



May/June 2013

Dear Friends ~

I apologize for the lack of my usual enthusiasm, but it's been a hard couple of months. As many of you know we lost the sweet, red Suffolk Max to colic on April 7—he was only ten years old—and now the older draft, Wedge, has also come to the end of his days. His hip had gotten so bad he can no longer support weight on his back end. I know it is part of having animals but it just doesn't get any easier with repetition. They rip your heart out every time. The barn will be really quiet with just Homes and Doolin. Thank you for all your cards and notes—we really appreciate the concern.



~ Wedge and Max ~

A brief report of recent activities includes: The March 10 MO ride at Hammonasset was led by **Joe Secondino** since Lynda Perry was still sidelined with her broken foot. Sorry, I didn't make it and I don't know who was there. Thank you, Joe for filling in.

On March 17 a BPC work party consisting of **Mark Leas, Kristin Elliott Leas, Dave Beaudette, Chad Davenport, and me** worked in Weber Woods cleaning up winter storm damage, cutting downed trees on the white trail, and clearing blow downs in the Lower Gun Club Field. I hear we also owe a thank you to **Ken DeWitt** who has been a good trail fairy out with saw and loppers, cleaning up the trails in Weber Woods and Cockaponsett after this harsh winter.

The March 28 general meeting was a program on Equine Acupuncture by veterinarian **Lara Gardner**. It was very interesting and cool to see and try the needles. I still don't really know how or why it works (like most science) but it's something that has been around forever and it's fascinating to me. Thanks to **Chuck Sharples** for arranging this speaker.

The April 14 MO Ride planned for Escoheag had to be postponed because another large group was using the area on that day—see upcoming events for new date. The good thing about this is Lynda can ride again!



YEA – Lynda!

The BPC work party scheduled for April 21 also had to be cancelled, due to a work emergency by the leader, **Dave Beaudette**.

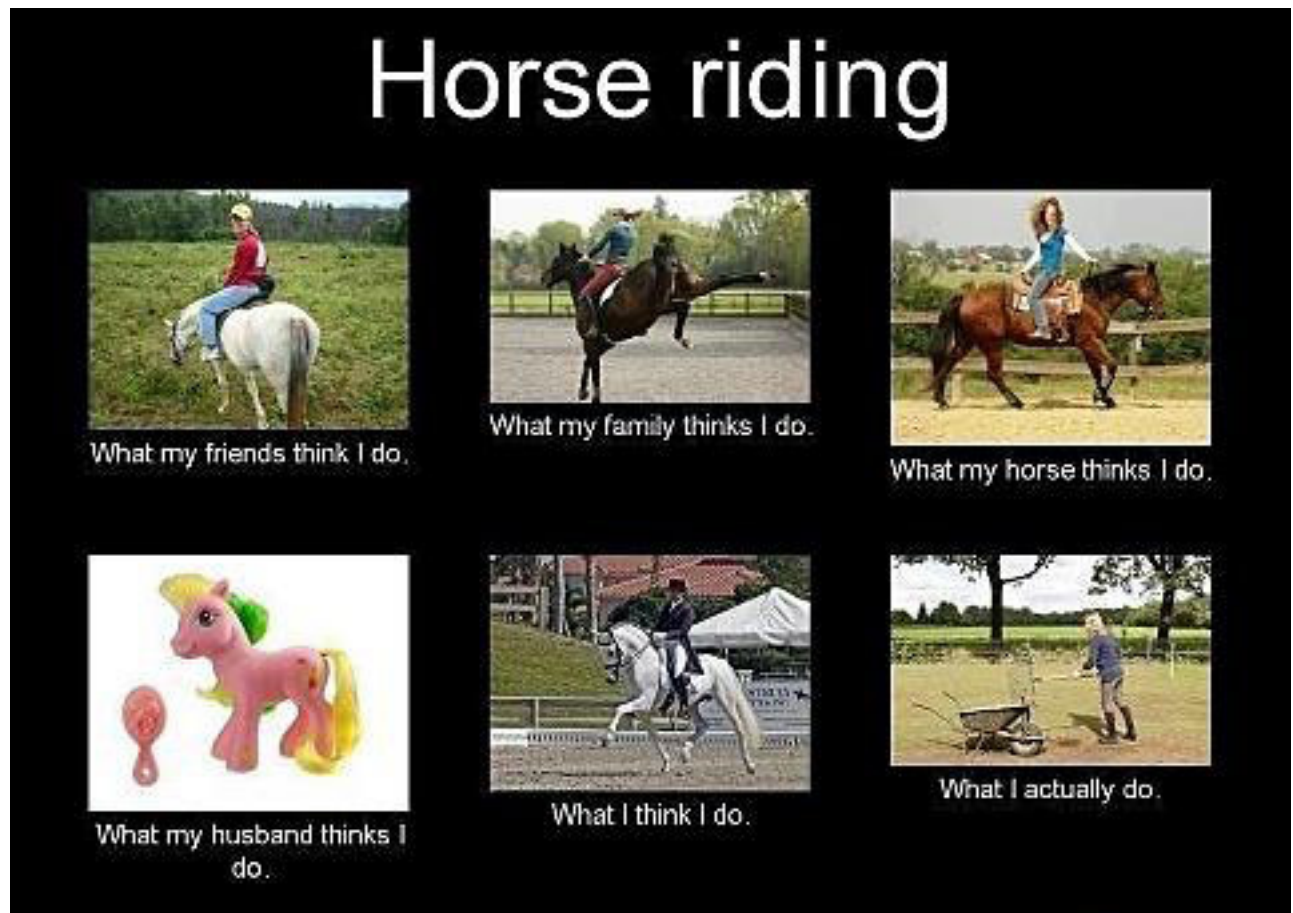
Maryanne Daniel did a demonstration of Equine Massage at Sue Davenport's farm for the April 25 general meeting and **Sue and Shirley** provided wine and cookies as refreshments for the meeting afterward. We had several new members and some returning members in attendance. I counted about 20.

On May 5 **Tom Elliott, Kristin Elliott Leas, Mark Leas, Julie Berman, Dave Beaudette, Trish Panico, and me** scouted the proposed new trail from Dave and Julie's property into Weber Woods. I can't stress enough how important it is for us to get this trail built so we have a venue for our hunter pace. The HP is our only fundraiser and it allows us to keep our membership fee low and still pay for necessities like insurance, etc. [Please come out and help on May 19.](#) There is a lot that can be done with just a pair of loppers!

It would also be great to get a good turnout for **National Trails Day on June 1**. This is the only annual event we do in cooperation with other user groups. We will be working on the Quinimay Trail. Please spread the word. Poster included in this newsletter. Bring a friend (or ten!) and spend the day. Potluck Picnic after the work party hosted by **Kathy and Bill Schuyler**. Hotdogs provided by LCRVHC. LCRVHC also has a ride, led by **Lynda Perry**, which aims to meet up with the work party for lunch.

I hope to see you soon.

Melissa



MEET THE MEMBERS – GENIE DETHLOFF

Genie Dethloff lives in Killingworth with her husband Lloyd and her Papillion Trinket. She moved here six years ago from Ann Arbor, MI and loves how horsey the area is.

Genie says it all started when she was seven. Her father was taking her nine year old sister for her first horseback riding lesson and Genie asked if she could come and watch. After the lesson her dad asked her sister if she wanted to come again – she said no but Genie tugged on his sleeve and said she sure would; she has been riding ever since. She rode hunt seat in her earlier years when she took weekly lessons and spent summers at riding camps. She owned her first horse at age 24, an Appaloosa she named Blanco (white in Spanish as he had no spots) that she bought for \$350, and had fun out in the country riding him down dirt roads for hours and jumping jumps in a field. Then she found dressage in her 30s and has stuck with that ever since.



Looking for ways to combine her love of animals with her desire to help people, she spent many years in Michigan volunteering in a therapeutic riding program. She was certified as a therapeutic riding instructor but due to an injury and subsequent surgery she didn't start teaching - then work and child took over her life. She spent a year in Connecticut volunteering at High Hopes and hopes to start volunteering again in a small program in the area.

She did not own a horse again until she was 40 and since has owned a Morgan, a Hanoverian, two Norwegian Fjords, and a Paint (also with no spots!). She bought the sorrel Paint mare Hope after two lung surgeries for cancer when she was feeling very vulnerable. Hope took good care of her during her recovery as Hope was a very willing, reliable, and safe mount.

Genie loves the challenge (both physically and mentally) of dressage and has no problem spending hours in the arena working on her dressage skills. After working with several trainers she found her dressage guru in Patricia Norcia. With Patricia's tutelage she is starting to move up the levels in dressage. After several years, it became clear that Hope just couldn't advance in dressage with Genie as she has arthritis in her hocks and spine. When Hope was lame, Genie started riding Patricia's bay Lusitano mare Lilly, and continued to ride her as she put Hope back to work. Part of the trick was finding a horse to ride that was



naturally talented for dressage - when she started leasing Lilly she started to progress more quickly. Due to her health, Hope has been semi-retired and is on a half-lease to a family with young girls who can really appreciate a very well trained, safe horse.

As Genie loves owning her own horses and was looking for a dressage partner, she recently purchased a five year old, untrained grey Andalusian mare, Krystal. She is greatly enjoying the process of helping Patricia start her new horse. Right now the young women are riding Krystal in lessons with Patricia but Genie has asked her husband for a protective riding vest for her 60th birthday in May so that she can start riding her mare. Krystal is very sweet and willing and has great potential to excel in dressage and hopefully will be Genie's dressage partner well into her 70s.



Genie has had a few careers, 20+ years in medical and public health research, then computer support and training followed by website design and development. She retired early and now considers advancing in dressage to be her career. Now that she has three horses to keep going, it does take up as much time as a job.

Genie learned about LCRVHC when she was still in Michigan and owned a Norwegian Fjord, but was planning a move to Connecticut. She met Vanessa Weber, a fellow Fjord owner, through a Fjord group and Vanessa told her about the area. Vanessa sent her many posts about proposed changes to regulations in Connecticut that would limit horseback riders' use of an extensive trail system that they had used for many years and a club, LCRVHC, that was fighting the regulations. As she had plans to trail ride and the club's mission preserving trails seemed important, going to a club meeting was one of Genie's first activities in her new home in Killingworth. Luckily Genie loves her arena work as she sure hasn't made it out on the trails much – oh well!

Her first year here she volunteered to stand out in the cold as a crossing guard at the Fall Festival Hunter Pace. The next year the hunter pace chairman was looking for someone to co-chair and eventually take over so Genie stepped in. She has been co-chairing the hunter pace each year since. When the person who managed the LCRVHC website was moving away, Genie was able to use one of her skillsets to help the club in another way as web master. Next she used her background in graphics and her computer skills to take over as editor of the newsletter, a job she did until 2012 when Sue Davenport kindly took the job back. She seemed to always be around when someone wanted to give up a job for the club, so when her friend Shirley Tirrell had had enough as Secretary, Genie stepped in. Luckily she enjoys advancing her skills in Excel and loves making new layouts of the membership data file to share. She has enjoyed her time on the Board of Directors and encourages others in the club to give it a try. So I guess you could say Genie did find LCRVHC's mission to be important and has made an effort to use her skills to help out.

NOTICE ~ ESCOHAEG, RI RIDE RE-SCHEDULED!!!

To avoid a conflict with the work party at Dave Beaudette's on May 19 (which we really need a good turnout for as our potential hunter pace venue) we have again rescheduled the Escoheag MO Ride to June 9th.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 12, Mother's Day MO ride out of Baldwin Stables, 108 Cedar Lake Road, Deep River. 8 mile ride through scenic "Rockaponsett" state park. 1 road crossing, multiple water crossings, some technical areas. Not too difficult but some spots could be a challenge for the new rider or new trail horse. Trailer parking is limited to 8 trailers so please ride share if possible. Chuck will mark the trail the day before if there are enough riders to split into more than one group. Most of the trail ride will be done at the walk with some trotting, once on dirt roads some canter can be done, however, if new riders are there, it should be kept to a trot. Contact Chuck Sharples to RSVP charlesssharples@sbcglobal.net. His cell is 860-575-0020, if you get lost the day of the ride.

May 19, Work party to open trail from potential hunter pace parking to Weber Woods trail system, Sunday, 9 am, 98 Stevenstown Road, Deep River. Contact Dave Beaudette for details avbdvb@msn.com.

If folks still want to ride on May 19, after the work party, I suggest a ride from my place mid-afternoon, with maybe a pot luck picnic supper following the ride since the June 9 breakfast MO Ride from my place has been replaced. Contact me, melissa.evarts@globepequot.com.

May 23 General Meeting, 7 pm, Program: Photographing Horses, Judy Bosco, Fire Museum. Bring your photos for critique, if you want to.

June 1, National Trails Day, Quinimay Trail: work party contact: Melissa Evarts (melissa.evarts@globepequot.com); ride host: Lynda Perry (cymaronfarm@snet.net); picnic hosts: Kathy and Bill Schuyler

June 9, Sunday, new date for the Escoheag MO Ride, please contact Lynda Perry (cymaronfarm@snet.net) for details and to RSVP.

June 27, General Meeting, 7 pm, Rough Draft Farm, 24 River Road, Clinton. Program: Trailer Driving and Safety, Joe Secondino and Kristin Elliott Leas, meeting will be outdoors.

July 25 *6 pm.* Summer Picnic at Trish Panico's house. 280 Bartlett Drive, Madison. There will be a Silent Auction to benefit the Bridle Path Conservancy. Donations needed.

Mitchell Farm Benefit Tag Sale

Saturday June 1st 9 AM - 3 PM

Sunday June 2nd 9 AM - 2 PM

Tax Deductible Donations can be dropped off at

Mitchell Farm Equine Retirement 300 E. Haddam Rd., Salem

STARTING May 4th

Tuesdays 6 PM - 8 PM Saturdays & Sundays 10 AM - 5 PM

Some large item pick-up available. Call 860-861-2321

Acceptable items include: Books, dishes, Knickknacks, lamps, furniture, small non-freon appliances, jewelry, clothing, linens, games, toys, paintings, pictures, antiques, collectibles, videos, tools & novelties and horse equipment and tack. All items must be clean, in working order and in good condition.

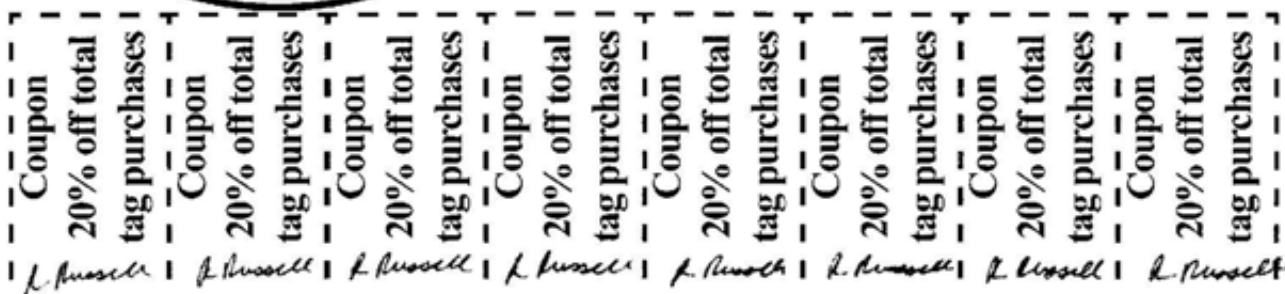


PLEASE, NO: TVs, VCRs,
COMPUTERS, PRINTERS,
FREON BEARING APPLIANCES,
MATTRESSES OR BOX SPRINGS,
TIRES, TEXT BOOKS or FOOD ITEMS.

For more information:

e-mail: dee@mitchellfarm.org

or call 860-303-8705



THE BPC REPORT

Silent Auction items needed:

At this year's summer LCRVHC-BPC summer party, there will be a silent auction with all proceeds benefitting the **Bridle Path Conservancy (BPC)**.

*Donations of new or gently used items are welcomed.

*Items need not be horse-specific (but certainly could be)

*Store bought or craft and homemade items are great too.

To donate items or for questions, please contact **Kristin Elliot Leas** (equineinsight@gmail.com) or **Trish Panico** (trishpanico@gmail.com).

The party and silent auction will take place on

Thursday, July 25, 2013 at 6:00p.m. at the home of
Trish Panico, 280 Bartlett Drive, Madison.

The next BPC Work Party Date will be **Sunday, May 19, at 9am**
at the property of Dave Beaudette and Julie Berman
(**78 Stevenstown Road, Deep River, CT**).

We will be inaugurating Nicki's Trail, (named for Dave's late wife),
As a connector between Dave and Julie's property
and Weber Woods to the Quinimay Trail.

Please join us!

Contact Dave at avbdvb@msn.com.

HATS!!!! YOU CAN NEVER HAVE TOO MANY!

The LCRVHC and the BPC are pre-ordering a new batch of baseball hats.
\$20 for members, \$25 for non-members.

Want to be added to the pre-order list?

Please contact Trish Panico (trishpanico@gmail.com).

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY[®]

JUNE 1, 2013

Show your love for our local trails!

Join us for the 7th annual "combined arms"

Trail Maintenance Event

8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Cockaponset State Forest
(meet at APC Recycling parking lot, 8 Route 80, Killingworth, CT)

Pot-luck cookout lunch to follow, with hot dogs supplied by LCRVHC, at 12:30 p.m.

Projects will include brushing, blazing, stream bank armoring, and trail hardening along a 1/2-mile stretch of the Quinimay trail. This trail starts in Westbrook at Weber Woods and continues to Beaver Meadow Road in Higganum, crossing through the towns of Westbrook, Deep River, Killingworth, Chester, and Haddam.

Please wear long pants and suitable shoes and bring along gloves, rakes, and clippers if you have them.

Bring a friend or make a new one!

Heavy rain postpones to June 2, 8:30 a.m.

Pre-registration is appreciated. To register: contact Melissa Evarts (203) 915-3622
melissa.evarts@globepequot.com or Rob Butterworth (860) 526-3210

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