

President's Letter

Dear Friends,

Spring! Daylight savings time! So happy to gain that hour of daylight after work. It makes all the difference being able to get a ride in after work during the week.

Your membership renewals are now overdue. Help Alyce out and get them in now. You will stop getting email the end of April if you haven't renewed. Don't miss any of the fun. A membership form is included in this newsletter and is available on our web site.

Some Recent Programs and Activities

The annual Winter Holiday party was held on Saturday, February 2 at Kristin and Mark's. I would say there were at least 25-30 in attendance. The food was terrific, of great variety, and plenty of it. The house looked beautiful and very festive. The raffle was a big success raising \$345 toward the replacement of the Alligator Crossing bridge which was washed away by the September 2018 flood. Thank you to Kristin and Mark for hosting the gathering and Kristin for creating the Farm Basket for the raffle. A huge thank you to Liz and Jim Kennedy for their generous donation of lobsters for the raffle and to Judy Bosco for her donation of a photo enlargement. Congratulations to all the raffle winners! See photos by Judy on page 3.

On February 15 the Pizza and Planning Party was brilliant! I was so happy to have so much participation! See Marlisa's minutes on pages 5-6. We got a lot done on the calendar. If you look at the calendar on the last page you will see that we have listed events from other local horse organizations as well, in order to try and avoid conflicts and let you all know about options! Gina McManus kindly offered to become a board member at large for LCRVHC

Contact Us

LCRVHC: e-mail: lcrvhc.org@gmail.com web site: lcrvhc.org facebook.com/lcrvhc BPC: e-mail: contactus@BPConservancy.com web site: BPConservancy.org facebook.com/BridlePathConservancy

UPCOMING EVENTS

BLUFF POINT/ HALEY FARM MO RIDE Sunday, March 17. St. Patrick's Day. RSVP to lcrvhc.org for details.

WAGON RIDE WITH SEASHORE BELGIANS

Sunday, March 24. Rescheduled from sleigh ride since we did not get snow! Leaving fire museum barn at 2 pm. Come at 1:30 if you want to help groom/harness. Please RSVP to lcrvhc.org@gmail. com so we have a head count and know which wagon to use. Carrie Wind wil be our driver!

GENERAL MEETING HORSE RESCUE

Thursday, March 28, 7 pm, Fire Museum (behind 21 Copse Road, Madison). Speaker will be Susan Fitzgerald Mitchell, co-founder of US Horse Welfare and Rescue, Inc. in Avon. Check out her web site ushorsewelfare.org. Refreshments.

SPRING JUMP BUILDING AND REPAIR Saturday, April 27, 9 am-noon. Kristin and Mark's, 131 Pritchett Drive, Westbrook. Work on jumps used for hunter pace. Lunch provided.

SPRING AND SUMMER ACTIVITIES

We really need insight from you, our members, as to what you are looking for from your club. We want to have activities that you will be interested in and attend, on days and times that work for your schedule. Please, please, share your thoughts and ideas. Email lcrvhc.org@gmail.com or come to any meeting or event.

See calendar on last page for much more! * * *

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(*President's Letter continued next page*)

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Please remember when riding at Bluff Point, Hammonassett, 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 OF NO HORSES signs posted. The boardwalks on the **Shoreline Greenway** Trail in Hammonassett, for example, are not horse safe. No horses are allowed on the beach at Hammonassett from April 1 to September 30. 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!

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(President's Letter continued)

replacing Emma Saunders. And Beverly Torell let us know that her plans to relocate to Colorado are off so she is still willing and able to be president of the BPC! I am so grateful to all the board members and officers who help keep these two great sister organizations going! We are always looking for board members for the LCRVHC and the BPC. If you are interested and able to serve the horse community in this way please let us know!

On Sunday, February 17, LCRVHC held a member only ride at Hammonassett. We've been riding a lot at Hammonassett this winter. It seems like the only place we can avoid the mud and ice. See pictures on page 4.

Please see the Upcoming Events box on the first page and the Calendar on the last page for more activities. We always need ideas for the calendar!

I hope to see you soon! Melissa

PS In 2018 membership was down a bit. It's really a bargain. Only \$15 annually for individual, \$25 for family. If you have friends you ride with or know people who are interested in trail riding with small groups or working on local trails, spread the word. And please, I can't say it often enough, tell us what you want to do as a club!



LCRVHC Board

President: Melissa Evarts Vice-president: Mary Wozniak Treasurer: Lynda Perry Membership secretary: Alyce Mallek At-large: Gina McManus At-large: Lynette Burns

BPC Board

President: Beverly Torell Vice-president: Kristin Elliott Leas Treasurer: Dave Beaudette Secretary: Marlisa Simonson At-large: Tom Elliott At-large: Nancy Palermo-Lee

Winter Holiday Party



Photos by Judy Bosco email: jequiphoto@yahoo.com, website: www.judybosco.smugmug.com

Hammonassett Ride







LCRVHC/BPC Combined Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

February 15, 2019

In attendance: Alyce Mallek (host), Melissa Evarts, Beverly Torell, Mary Wozniak, Kristin Elliott-Leas, Mark Leas, Tom Elliott, Gloria Elliott, Dave Beaudette, Cathy Clouse, Liz Kennedy, Gina McManus, Hannah Younglove Gossett, Christel Maturo, Nancy Palermo-Lee, Rebecca Ziobron, Marlisa Simonson

Meeting called to order at 6:45 p.m.

AGENDA:

LCRVHC and BPC board and officers:

- BPC board is in good shape, Bev not moving to CO
- Emma Saunders has not renewed her membership; Gina McManus offered to fill her board seat (thank you!)
- By-laws state one board member needed to represent 10 members

Financial reports:

- \$7,068 in LCRVHC checking acct
- BPC has \$800 in checking (with addition of holiday party silent auction proceeds), \$5,600 in savings account
- Can't access monthly statements through GSB online?
- Dave paying Windhill (web host) personally and not getting reimbursement

National Trails Day Project (June 1, 2019*):

- Always more work to be done on Yellow Trail (storm damage has created conditions worse than last year) but concern about fatigue/waning interest in the same project
- After some discussion, agreed to go back to Weber Woods. Melissa will confirm with Rob Butterworth and Marlisa will draft booklet text (due March 15)
- Also would like to offer a ride that day
- Don't want to get materials delivered through Alex. Get delivered to Tom's and pre cut. Move in ourselves.
- Tom attending Eagle Scout honors ceremony in mid-March, will talk with Scout Master there about engaging Eagle Scouts on NTD
- Reminder: please wear your Adopt-a-Park badge that day if you have one
- *Rain Date will be June 2

Continued next page

Quinimay Trail:

- OK to mark trail from Breakneck to north of power lines, near Rupernecker's bridge
- Also OK to mark from the parking lot to Four Corners

Public Service Announcement:

• Please be diligent and exercise extra caution when out on the trails due to tree damage from the ash bore and gypsy moths. Ash and oak trees have numerous dead branches and some may have dislodged but gotten caught in the canopy. Windy days can be especially dangerous.

Fundraising Ideas:

- Touch a Tractor removed from consideration
- BPC needs fundraising ideas

Calendar:

MO ride this Sunday at Hammonasset. Be ready to ride at 11. 2/24 MO Hay or Sleigh ride with Seashore Belgians. 2pm. Meet at fire museum. RVSP to Melissa – space is limited.

3/10 MO ride at Bluff Point. 3/31 CTRA ride

4/6 Clip and Ride, Weber Woods 4/27 Jump building at Kristen's. Rain date 4/28.

5/18 CHC Blessing of the Mounts. Not MO. At John Barry's in Cheshire. Ride out at 10:30am. Minister blesses each horse after the ride around 1pm. BBQ following. No charge. Two groups, slow and fast. 5/19 (Tentative) Games day

6/1 National Trails Day6/9 CTRA Poker Ride at Machimoodus6/9 (Tentative) Gina to coordinate progressive ride, date TBD with hosts

7/20 Ride and games day. Same day as summer picnic?

10/20 LCRVHC Hunter Pace – agreed to try a week earlier this year

11/3 Chili Ride

12/29 Freeze Your Butt Ride (Jan 1 if inclement weather on 12/29)

Other possible programs (date not scheduled):

- US Horse Welfare and Rescue (Marlisa to coordinate)
- Reiki for equines (Mary to coordinate)

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Bridle Path Conservancy News

The BPC is always recruiting board members and trailworkers. If you are able and willing to serve the riding community in this way please contact president Beverly Torell (bdtct@sbcglobal.net). Thank You

A Friendly Reminder

The BPC is a non-member organization dependent on LCRVHC for manpower and inspiration! It is basically still LCRVHC's trails committee! We maintain the trails in Weber Woods and the Quinimay Trail. The hunter pace which LCRVHC holds in Weber Woods each year pays the club's annual operating expenses. If you can't make it to an official work party maybe you can take a walk and toss some branches and rocks off the trail. Hours spent in Weber Woods or on the Quinimay trail can and should be logged as Adopt-a-Park time. Wear your badges. Please report your time to Beverly Torell, bdtct@sbcglobal.net. We would all rather be out riding but please bear in mind that it takes a lot of hours of political action with the state and towns to prioritize open space and the work to maintain the trails is never ending. Please join us in our efforts. Thank you!

BPC President's Letter

Happy Spring Everyone. I for one am looking forward to getting out and about. I took advantage of the fifty-degree weather the other day and raked leaves off of Daffodils and Narcissus coming up. The Snowdrops and Crocus are beautiful to see. Need to hand pick leaves away.

I was anticipating moving to Colorado but things went awry. So you'll have to put up with me as BPC President.

So, on a local note I am hopeful to keep the lines of communication open with whoever is out and about on the trails. If you could e-mail me <u>BDTCT@</u>

<u>sbcglobal.net</u> perhaps we can get a "who's who" in an "out and about" blog of some sort. It may encourage others to share their connections with nature and the areas covered that may need some attention by our trails committee.

I thank you for any input you can share.

Interesting facts for upcoming National Parks celebrations and free admission... The very first National Park Week took place in 1991, in celebration of the National Park Service's 75^t anniversary. Since then, this tradition has continued and national parks, programs, and partners across the country participate in this fun-filled week of activities and events. If clicking on the following link doesn't work then copy and paste this to see the blog: <u>https://www.nationalparks.org/connect/blog/mission-possible-findyourpark-national-park-week-2019?utm_source=goparks&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=goparks3-19</u>

Stay safe, and happy trails to all. Yours truly, Bev Torell, President



With Loving Memories of Sue Davenport April 3, 1948–January 27, 2019

As most of you know our good friend Sue lost her battle with dementia in January. Sue was a vital, active member of LCRVHC, serving as membership secretary and producing the newsletter for several years, before her illness. Sue often hosted the summer picnic and winter party at her beautiful home. Sue started and hosted the very popular November Chili Ride at Chatfield Hollow. She helped with the hunter pace for many years. Sue was a very consistent participant on our monthly member rides with the love of her life, Deja. Somehow it seems fitting that Deja passed just a short time before Sue so she could be waiting at the Rainbow Bridge ready to go on a heavenly trail ride.

Cares and Concerns

Hugs and sympathy to Carrie Wind on the loss of her Morgan, Pepper, and to Joe Secondino on the loss of his Freisian, Tjerke.

If you have cares and concerns for LCRVHC members and friends, please email lcrvhc.org@ gmail.com.

Classifieds

If you have something to sell, give away, share or barter or are looking for something another member might have to exchange, place your ad here!

REMEMBER

No horses allowed on the beach at Hammonassett from April 1 through September 30. Please be respectful. WELCOME to HAMMONASSET BEACH No Pets or Riding Animals April 1st-Sept. 30th Help Protect Sand Dunes - Please use Pathways No Alcoholic Edverages or Glassware Beach & Park Open to Sunset

WEBER WOOD'S NOTE

The "Alligator Crossing" bridge at the back corner of the lower gun club field was washed away by the September 25 flood. There is no viable ford in this area. Therefore the trail is closed until we can figure out how to fix/replace it. Someone has put a few planks across for walkers/bikers. Be safe!

Content Always 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.

Interesting timing that Liz Kennedy suggested I share this article she found on-line shortly after I was contacted by a crematorium service suggesting they come and talk to our group. Interested?

What to Do After Your Horse Dies

If on-site burial isn't an option at your farm, you'll need to plan ahead and find alternative arrangements. Here's how.

Sarah E. Coleman

While many people know they have to deal with end-of-life decisions for themselves and their family, it's important to plan for the passing of your four-legged family, as well. Though burying a dog or cat on your property in the country may be permissible, because of horse's size, their burial-and its legality-can become a bit more complicated.

Additionally, you won't be able to simply walk outside with a shovel to prepare a place for your horse to rest-it's imperative you determine what you will do when the time comes. There are a few options to consider after you've said your final farewell.

Horse Burial

Burying an animal that can weigh upward of 1,000 pounds requires a very large hole, one that simply cannot be dug by hand in even the best of soil conditions. Knowing how, and who, will bury your horse will ensure you're not left with a deceased horse on your property for any longer than necessary.

If you live in an agricultural area, word of mouth is probably the easiest way to determine who has a piece of machinery (think backhoe or tractor with a bucket) that can dig a hole when you need it. If you still can't find someone who can help, simply search for "tractor rental" or "equipment rental" to locate a machine that can be rented hourly to dig the hole. Some considerations: If you board your horse, don't just assume the owner of the property will allow you to bury your horse there. It's helpful to tactfully broach the subject with the owner, especially if you have an older equine or one who is ill, to determine if they would be open to your horse being laid to rest on their farm. If they decline, don't be offended, but know you need to prepare for Plan B.

If your farm is very remote, you will need to ensure that the machine can physically get to your farm on a flatbed trailer. Make sure the driver knows the roads you will need them to take and ask them what they charge for a delivery and rental fee, which could vary based on the distance the machine needs to travel and the duration of time it is rented for.

If you live within city limits but are zoned agricultural, you will need to check with local ordinances to determine if you can lawfully bury your horse on your farm. Many cities won't allow horses to be buried within a certain distance of a dwelling for fear of water supply contamination during the decomposition process.

While burying your horse on your property will allow you to have a place to go and mourn the loss of your beloved equine, it comes with its own set of potential pitfalls. One is cost. Here in Kentucky, renting the equipment, having it delivered and having someone to operate it can cost between \$200 and \$400 on average. Another possible complication is intangible, but potentially more stressful: watching a horse be placed in his grave is not for the faint of heart. Being prepared beforehand and asking the equipment operator if you need to be present could help you avoid some potentially unnerving sights.

Carcass Removal

In many areas, there are services that will come and remove your deceased horse for you, whether you choose not to bury him on your farm or you need assistance getting him to the place where he will be cremated. Many of these companies offer myriad services including removal, burial and cremation. Each of these services come at a cost that will vary in different parts of the country.

Removal of the horse may be necessary if you live in a place that does not allow burial of horses on the property. These restrictions are typically related to zoning issues where the local city or township government is concerned about the potential for groundwater contamination from buried animals.

One of the positives about hiring a company to come and remove your animal is that you usually don't have to be present for the service to be provided. You can tell them where the animal is located, then receive a bill in the mail for services rendered. Many times the cost of removal is a set fee (typically starting at \$100) in addition to mileage, which, on average, is \$1 per mile.

Horse Cremation

Many state laboratories, equine hospitals and even some private entities offer cremation services for horses. You will need to find a way to transport your horse's body to the facility to use this method.

The best way to locate a local equine crematorium is both by word of mouth or searching online. Many people will be able to tell you



about their experiences with the local businesses.

It's also an option to choose a meaningful-toyou urn in which to place your horse's ashes once they are returned to you. There are many unique options available, including pottery that has pieces of your horse's hair fired into it. It may be worthwhile when speaking with the crematorium to ask if the ashes you receive will be only from your horse; some services cremate multiple horses at a time, meaning the ashes delivered to you might not be solely from your horse. Also a consideration is if you will get your horse back in his entirety (typically between 60 and 80 pounds of ash) or if you will received only a small amount of ash back.

Additionally, cremation typically is not cheap (think \$1,000 and up). Be sure to ask up front what the cost is to have your horse cremated so you're not surprised by the bill when it comes.

What to do with your beloved horse once he passes is not an easy topic to discuss. However, making decisions now, before they become necessary, will ensure that you have one less difficult decision to make when the time comes to say goodbye to your best friend. View this email in your browser



We Have Our Clinic Date!

The BEGI clinic with Bruno Gonzalez & Tina Veder will be on Friday, June 7- Sunday, June 9, 2019 in Clinton and Guilford, CT.

Other Dates to Save:

Our show fundraiser, an afternoon of beautiful musical presentations on horseback, will be *Saturday, May 18 at 1:00 pm* in Clinton, CT.

The NE Baroque Equestrian Games Competition Show will be on *Saturday*, *July 13, 2019* at High Hopes Therapeutic Riding in Old Lyme, CT.

Our Show judge again will be Jos Sevriens. We hope you will join us for the show. We look forward to our riders from past years showing again, and some that haven't shown joining us in 2019. Once again we are thankful for the help of our wonderful volunteers!

Genie Dethloff geniede@comcast.net Patricia Norcia pnorcia@mac.com

> We are sending you this email because you have either participated in our event in the past or have expressed an interest in this event. Want to change how you receive these emails? You can <u>update your preferences</u> or <u>unsubscribe from this list</u>.



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

2019 Membership Categories

🗌 Family \$25 🛛 Individual \$15		office use: Check amt.	\$ #
Enclosed is an additional amount of \$	_ for our ongoing	g work to maintain and p	preserve trails.
Enclosed is a separate check to the Bridle Path	Conservancy in th	e amount of \$	_(tax deductible).
Please contact me for volunteer help! (This is a committee chairs, trail maintenance, events organizing and the committee chairs and the committee chairs and the committee chairs and the committee chairs are	•	0	to volunteer for
Suggest a program, ride or activity you would atte	end if the club offe	ered	
Name(s)			
(For family memberships please include all na	mes; use a separate	sheet if necessary)	
Mailing Address			
City		e 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 a	ım giving up (waivir	ng 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 paren	t or legal guardian must sign)			
Signature of Spouse		date	/	/
(for family membership, paren	t of minor child of divorced member, etc.)		
For Taking Part in an Event:				
Signature of primary member		date	/	/
(If a minor, a paren	t or legal guardian must sign)			
Everyone must complete:				
Emergency contact information				
Name(s)	_ Telephone(s) ()	_()		
	_ ()	_()		

LCRVHC/BPC 2019 Calendar

Please think about the 2019 calendar. If you are interested in hosting a MO ride please email Lynda Perry, cymaronfarm@snet.net. If you have an idea for a program or activity, a topic you would like to learn about, a skill to share, or would like to host the winter party or summer picnic, please email lcrvhc.org@gmail.com. Meetings are at the Fire Museum behind 21 Copse Road, Madison, unless otherwise specified. It is always fun to go other places. Consider hosting a meeting or social event at your home or farm. LCRVHC has a Facebook page for member-only rides: https://www.facebook.com/lcrvhc. Check it out! We have included some local events from other horse organizations in our calendar so we can work around them.

March

17: LCRVHC MO Ride, Bluff Point28: LCRVHC General meeting, 7 pm. Susan FitzgeraldMitchell, US Horse Welfare and Rescue, Fire Museum31: CTRA Ride at Hammonassett (last beach ride day of season)

April

6 raindate 7: LCRVHC/BPC Spring cleanup Clip & Ride on Quinimay Trail South (new section) 7: CTRA Ride at Machimoodus

__: LCRVHC/BPC Spring cleanup Clip & Ride on Quinimay Trail (will choose dates as weather permits) 27 raindate 28: LCRVHC Jump Building and Repair, at Kristin and Mark's, lunch provided

May

12: CDCTA Dressage/2-Phase at WHC18: Treasure Hill Dressage and CT schooling show19: CHC Blessing of the Mounts at John Barry's,Cheshire, barbecue (Cathy Clouse says open to all, she will send details as we get closer)

__: LCRVHC Games Day at Rough Draft Farm

June

 raindate 2: National Trails Day, TLC for Weber Woods, work party, picnic, possibly ride
& 2: Tristate Dressage, Oneco
8-9: CTRA Poker Ride
15?: Progressive ride orgainized by Gina
19: Manes and Motions Benefit Ride at Machimoodus

July

_: LCRVHC MO Ride

13: Baroque Equestrian Games at High Hopes, contact Patricia Norcia, pnorcia@mac.com

14: CDCTA Schooling Show at Treasure Hill

20: LCRVHC Games Day at Rough Draft Farm

27: Treasure Hill Dressage and CT schooling show

__: LCRVHC Summer picnic, Dave and Julie's?

August

10 & 11: Tristate Dressage, Oneco __: LCRVHC MO Ride

September

7: Treasure Hill Dressage and CT schooling show __: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party, mow/weedwhack Ginger's Field and Lower Gun Club fields and prep course for Hunter Pace

28: Cross Country Derby at Treasure Hill

29: Lord Creek Hunter Pace

27-29: GMHA Fall Foliage Ride

_: MO Ride

October

6: CDCTA Dressage/2-Phase at WHC

__: LCRVHC/BPC Work Party/Clip & Ride & Mark course for Hunter Pace for Hunter Pace 20: LCRVHC Fall Festival Hunter Pace (Note: this is a week earlier than usual to hopefully avoid conflicts

with other HPs)

20: Mystic Valley schooling horse trials

27: Treasure Hill Dressage and CT schooling show

November

3: MO Ride, Chili Ride (Note: this is a week earlier than usual to avoid Equine Affaire 7–10: Equine Affaire

December

__: Christmas MO Ride 29 or January 1:LCRVHC Annual Freeze Your Butt Ride at Hammonassett