

Contact Us

LCRVHC: e-mail: lcrvhc.org@gmail.com
web site: lcrvhc.org
[facebook.com/lcrvhc](https://www.facebook.com/lcrvhc)

BPC: e-mail: contactus@BPConservancy.com
web site: BPConservancy.org
[facebook.com/BridlePathConservancy](https://www.facebook.com/BridlePathConservancy)

President's Letter

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! A new year means membership renewal time is here. The 2016 membership forms are up on the web site and included in this newsletter. I will also have forms at the party so bring your checkbooks. You don't want to miss any of the fun. In the works for 2016 are a vaulting demo, a desensitizing clinic, driving fun with mini horses, something dog related, and maybe a team penning demo or program on adopting and retraining an off track throughbred. This club is what you make it. We need your ideas!

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. We have been blessed with a mild fall (and winter so far) so we have been getting some great riding in—see photos on next pages.

The Annual Chili Ride on November 15, hosted by Sue Davenport and Emmy Pavelka was fun, as usual, with great weather for a very pleasant ride through Chatfield Hollow State Park followed by delicious chili, breads, and desserts at North Chestnut Hill. Thanks to Emmy and Sue (and Emmy's husband) for hosting this popular ride each year.

The Christmas Progressive Ride was held on December 12, though it felt more like an Indian summer day. After a hot breakfast of egg casserole, pancakes, bacon, and fruit at Rough Draft Farm, 12 riders in 3 groups rode out for a pleasant loop through the Clinton Land Trust's Kenilworth Forest. Lunch at Lexy and Sandy DelVecchio's house was 3 different kinds of soup with bread, cheese and crackers, and homemade horse treats and carrots for the equines. Dessert was apple crisp with ice cream and cookies at

(President's Letter continued next page)

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UPCOMING EVENTS

WINTER PARTY

Saturday, January 23, 6 pm, at Kristin and Mark's house, 131 Pritchett Drive, Westbrook. Club will provide spiral ham and non-alcoholic punch. BYOB and a dish to share. RSVP to lcrvhc.org@gmail.com for the party. If you let us know what you plan to bring we can head off duplicates. We will hold a Silent Auction to benefit the Bridle Path Conservancy for trail maintenance and repair. Donations welcome (encouraged). Good chance to move along unwanted Christmas gifts. Consider donating a service. Sometimes the bidding gets pretty competitive—adding to the fun. Please let Kristin know what you plan to bring for auction (equineinsight@gmail.com).

FEBRUARY

Saturday, February 20. Lynda Perry will host a member-only ride at Bluff Point, weather permitting. RSVP to cymaronfarm@snet.net or on the [lcrvhc](https://www.facebook.com/lcrvhc) facebook page.

Thursday, February 25. General meeting. Tack cleaning party at Alyce Mallek's house, 44 Jannas Lane, Madison. We don't like to plan a speaker for this month since the weather can be challenging so here's an opportunity to do a boring task while visiting. Bring your own cleaning supplies and equipment. Repairs possible. Melissa's parents can drop off and pickup from Amish harness shop. A stirrup leather restitch is literally like \$2.

See calendar on last page for more!

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Please remember when riding at Bluff Point, Hammonasset, Chatfield Hollow, and other State Parks: These parks are busy and get a lot of non-horse-friendly use. Be considerate. Pass walkers and other trail users slowly and respectfully. Do not ride where you see NO ANIMALS or NO HORSES signs posted. The boardwalks on the Shoreline Greenway Trail in Hammonasset, for example, are not horse safe. No horses are allowed on the beach at Hammonasset from April 1 to November 1. Horses are never allowed on the beach or in the picnic area at Chatfield Pond. PLEASE remove any manure from roads, trails, and beaches in State Parks. We want to keep these areas open to equestrians!

On high-use trails in the state forest, please dismount and kick/scatter manure off the trail so the kids don't walk in it and track it into Mom's SUV!

Remove all manure from parking areas and trail heads!

* * * * *

(President's Letter continued)

Jen and Sarah Asbury's house with help from Bill and Kathy Schuyler. Many of the equines and riders dressed up for the occasion. Thank you to all our hosts!

The Annual Freeze Your Butt Ride on New Year's Day ended up being a combined ride with the Connecticut Trail Riders Association. Ruth Stronzer (who belongs to both clubs) led the CTRA Group and brought everyone up to speed on park rules regarding horses and manure management before the ride. 26 riders in several groups explored the park and rode along the beach. Judy Bosco brought her camera for some awesome shots. We shared Ruth's chili and potluck after the ride. I think we might have concluded that although it was fun this many horses might be overwhelming to other park users on such a nice day. While we did get a lot of positive attention and comments like "I wish dog owners picked up after their dogs as well as you pick up after your horses" we later heard about some complaints. Sigh.

And back on December 11, Chuck Sharples and I were interviewed by Laurie Gianotti of DEEP and the folks from iCRV Radio about the LCRVHC and the BPC. We are hoping to get a copy of the interview for our web site. I think we did okay for a first time. Needless to say nobody is going to hire yours truly for a public speaking career.

Please see the Upcoming Events box on the first page and the calendar on the last page for more activities. We are still looking for activities to fill out our calendar!

I hope to see you soon.
Melissa



Lexy Delvecchio on Valiant, Gina McManus on Trooper, and Danielle Borrelli on Casador enjoy a gallop on the beach on New Years Day. Judy Bosco Photo

2015 Chili Ride at Chatfield Hollow



Clockwise from top left: Lynn Burns on Dodge, Karen Gallo on Tanner, Emma Saunders on Jiggy with Sarah Asbury on Parker, Emmy Pavelka on Picasso, Howard Tunic on Emma, Pam Cameron on Dusty with Lynda Perry on Sparkle. Thank you to Alyce Mallek for the photos.

2015 Christmas Progressive Ride



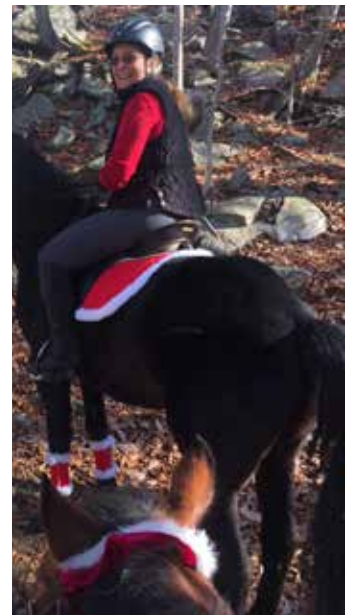
Clockwise from top left: Doolin dislikes his antlers, Sue Davenport on Banjo, on the trail in Kenilworth, Trooper decides to roll at the lunch, starting out from Rough Draft Farm. Thanks to all who sent photos: Gina, Alyce, Sandy, Lexy.



2015 Christmas Progressive Ride



Left to right, top to bottom: Bill Schuyler supervises dessert, the whole group at the lunch stop, Joe Secondino on Rex with Julie Sengstacken on Doolin, Pam Cameron with Dusty, Melissa Evarts on Homes, Joe and Rex share a treat, Val and Homes wait patiently in their Santa gear.



2016 Freeze Your Butt Ride at Hammonasset



Thank you to Judith M. Bosco for these and other photos she took at the beach, see her SmugMug site for more. e-mail: jequiphoto@yahoo.com • www.judybosco.smugmug.com • Photography by Judith M. Bosco on Facebook.

Content Wanted for Newsletter

Let us know what you are doing with your horse. Write a Meet the Member Bio of yourself or a friend. Send pictures of your horse, your adventures or show results, links to articles, tack picks, barn tips, whatever you want to share. E-mail lcrvhc.org@gmail.com.

LCRVHC Board

President: Melissa Evarts
Vice-president: Chuck Sharples
Treasurer: Lynda Perry
Membership secretary: Alyce Mallek
At-large: Emma Saunders
At-large: Lynette Burns

BPC Board

President: Chuck Sharples
Vice-president: Kristin Elliott Leas
Treasurer: Dave Beaudette
Secretary: Marlisa Simonson
At-large: Tom Elliott
At-large: Rebecca Ziobron

Bridle Path Conservancy News

Laurie Gianotti let us know that the DEEP now has GPS friendly maps for Cockaponset—Weber Woods and Tower Hill Trail Areas and the Larken SPT on their web site at www.ct.gov/deep.

Federal Funding for the Recreational Trail Program has been reauthorized for 5 years. See the link on the BPC Facebook page for full article. Read more: <http://horsetalk.co.nz/2015/12/10/congress-recreational-trails-program-us/#ixzz3xFYqZm4w>

The stone has been delivered for the North Tower Hill section of the Quinimay. We will be trying to get it spread over the winter as the wet/dry/freeze/thaw cycle allows. We will send an e-mail when we need help.

Please support the BPC's efforts at the Silent Auction at the Winter Party. See page 1 for details.



A few more Freeze Your Butt photos from Gina McManus, clockwise from top left, Howard Tunic, Karen Gallo, Nancy Palermo Lee.

Middletown Agricultural Science & Technology Center
Presents our annual
Continuing Education Winter Conference

January 23, 2016
(Snow Date: January 30, 2016)
9:00 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.



The Middletown Agricultural Science & Technology Center is pleased to present the 2016 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 provided lunch and your choice of workshops (which will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis). Registration form can be found on the last page.

Several workshops are pending approval by CT DEEP for Pesticide Re-Certification Credit.

The program is planned for January 23, with a snow date of January 30. In case of inclement weather, all pre-registered participants will be emailed and will post notice to local news media outlets.

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

- Red Rock 4-H Club: Meat Goat Management
- Joan Nicols, CT Farm Bureau: Public Act 490
- Craig Brown, USGS: Brackish Groundwater, an Alternate Supply
- Sara Muirhead, HoofCares: Holistic Horse Care
- Laura Cisneros, UCONN : Going Batty
- Tom Worthley, UCONN: Forest & Tree ID
- Geoff Goodson, Harmony for Horse & Handler: Mustang Madness
- Hank Kay, Arborist: Chainsaw Safety
- Natalie Cohen, USDA: Avian Influenza Update

Schedule of Events

Participants may select one workshop from each session.

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

	Animal Science Classroom	Plant Science Classroom	Natural Resources Classroom
9:00 to 10:30 a.m.	Red Rock 4-H: Meat Goat Management	Joan Nicols: Public Act 490	Craig Brown: Brackish Groundwater, an Alternate Supply
10:45 to 12:15 p.m.	Sara Muirhead: Holistic Horse Care	Laura Cisneros: Going Batty	Tom Worthley: Forest & Tree ID
12:15 to 12:45 p.m.	LUNCH <i>will be provided</i>	LUNCH <i>will be provided</i>	LUNCH <i>will be provided</i>
12:45 to 2:15 p.m.	Geoff Goodson: Mustang Madness	Hank Kay: Chainsaw Safety	Natalie Cohen: Avian Influenza

Workshop Descriptions

9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

"Meat Goat Management" presented by members of the Red Rock 4-H Club. In this workshop you will be presented with an overview of meat goat, safe handling, general health and kidding, confirmation, and nutrition and housing.

"An Informational Program on Public Act 490: Connecticut's Land Use Value Assessment Law for Farm Land, Forest Land, Open Space and Maritime Heritage Land" Joan Nichols, current Director of Member Relations and Community outreach of the CT Farm Bureau will provide a presentation on Public Act 490, an often 'land-saving' state act for CT landowners. This presentation will cover what PA 490 is, who it affects, how to apply and will field the various questions dealing with this opportunity.

"Brackish Groundwater— an Alternate Supply Source in the U.S." Craig Brown, Research Hydrologist at the USGS, will discuss brackish groundwater as an alternate resource for use in irrigation, livestock, cooling, etc., in light of increased water demand and projected climate change.

Workshop Descriptions

10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

"Holistic Horse Care" presented by Sara Muirhead, HoofCares Barefoot Trimmer and Alternative Wellness Practitioner. This workshop will discuss holistic approaches to horse care & management, including preventative health & parasite management and diet & nutrition. Sara will also demonstrate her approach to balancing horses chemically, physically & emotionally, using reflexology, orthobionomy, homeopathy & craniosacral work.

"Going Batty" Laura Cisneros, Ph.D, Natural Resources Conservation Academy, UCONN Department of Natural Resources and the Environment, will present a lecture on Connecticut bats and their importance as pest control. Also, participants will learn how to contribute to bat conservation efforts through the use of bat houses and neighborhood monitoring programs.

"Forest Tree Identification" presented by Tom Worthley, Assistant Extension Professor at the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension Service and the University of Connecticut Department of Natural Resources and the Environment. Tom will share his expert knowledge on the forest's largest inhabitants, teaching us how to identify different tree species by looking at the tree's shape and noting features on the twigs and bark.

Workshop Descriptions

12:45 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.

"Mustang Madness: The Best Horse You May Ever Own!" Geoff Goodson and his 2015 Extreme Mustang Makeover TOP 10 Mustang mare, Stella, will provide insight into America's symbol of Freedom and Pride, the American Mustang! Geoff will talk in great detail about the incredible trainability of the Mustangs, their incredible constitution and versatility. Learn about the Mustang Heritage Foundation and the work that they do with the BLM to promote Mustang adoption in the U.S., and information about Mustang Makeover and how you can compete and /or adopt a Mustang of your own!

"Chainsaw Safety and Sharpening" A presentation by UMAINE graduate and CT arborist, Hank Kay. Hank, a member of the UMAINE Woodsman team and current tree services manager will provide a presentation on chainsaw safety, equipment, upkeep, and operation.

"Avian Flu Update" Natalie Cohen, APHIS USDA, will report on the impact and response to the most recent Avian Influenza outbreak, as well as the current USDA response plan and biosecurity tips you can implement to keep your own flock safe from this dangerous, contagious disease that has had a devastating impact on the entire industry, from poultry producers to prices to local grocery stores.

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

Registration Form

Pre-Registration due 1/15/16

January 23, 2015 (Snow Date: 1/30/16)

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.)

9:00-10:30	Meat Goat Management	Public Act 490	Brackish Groundwater
10:45 - 12:15	Holistic Horse Care	Going Batty	Forest Tree ID
12:45 - 2:15	Mustang Madness	Chainsaw Safety	Avian Influenza Update

**Certain Classes Pending Eligibility for CT DEEP Pesticide Applicator Recertification Credits*

Early Registration Fee: \$20. Includes lunch. Must be received by 1/15/16.

Late Registration Fee: \$30

Registration includes materials, refreshments and lunch.

Checks payable to "MHS 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 4594

Fax: 860.704.4588

Email: nescim@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

2016 Membership Categories

Family \$25 Individual \$15

office use: Check amt. \$ _____ # _____

- 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.)

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 2016 Calendar

Please think about the 2016 calendar. 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 a topic you would like to learn about or a skill to share, please e-mail lcrvhc.org@gmail.com or contact any board member. Meetings are at the Fire Museum behind 21 Copse Road, Madison, unless otherwise specified. It is always fun to go other places. LCRVHC has a Facebook page for member-only rides <https://www.facebook.com/lcrvhc>. Check it out! Note that Lynda has chosen a mix of Saturday and Sunday dates for rides this year to try and accomodate more schedules.

January

23: Holiday Party, 6 pm, Kristin and Mark's house, See first page for info

No general meeting

23: Middletown Ag Science Continuing Ed Winter Conference-see flyer

February

4: BOD meeting, 7 pm, if needed, location TBD

8: CHC/VHP CPR and First Aid Update Class, 6:30, Kristin and Mark's house

20: MO Ride, Bluff Point, contact Lynda Perry
__: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party, spread stone off North Tower Hill, date to be announced, weather permitting

25: General Meeting, Tack cleaning party at Alyce Mallek's house, 44 Jannas Lane, Madison

March

3: BOD Meeting, 7 pm, if needed, location TBD

12: MO Ride, Machimoodus, contact Lynda Perry
__: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party,

24: General Meeting, Riding from the Seat: The Most Powerful and Invisible of Aids, Patricia Norcia, at Idlenot Farm, 188 Cow Hill Road, Clinton

27: Easter

April

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

3: MO Ride, Pattaconk, Check Quinimay Trail after winter, contact Lynda Perry

9 (rain date 10): Desensitizing Clinic, CHC VHP Horse Evaluation at Rough Draft Farm

__: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party,

28: General Meeting, _____

May

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

8: Mother's Day

15: MO Ride, Weber Woods, contact Lynda Perry
__: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party,

26: General Meeting, _____

June

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

4: National Trails Day,

23: General Meeting, _____

25: MO Ride, CLCT, contact Lynda Perry

July

No BOD Meeting unless needed

9: MO Ride, Hurd Park?, contact Lynda Perry

__: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party,

No General Meeting

28: Summer picnic, need location

August

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

27: MO Ride, Machimoodus?, contact Lynda Perry

__: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party

25: General Meeting, program

September

1 or 8: BOD Meeting, 7 pm, if needed, location TBA

25: MO Ride, Pachaug?, contact Lynda Perry

__: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party

__ Lord Creek Hunter Pace

22: General Meeting, _____

October

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

23: MO Ride, Weber Woods, Clip & Ride and Mark Hunter Pace route, contact Lynda Perry

__: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party, Hunter Pace prep

27: General Meeting, _____

30: Hunter Pace

November

No BOD Meeting

__: Equine Affair

__: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party

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

No general meeting, Thanksgiving

December

No BOD Meeting

No General Meeting, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

__: Christmas Progressive Ride, _____