



**May/June 2014**

After all these years the Vulnerable User's Act finally passed the CT legislature and Governor Malloy is expected to sign it into law at any time.

Dear Friends

Check out the new, updated [lcrvhc.org](http://lcrvhc.org) web site. Genie Dethloff and Jenna Wilke have done a fantastic job. It was especially fun looking through all the slide shows. Please let Jenna ([imaginealltheart@gmail.com](mailto:imaginealltheart@gmail.com)) know if you have any feedback on the look or functionality as it's hard to check it on every conceivable platform and operating system. Also, any web site items can be sent to Jenna and cc me, Thanks.

The March 23 Member-only ride at Bittner Park was fun. The snow and ice finally (mostly) melted and 7 of us showed up to ride: Lexy Delvecchio, Lynda Perry, Joe Secondino, Howard Tunic, Chuck Sharples, Danielle D'Auria, and I. We managed to get 6 miles and almost 2 hours of riding from this small park. Because it was her birthday, Lexy was allowed to skip softball conditioning to ride her new Morgan, Valiant, and she couldn't stop smiling! Nancy Palermo Lee brought sandwiches after the ride to go with some soup I made.

**Lexy on Valiant**



**Joe on Rex**



Melissa on Homes, Danielle on Casadore, Chuck on Tuesday, and Lynda on Sparkle

Fred Mastele from the Connecticut Horse Council spoke at our March 27 general meeting regarding the recent Connecticut Supreme Court decision in the “vicious horse case.” Now it will be up to the Superior Court to interpret their ruling. Fred gave us the history of the case and explained the nuances. He told us about Governor Malloy’s bill that was recently introduced to protect the horse industry in Connecticut. He also talked about some other legislation of interest to the horse community. (For more information and links to the bills, visit the CHC website at [cthorsecouncil.org](http://cthorsecouncil.org)). Fred reminded us, as horse owners, we must be vigilant and active, to protect and keep the rights we have. Fred also suggested that as well as joining the CHC we should also support the Farm Bureau as they picked up the almost \$10,000 tab for the briefs that were read before the Court. After Fred left Mary Wozniak made a motion that LCRVHC make a donation to the Farm Bureau’s litigation fund, it was briefly discussed, seconded by Chuck Sharples, and unanimously voted to send \$100.

The April 3 BOD meeting focused primarily on the upcoming 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the BPC and celebration of the Quinimay Trail. Trail ride and barbecue August 23. Save the date.

The April 13 MO Ride was at Machimoodus. Only Lynda and Nancy Palermo Lee rode out but they had a good time.

Not sure where everybody was but only 6 members were at the April 24 general meeting. Mary Gonzalez demonstrated some muscle massage techniques on Alyce Mallek’s horse, Doolin. Cool and windy but nice to be outside.

\*\*\*I need everybody to do something for me. We need feedback. We go to a lot of trouble trying to come up with MO ride locations and programs for meetings. I understand it’s been a rough winter and cold spring but please: If you tell us what you want, maybe we can do a better job of getting programs to match your interests!!!!

## Upcoming Events

May 17: 9 to noon. Work Party at Weber Woods and the Quinimay Trail. In honor of State Parks Appreciation Day. (See poster and BPC report)  
<http://www.fortfriends.org/2014AppreciationDay.pdf> The harsh winter and heavy spring rains have left our trail system in worse shape than in many years. There is a lot of work to be done and we really need your help. Projects include: replacing rotting decking on bridges on orange trail, patching concrete pipe at the Weber Woods trailhead, reclaiming the trail

through Ginger's Field from the Russian olive and grapevines, creating some water diversion on the red trail, and possibly spreading stone in Tower Hill trail/road crossing area. We also got a LOT of stone from the state to use for repairing the trails in Weber Woods. We will be organizing work parties throughout the summer and fall to get this spread.



The May 25 general meeting sounds like it will be a lot of fun--and something different. Many of us have dogs as well as horses so, with the police dog demonstration being one of the most popular recent meetings, we've arranged another dog activity. We will meet at Larkins Run, 591 Madison Rd., Durham for a demonstration of dog agility. Some of our board members will be bringing their dogs to try out this sport!

As usual, we will be teaming up with Connecticut Forests & Parks and CT-NEMBA for National Trails Day on June 7. (See poster in this newsletter.) We will be working on the purple trail where we were in 2012. Work will include finishing the reroute, clipping and clearing, and reblazing. We will also host a trail ride. Ride leader: Frank Kulick, Potluck picnic follows the work and ride. LCRVHC will provide hot dogs. RSVP: Lynda Perry ([cymaronfarm@snet.net](mailto:cymaronfarm@snet.net)); picnic hosts: Bill and Kathy Schuyler; Work party contact: Melissa Evarts ([Melissa.evarts@globepequot.com](mailto:Melissa.evarts@globepequot.com))

The June 15 MO Ride will be in the Clinton Land Trust's Kenilworth Forest. Contact Lynda Perry ([cymaronfarm@snet.net](mailto:cymaronfarm@snet.net)) Park and eat at Rough Draft Farm, 24 River Road, Clinton.

On June 26 we'll be back at Rough Draft Farm for a natural horsemanship demonstration by our own Kristin Elliott Leas for the general meeting.

We have lots more planned for 2014, the annual summer picnic in July, the BPC's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Celebration of the Quinimay Trail Barbecue Ride and An Introduction to Eventing in August, see the calendar for listings. If you have ideas contact any board member! Please participate!

Thanks, and hope to see you soon ~~ *Melissa*



## Report from Marlisa Simonson-BPC secretary

I thought I would offer a quick synopsis of Chuck's and my experience at the Clinton Chamber of Commerce Business Expo on Saturday, April 5. Chuck should feel free to chime in with any additional comments. To cut to the chase: our overall assessment was that it was a much more effective forum for the BPC than for the LCRVHC. Although several people stopped to talk to us who saw the pictures of the horses on the banners and wanted to tell us how much they loved horses, only ONE person was an actual rider who may have been a prospect for LCRVHC membership. By contrast, we had "substantive conversations" with around 20 people (I was trying to keep track but lost count at 15) who were interested in volunteering, wanted information about walking or cycling on local trails, or who were curious about some of our educational offerings.

Just as a refresher - Chuck and I purchased (using our own funds) a single table under the name of the BPC but set it up to represent both organizations. Pic attached. Although I was a little worried we might get scolded for trying to cheat the Chamber out of a second registration, none of the several people on the Chamber staff who stopped by our table had anything to say about that. We had banners up representing both organizations (banners had been designed by Genie), a tablecloth which had been prepped by Trish, brochures from both orgs, brochures about trail etiquette and road safety, and flyers about the Trails Day project. We also had a jar for people who were interested in hearing about upcoming projects to leave a phone number or e-mail address - 9 people did that.

Although I think we were successful in attracting some new volunteers and generating interest in Weber Woods and the Quinimay Trail, possibly some of the stronger connections came from people we met who had an area of specialty to offer to us. For instance, a recruiter who provided ideas about web sites where we could advertise volunteer opportunities; the owner of Cedar Island Marina who was willing to advertise our events in their monthly newsletter; a young guy who has experience with geocaching; and people who worked at local logo and printing companies.

Finally, a word about what we did NOT do. We intentionally did not do logo-ed giveaways or have lots of stuff for kids. We saw plenty of booths where they had gimmicks to attract people, like having people leave a name for a raffle. We could have easily done that as a way to source e-mail addresses, but deliberately chose not to. The 9 people who left their contact information with us are people with whom we had a real, thoughtful conversation about our organizations and who said yes, I want to be a part of that. Different people might take a different

strategy, but for us - we knew that the people who left their names had a genuine interest. Whether they end up following through or not, we'll see!

As far as whether this would be an appropriate expense for just the BPC next year, I think it's too early to say. If enough of the people we spoke to show up at work parties and events throughout the rest of the year - then definitely. Time will tell.

Chuck and I would be happy to answer your questions.

Thanks,

*Marlisa*

**The LCRVHC and BPC** shared a table at the Clinton Chamber of Commerce Business Expo on April 5. We had great conversations with community members who were interested in volunteering, who wanted information about walking or cycling on local trails, or who were curious about some of our educational offerings. We also met several other local businesspeople who provide services that could be beneficial to our organizations. We are hopeful that we will see some of the people we met at upcoming events this year!

The BPC sponsored Ann Bowie's Horse Power Farm Cross Country Derby Saturday May 3<sup>rd</sup>. We had the opportunity to add packets of information to the rider packets and host a table at the event for the day. What a perfect day it was to sit and chat with folks attending the event about trail riding and trail maintenance and how we all need to pitch in to keep horses welcomed on the various trail systems around our state. We look forward to hearing from some of the riders to see how we can help them with their trail systems or if they can come and lend a hand at one of our work days.

## **TEN YEARS OF BPC CELEBRATION**

### **Trail Ride and BBQ**

**In celebration of 10 years of the BPC and the Quinimay Trail**

**Saturday, August 23, 2014**

**Deep River, CT**

**\$25 per person (riders and non-riders welcome)**

**Please join us for a trail ride in Cockaponset State Forest, followed by a  
Catered BBQ lunch. Two routes available!**

**For more information and to register online:**

**[bpconservancy.org](http://bpconservancy.org)**

# Calendar

## May

11: MO Ride Pattaconk, contact Lynda Perry ([cymaronfarm@snet.net](mailto:cymaronfarm@snet.net)) Mother's Day

17: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party, Quinimay Trail at Tower Hill, tractor work party

22: General Meeting, program Dog Agility at Larkin's Run, 591 Madison Rd., Durham

## June

5: BOD Meeting, 7 pm, if needed, location TBA

7: National Trails Day, Purple Trail, Cockaponsett, ride leader: Frank Kulick, RSVP: Lynda Perry ([cymaronfarm@snet.net](mailto:cymaronfarm@snet.net)); picnic hosts: Bill and Kathy Schuyler; Work party contact: Melissa Evarts ([Melissa.evarts@globepequot.com](mailto:Melissa.evarts@globepequot.com))

15: MO Ride CLCT Kenilworth Forest, Park and Breakfast at Melissa's Rough Draft Farm, contact Lynda Perry ([cymaronfarm@snet.net](mailto:cymaronfarm@snet.net)) Father's Day

26: General Meeting, Rough Draft Farm, 24 River Road, Clinton. Natural Horsemanship, Kristin Elliott Leas

## July

No BOD Meeting unless needed

6: MO Ride Hurd Park contact Lynda Perry ([cymaronfarm@snet.net](mailto:cymaronfarm@snet.net))

No General Meeting

24: Summer picnic, Sue Davenport's house, Silent Auction back by popular demand!, RSVP to Sue ([s1davenport@comcast.net](mailto:s1davenport@comcast.net), for auction items, Kristin ([equineinsight@gmail.com](mailto:equineinsight@gmail.com)))

## August

7: BOD Meeting, 7 pm, if needed, location TBA

17: MO Ride Patchaug, contact Lynda Perry ([cymaronfarm@snet.net](mailto:cymaronfarm@snet.net))

17: Lord Creek Horse Trials

\_\_\_: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party

23: BPC Barbecue Ride on the Quinimay Trail

28: General Meeting, Jill Walker-Robinson, An Introduction to Eventing, Guilford Riding School, 575 Clapboard Hill Road, Guilford.

## September

4: BOD Meeting, 7 pm, if needed, location TBA

\_\_\_: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party

20 (raindate 21): Lord Creek Hunter Pace

25: General Meeting, program Janet Barrett, author, They Called Her Reckless

28: MO Ride Escoheag, contact Lynda Perry ([cymaronfarm@snet.net](mailto:cymaronfarm@snet.net))

## October

2: BOD Meeting, 7 pm, location TBA

19: MO Ride Weber Woods, Clip & Ride and Mark Hunter Pace route, contact Lynda Perry ([cymaronfarm@snet.net](mailto:cymaronfarm@snet.net))

\_\_\_: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party

23: General Meeting, program \_\_\_\_\_

26 (or November 2?): Hunter Pace

## November

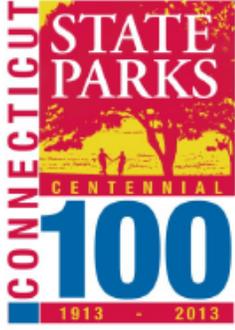
No BOD Meeting

No General Meeting, Happy Thanksgiving

6-9: Equine Affair

\_\_\_: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party

9: MO Ride, Chatfield Hollow, Chili Ride, hosts Sue Davenport and Emmy Pavelka (RSVP [S1Davenport@comcast.net](mailto:S1Davenport@comcast.net))



## Connecticut State Parks Centennial



# State Parks Appreciation Day

As part of the celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of  
Connecticut State Parks we encourage everyone  
across the state to join us on

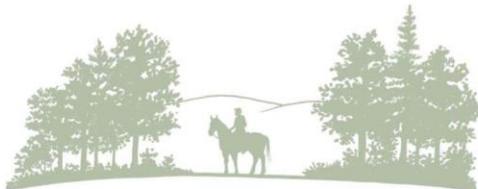
## Saturday, May 17, 2014

to help us beautify and prepare the parks for the  
busy summer season.

Register for the Cockaponset State Forest, Haddam project  
at [VolunteerSpot.com](http://VolunteerSpot.com)

9:00am - 12:00pm

Park in the Weber Woods parking lot, Route 145, Westbrook



**BRIDLE PATH**  
*Conservancy*

# NATIONAL TRAILS DAY<sup>®</sup>

**SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 2014**

Join us for the 8th annual “combined arms”

## **Trail Maintenance Event**

**8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Cockaponset State Forest, Haddam, CT**

Join members of the BPC, CFPA, LCRVHC and NEMBA for a trail maintenance event on the Purple Trail as we work to improve the forest trails for all users. Work will include blazing, brushing, drainage work and a reroute. Tools will be provided but bring a bow saw or loppers and gloves if you want. Dress for a day in the woods and bring water, a snack, sun screen and bug spray.

Pot-luck cookout lunch, with hot dogs supplied by LCRVHC, at 12:30 p.m. Bring a side dish or dessert!

Bring a friend or make a new one!

**Pre-registration is appreciated.**

To register: contact Rob Butterworth at (860) 526-3210 or [Robert.Butterworth@arrisi.com](mailto:Robert.Butterworth@arrisi.com)

*Directions: Take Route 9 to Exit 8 (Beaver Meadow Rd). Go east and turn right onto Weiss Rd. Follow Weiss Rd to the end and turn right onto Filley Rd. Follow Filley Rd as it turns into a gravel forest road. Bear left at the intersection with Jericho Rd and continue on Filley approx. 1/2 mile to parking on right.*

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

Please monitor the CFPA Facebook page ([facebook.com/CTForestandParkAssociation](https://facebook.com/CTForestandParkAssociation)) for updates.

### Sponsored By:



[bpconservancy.org](http://bpconservancy.org)



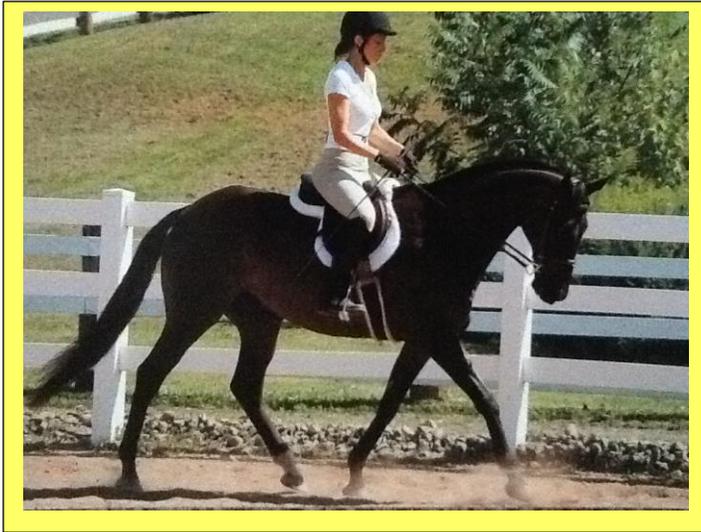
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Contact Karen Germini 860-434-3664 [kgdoghousegrooming@yahoo.com](mailto:kgdoghousegrooming@yahoo.com)

## ***Lee Smith Diamond's Clinic***

***May 30<sup>th</sup>- June 1<sup>st</sup> 2014***

***Foundation thru Advanced, Cedar Rock Farm Hampton, CT***

***Please contact Diane Noyes for more information***

***860-334-0860 or visit***

***[www.leesmithdiamonds.com](http://www.leesmithdiamonds.com)***

