Epright: Organic Floral Design	Mark Creighton: Backyard Beekeeping*	Michael Kinsbury: Arc Welding 101

\*Classes Eligible for CT DEEP Pesticide Applicator Recertification Credits

## Workshop Offerings

9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

### Natural Horsemanship: Groundwork Essentials

Presented by Geoff Goodson, GG Horsemanship.



Geoff will provide an interactive demonstration of the groundwork essentials that are the foundation of his Harmony for Horses program. Conditions permitting, we will be working both in the classroom and outdoors; please dress accordingly. (Animal Science Classroom)

### Landscaping with Native Plants\*

Presented by Gail Reynolds, Coordinator, UCONN Master Gardener Program.

Participants can expect to identify native plant species suited for landscaping in local urban, suburban and rural areas, as well as ideal growing conditions and basic design principles.

\*1.25 credits for PA, 3A, and 3B (Plant Science)



### Backyard Maple Syrup Production

Presented by Thomas Worthley, UCONN Associate Extension Professor. Workshop will discuss principles of small scale maple syrup production, including selection of suitable trees and equipment and an overview of the maple sugaring process. (Natural Resources Classroom)



### Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education

Presented by Michael Kiely, UCONN Sustainable Agriculture Research Assistant and author of *Alternative Health Practices for Livestock*. Program will discuss current issues and initiatives regarding sustainable ag production, including the SARE grant program. (Ag Mechanics Classroom)



## Workshop Offerings

10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

### Pegasus Gait Analysis

*Presented by Chris Huppe, DAEP, The Horse's Foot.*

Using the latest and most advanced motion analysis technology, the Pegasus Gait Analysis program uses sensors and global positioning satellites to objectively show every movement of every limb in every stride.

Workshop will provide an introduction to this simple and non-invasive technology. (Animal Science Classroom)



### Vegetable Garden Pests\*

*Presented by Joan Allen, UCONN Assistant Extension Educator*

This workshop will introduce you to vegetable diseases and the causes behind them. Learn how to reduce disease problems in the vegetable garden using a variety of tools and techniques. **\*1.25 credits for PA.** (Plant Science Classroom)



### Identifying Invasive Pests\*

*Presented by Eric Chamberlain, Plant Health Safeguarding Specialist, USDA APHIS/PPQ*

It's up to each of us to help stop hungry pests; invasive species that threaten to harm our crops and trees. Left unchecked, they can devastate entire agricultural industries, eliminating jobs, threatening our food supplies and costing billions. **\*1.25 credits for PA, All.** (Natural Resources Classroom)



### Agricultural Advocacy Toolkit

*Presented by Joan Nichols, CT Farm Bureau.* This presentation will discuss the CT's state definition of Agriculture and farming, CT's Right to Farm Law, Tax Reduction programs for CT farmers, and discuss Agricultural advocacy efforts on the local, municipal and state levels. (Ag Mechanics Classroom)



## Workshop Descriptions

12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

### Carriage Driving: Reinsmanship Skills

*Presented by David Bradham, HorseWise, PATH Int'l Registered Driving Instructor.*

This workshop will provide invaluable hands-on instruction in carriage driving, with an emphasis on improving reinsmanship skills. Appropriate for all experience levels. Conditions permitting, we will be working outdoors, so please dress appropriately. (Animal Science Classroom)



### Managing Greenhouse Tomatoes for Optimum Yield and Quality \*

*Presented by Dr. Richard McAvoy, UCONN Professor and Department Head, Plant Science & Landscape Architecture.*

Dr. McAvoy will present an overview of greenhouse tomato production and discuss the environmental factors that affect crop yield and fruit quality. **\*1.25 credits for PA.** (Plant Science Classroom)



### DEEP Water Quality Monitoring Program

*Presented by Katie O'Brien-Clayton, Environmental Analyst with DEEP's Long Island Sound Water Quality Monitoring Program.*

Program will provide an overview of the Department's surface water quality monitoring programs including LIS, freshwater rivers/streams, and beaches. Participants will have the opportunity to "sample" a stream for physical parameters using DEEP's monitoring equipment, and learn about opportunities for volunteers to assist with data collection. (Natural Resources Classroom)

### Living with Black Bears

*Presented by Allen Petell, DEEP Master Wildlife Conservationist.*

Black Bears are back, with more than 4,450 sightings in CT communities in just the past year! Learn what to do (and what NOT to do) when you encounter a bear, what attracts bears to yards, how Black Bears compare with other North American bear species, foods that attract bears, and how to discourage bears from visiting your yard. (Ag Mechanics Classroom)



## Workshop Descriptions

1:15 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

### Understanding Equine Behavior with Partnership Engineering

*Presented by Casey Sugarman, Willing Results LC.*

Casey Sugarman, a comparative veterinary biologist, has developed *Partnership Engineering*, an applied "choice-modification skillset-curriculum." After helping the animal normalize, Casey can teach the owner to communicate with horses or any other animal - even humans - using this same set of tools. (Animal Science Classroom)



### Organic Floral Design: Keeping it "Green"

*Presented by Catherine Epright, Owner/Floral Designer, Green Dahlia*

This hands-on workshop will introduce techniques used to reduce the "mechanics" of floral design, and offer more organic alternatives to the use of traditional plastics and foam in floral design. (Plant Science Classroom)



### Backyard Beekeeping\*

*Presented by Mark Creighton, Apiary Inspector, CT Ag Experiment Station.*

Participants will gain a better understanding of the role pollinators play in support of Connecticut's agriculture. Workshop will also provide an overview of how to set up and maintain a hive. **\*2.75 credits for PA, all categories.** (Natural Resources Classroom)



### Arc Welding 101

*Presented by Michael Kingsbury, Agriculture Teacher, Middletown High School.*

This class will be based on the basic principles and application of arc welding. Participants will learn the basics about arc welding and equipment and then get hands-on practice using our shop equipment. If you plan on welding, please wear appropriate clothing, i.e. jeans and other cotton/wool clothing, no synthetic or fleece material (Ag Mechanics Classroom)



## Middletown Agricultural Science & Technology Center Continuing Education Winter Conference

### Registration Form

January 10\*, 2015 (\*Snow Date: 1/17/15)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred Classes:** (Circle one class per time block—classes will fill on a first-come, first-served basis. Some class sizes are limited.)

9: 00-10:15	Natural Horsemanship	Landscaping with Native Plants*	Backyard Maple Syrup Production	Sustainable Ag Research & Ed
10:30 - 11:45	Pegasus Gait Analysis	Vegetable Garden Pests*	Identifying Invasive Pests*	Agricultural Advocacy
12:15 - 1:30	Carriage Driving	Greenhouse Tomatoes*	Water Quality Monitoring	Black Bears
1:45 - 3:00	Equine Behavior	Organic Floral Design	Beekeeping*	Arc Welding

\*Classes Eligible for CT DEEP Pesticide Applicator Recertification Credits

### Early Registration Fee: \$20. Must be received by 1/5/15.

Late Registration Fee: \$30

Registration includes materials, refreshments and lunch. Checks payable to "FFA"

### Remit registration form & payment to:

Middletown Agricultural Science & Technology Center  
200 LaRosa Lane  
Middletown CT 06457  
RE: Continuing Education Winter Conference

### Questions?

Phone: 860-704.4599 X 4029

Fax: 860.704.4588

Email: thomsona@mpsct.org



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 06419

**2015 Membership Categories**

Family \$25     Individual \$15

office use: Check amt. \$	#
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- 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.)

Suggest a program, ride or activity you would attend if the club offered \_\_\_\_\_

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.

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) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

# LCRVHC/BPC 2015 Calendar

This is just a skeleton. There are lots of blanks to be filled in. If you are interested in hosting a MO ride please contact Lynda Perry (cymaronfarm@snet.net). If you have an idea for a program or activity please e-mail [lcrvhc.org@gmail.com](mailto:lcrvhc.org@gmail.com) or contact any board member. Meetings are at the Fire Museum behind 21 Copse Road, Madison, unless otherwise specified.

## January

1: Annual Freeze Your Butt Ride at Hammonasset, Contact Lynda Perry for details. Judy Bosco may be photographing this ride, depending on weather.  
8: LCRVHC/BPC BOD meeting, 7 pm, location TBD  
10: Middletown Ag Science Continuing Ed Winter Conference-see flyer 24: Holiday Party, 6 pm, Gloria and Tom Elliott's house, 274 Chittenden Hill, Westbrook. Club provides spiral ham and non-alcoholic punch. BYO Beer or Wine and a dish to share. RSVP to [lcrvhc.org@gmail.com](mailto:lcrvhc.org@gmail.com), indicate what you plan to bring, if possible.  
No general meeting

## February

1: MO Ride, Bluff Point, Celebrate the Ground Hog and Lynda's birthday, contact Lynda Perry  
5: BOD meeting, 7 pm, if needed, location TBD  
\_\_: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party  
26: General Meeting, program, location TBD, will e-mail

## March

5: BOD Meeting, 7 pm, if needed, location TBD  
15: MO Ride, Celebrate St. Patrick's Day  
\_\_: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party  
26: General Meeting, program, \_\_\_\_\_

## April

2: BOD Meeting, 7 pm, if needed, location TBD  
5: Easter  
12: MO Ride, \_\_\_\_\_, contact Lynda Perry  
\_\_: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party,  
23: General Meeting, program, \_\_\_\_\_

## May

7: BOD Meeting, 7 pm, if needed, location TBD  
10: Mother's Day, MO Ride. \_\_\_\_\_, contact Lynda Perry  
\_\_: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party,  
28: General Meeting, program, \_\_\_\_\_

## June

4: BOD Meeting, 7 pm, if needed, location TBD  
6: National Trails Day, work, ride, picnic  
14: MO Ride, Flag Day and Melissa's Birthday  
26: General Meeting, Jeff Goodson, Natural Horsemanship, Emmy Pavelka's farm, 187 North Chestnut Hill Road, Killingworth, [epavelka@riscassidavis.com](mailto:epavelka@riscassidavis.com)

## July

No BOD Meeting unless needed  
5: MO Ride, Fourth of July, contact Lynda Perry  
\_\_: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party,  
No General Meeting  
23: Summer picnic, location \_\_\_\_\_

## August

6: BOD Meeting, 7 pm, if needed, location TBD  
30: MO Ride \_\_\_\_\_, End of Deer Fly Season, Beware of Bees contact Lynda Perry  
\_\_: Lord Creek Horse Trials  
\_\_: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party  
27: General Meeting, program, \_\_\_\_\_

## September

3: BOD Meeting, 7 pm, if needed, location TBD  
\_\_: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party  
\_\_ Lord Creek Hunter Pace  
24: General Meeting, program, \_\_\_\_\_  
27: MO Ride \_\_\_\_\_, Welcome Autumn, contact Lynda Perry

## October

1: BOD Meeting, 7 pm, if needed, location TBD  
18: MO Ride Weber Woods, Clip & Ride and Mark Hunter Pace route, contact Lynda Perry  
\_\_: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party  
22: General Meeting, program  
\_\_: Hunter Pace

## November

No BOD Meeting  
\_\_: Equine Affair  
\_\_: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party  
8: MO Ride, Chatfield Hollow, Chili Ride, hosts Sue Davenport and Emmy Pavelka ([S1Davenport@comcast.net](mailto:S1Davenport@comcast.net))  
19: Special Meeting, Election year

## December

No BOD Meeting  
No General Meeting, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year  
6 or 13: Christmas Progressive Ride, \_\_\_\_\_

## January

\_\_: LCRVHC Holiday Party, \_\_\_\_\_