

May/June 2018

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

President's Letter

Dear Friends,

I can't believe it's May already! What seemed like a long, cold spring still flew by. Sometimes it took more effort than it should have to get out and ride but I forced myself! LOL

Don't forget to look for the May/June issue of Connecticut Horse magazine with an article on Connecticut's oldest riding clubs. LCRVHC/BPC is featured along with several other clubs. It reminds me what a responsibility we have to this club which has been around since before I was born. It makes me think about the future. If you have young friends who ride with you, bring them along to a ride or work party. The future of LCRVHC depends on it.

We are always looking for insight from you, our members, as to what you are looking for from your club. Please share your thoughts and ideas. Email lcrvhc.org@gmail.com or come to any meeting or event.

Some Recent Programs and Activities

LCRVHC members Lynda Perry, Howard Tunick, Cathy Clouse, Ed Levin, and I attended the CHC Volunteer Horse Patrol annual meeting on March 10. Cathy and Ed were doing double duty representing the Cheshire Horse Council. The speaker was animal communicator, Cathy Languerand. She reminded us that we are all, in our way, communicating with our horses and to be open to it. Several of our club members received certificates for service. A delicious pot luck lunch followed. Yum

On March 17 we had a St. Patrick's Day ride at Chatfield Hollow. The trails were in rough shape after the winter storms, there was still snow in many areas and lots of branches and trees down, especially in the pine forest. See photos on page 3.

(President's Letter continued next page)

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UPCOMING EVENTS

GAMES DAY

Saturday, May 12, 10 am at Rough Draft Farm. 24 River Road, Clinton. Casual, fun, mounted games from Egg and Spoon races to Sit-a-Buck. Non-competitive, good desensitizing for trail obstacles. Ready to ride at 10. Potluck picnic after. Club will provide hot dogs. RSVP lcrvhc.org@gmail.com.

MEMBER RIDES

May 5, Cinco de Mayo ride at Machimoodus. Contact Lynda Perry, cymaronfarm@snet.net.

June 9, Rescheduled pot luck ride at Weber Woods. Trailer parking at Dave and Julie's, 98 Stevenstown Road, Deep River. Map supplied. Ride out when you want for as long as you want. Potluck supper about 5:00 pm. Bring something to share. We can heat up or crockpot. Contact Lynda Perry, cymaronfarm@snet.net or lcrvhc.org@gmail.com.

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

June 2. Pataconk, 9 am. LCRVHC, BPC, CFPA, and NEMBA Combined work party. Continue work on yellow trail. Blazing, brushing, clearing, etc. Tell gatekeeper you are there for National Trails Day for free park admission. Potluck picnic about noon. LCRVHC provides hot dogs. CFPA provides drinks. Picnic host Kathy Schuyler. Email lcrvhc.org@gmail.com for info.

NATURAL HORSEMANSHIP 7 GAMES

June 28. 7 pm. Review/Demo of unmounted training games by Kristin Elliott Leas. Rough Draft Farm, 24 River Road, Clinton

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!**

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*(President's Letter continued)*

On March 29 Meg Sautter did our CHC VHP CPR recertification at Barbara White's house. Diane Ciano reminded everyone to report their VHP hours, please. The new form is much simpler. Thank you. Barb, for hosting.

On March 31 Lynda led a ride at Bluff Point and Haley Farm. I was unable to make it as my husband was servicing our horse trailer that day. See photos on page 3.

The March 22 Fire Safety Program had to be rescheduled to April 12 when Chief Nick Walleck came down with flu. When he did come the program was entertaining and educational. One thing I had not thought about was, okay, the firemen got your horses out of the barn, now where can they put them away from the barn while they fight the fire? All my paddocks are attached to my barn. Going to have to figure out a round pen or something.

The winter storms did a lot of damage to the trails. We have had a few scheduled and impromptu work parties in April in the Weber Woods, Quinimay, and CLCT areas. See photos on page 4. Thanks to everyone who has helped out. BPC president Beverly Torell will be logging and reporting any Adopt-a-Park time, probably seasonally, so if you will please let her know if you work in Weber Woods or the Quinimay trails, with dates and number of hours, it will help us with future grant applications and so forth. Bev's email is [bdtct@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bdtct@sbcglobal.net).

On April 14 there was a jump building party at Kristin and Mark's. Unfortunately on April 12 Rebecca Russell came off Obie and broke her arm. She had a photo of a pencil jump she wanted to build so we built it in her honor and everyone signed it when we were done. We also worked on and completed several other portable but solid cross-country jumps to be used for our hunter pace. As we finished up we were lured inside for a delicious lunch prepared by Sylvie. See photos on page 5. Thank you Kristin and Mark for organizing and hosting.

Please see the Upcoming Events box on the first page and the Calendar on the last page for more activities. We still need ideas for the 2018 calendar!

I hope to see you soon.

Melissa

**PS** 2018 membership renewals are now late. It's a bargain. Only \$15 year for individual, \$25 for family. Send it today! Get yours in as soon as possible. You don't want to miss any of the fun. This is your last email/newsletter if you have not renewed.

**LCRVHC Board**

President: Melissa Evarts  
Vice-president: Mary Wozniak  
Treasurer: Lynda Perry  
Membership secretary: Alyce Mallek  
At-large: Emma Saunders  
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

# Chatfield Hollow Ride



Photos by Alyce Mallek

# Bluff Point/Haley Farm Ride



Photos by Gina McManus

# Work Party Pics



These photos were taken at work parties on April 7, 8, and 22. Top two and middle left are by Rebecca Russell. Middle right and bottom two by Gina McManus. Thanks ladies!

# Jump Building



Mix of photos by Melissa, Kristin, and Rebecca. Rebecca's dog Annie got to be the first to jump the pencil since Rebecca can't ride Obie until her arm is healed.



# Bridle Path Conservancy News

The BPC is 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

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## 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!

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Signs of Spring include this tuft of coyote fur to remind us were all in this together. Please be sure to take care of yourselves and be mindful of new life beginnings, as well as life in vernal pools and streams we encounter on the trails.

Photos and text by Beverly Torell

### CHAINSAW HELP NEEDED

**The Winter storms took down a lot of trees and branches in the Weber Woods trail system. We haven't finished checking everything but we know there are some that need chainsaw work on the green trail and on the connector from Dave and Julie's to the main trails. If this is something you can help out with please email [lcrvhc.org@gmail.com](mailto:lcrvhc.org@gmail.com) and we can schedule a work party. THANK YOU**

# Lions Club Citizen of the Year –Suzanne Davenport

By Clark Judge *Killingworth Krier*

After 41 years of living in Killingworth and serving as a community leader, environmentalist and visionary, Sue Davenport has been named the Lions' Club's 2018 Citizen of the Year.

The third female to be honored in the last four years and the 14th since the award was initiated in 1971-72, Davenport is among the most deserving of the Club's 46 recipients. In fact, when you consider her litany of accomplishments, it's a wonder she wasn't named before.

Sue was vice-president of the Killingworth Nursery School and president of the Killingworth Creative Arts Council. She helped form the town's Open Space Committee, was its first chairperson and served on the committee for 13 years. She has been a long-time member of the Lower River Valley Horseman's Club, serving as secretary, clearing riding and hiking trails and organizing trail rides. [In purple coat at work party in photo, circa 2009]



Sue was a director of the Killingworth Land Conservation Trust for over 15 years, where she served as president for six. More importantly, she was instrumental in the purchases of the town's cranberry bog as well as Welter Woods, a 57-acre parcel of land that created a continuous 450-acre greenway in the heart of Killingworth. She was a founding member of the Killingworth Foundation, where she held the positions of co-president, vice-president and secretary. And she was a member of the town's Planning and Zoning Commission for eight years.

She is an artist with an M.A. of Fine Arts from Wesleyan University. She was a real-estate agent, worked for the family business, Davenport Associates which distributes piping for heating and plumbing. And she was an accomplished and passionate horseback rider. In short, Sue Davenport did it all.

"There was probably stuff that happened in Killingworth because of her that I doubt anyone knows was her doing" said her son, Dan Davenport. "My Mom donated an incredible amount of time in every which way possible. But she really, truly loves the town."

And the town loves her back. People who know her describe her as kind, tenacious, positive, energetic and selfless – someone they looked to for guidance and looked for when they needed help. They put her in positions of authority where she could facilitate change, and she responded – with persons close to her saying she was most proud of the work she accomplished on the Land Trust committee.

Davenport was honored at the annual Lions' Club senior dinner on March 10th but the town's attention doesn't stop there. In fact, her son recalled two events where his mother was a recipient of the help and support she so often offered – only this time it was the town of Killingworth that was giving it. "It's pretty funny," Davenport said, "but when my Mom did have an incident in her house where she set off the fire alarm ... I've never seen so many fire trucks get there so fast. Then, there was an incident where a caregiver couldn't get her car off the street when it was being plowed, and it was going to get towed. But the resident state trooper wouldn't allow the tow truck to move the car. Instead, he moved the car himself ... up to my Mom's house. So, if I could ever say, 'Thank you,' back to all of these people that I know that she's touched whom I don't know .. that have been there when I needed them to be ... I would. Because that's pretty awesome. That says it all."

But it doesn't. Not really. Because for all the hard work ... for all the leadership ... and generosity ... and financial support ... and time that Sue Davenport lent Killingworth, there was something more that she sought. And it didn't come from the community. It came from the family.

"The real honest truth," said Dan Davenport, "is that what she wants more than anything is to be the world's greatest grandmother. That's truly what she strove for. All this other stuff is an outpouring of a lot of talent that she was given. She's such an amazing person. But if you really wanted to know what her deal was going to be, it was to be an active part of her grandchildren's lives. That's all she ever said that she really looked forward to."

With four grandchildren, aged nine to five, Davenport is doing just that ... and no surprise. As a child, Dan Davenport said, "my mother always put my brother and me first – even with all the stuff that she was involved in. So, when I look back at my childhood, it's one amazing thing after another."

*(continued next page)*

The same can be said of the town of Killingworth when it looks back at what Sue Davenport did for it in the four decades she's been here. "Suzanne Davenport has filled an astonishing number of roles in Killingworth," said first selectwoman Cathy Iino. "Her passionate interest in the environment, the arts, horsemanship and community service brought her to leadership positions in many of the organizations that make our town such a special place." They also brought her to a significant and richly deserved award, with Davenport's legacy at long last recognized by the town she serves and loves. "It's amazing they're recognizing her," said Dan Davenport. "She gave a ton back, and she has touched an awful lot of people in Killingworth. She had an opportunity to get a lot done in a certain amount of time, and she packed it in. If there is a heaven, someday when her time comes, she had better be in it." [Sue is now living in a memory care facility in the Boston area—Melissa]

## Cares and Concerns

Jane Samuels wanted us to know that former LCRVHC member (definitely early and possibly a founding member), Peg Carlson, passed away a couple month ago. A Memorial Service for her will be held on Sunday, May 6, at 2 pm at the First Christ Congregational Church, 499 Town Road, in East Haddam.

I also heard through the grapevine that member Judith Hunter passed away in late March in South Carolina. I do not have any other details.

Get Well Wishes to several of our members: Rebecca Russell, who is recovering from a badly broken arm. Dave Beaudette, recovering from hip replacement surgery, and Rob Hathaway, recovering from hernia surgery. Guys, get healthy!

Congratulation to members: Cathy Clouse, on the purchase of her new horse, Redman aka George Jettson (left with Lucky); and Kathy Schuyler on the purchase of her new horse, Slightly Uncolored, barn name to come. Happy Trails to both of you!



### 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](mailto:lcrvhc.org@gmail.com).

**Join Us For A Special  
Fundraising Performance of  
Musical Presentations From  
The Baroque Equestrian Games!**



**on Saturday, May 12, 2018 at 1:00 pm,**

**Reception to Follow**



April 2018

Dear Friends:

Six years ago, I started the project of bringing the Baroque Equestrian Games to the Northeast. The Baroque Equestrian Games is a competition like no other, rewarding and celebrating the elegance and artistry of Classical Horsemanship. It is the invention of two extraordinary horse people: Bruno Gonzalez and Tina Veder. Since then, we have produced a schooling show, and four official shows one in Massachusetts, and for the last three summers, shows at the wonderful High Hopes Therapeutic Riding Center in Old Lyme .

This year's show again will be at High Hopes on July 14. Once again I have the opportunity of having Jos Sevriens, noted Dutch dressage coach, to judge our show. Jos competed through Grand Prix, and trained the Belgian eventing team for 6 years. He is also a noted USEF breeding judge and trainer. Jos was so impressed with the quality of the show and the riding we produced last year, that he would like to return. He has been the official judge for the Baroque Games at their Virginia show since their inception, and it is an honor to have him with us again this year.

So on Saturday, May 12 at 1:00 pm, we are presenting a program of musical rides from the 2017 Baroque Equestrian Games show as a fundraiser. Eight beautiful horses will dance to music, complete with costumes and skilled choreography. The presentation will be followed by a reception on the lawn.

**Join us! Become sponsor and support this wonderful project.**  
*Look for a Thank You in the show program. (Below is donation and RSVP form*

Thank you in advance for your generosity. We hope to see you on May 12!  
All best wishes,  
Patricia Norcia



**IDLENOT FUNDRAISER**



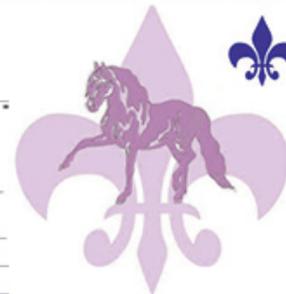
Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

- I will attend. Enclosed is my donation of \$30
- We will attend. Enclosed is our donation of \$50
- I/We cannot attend but want to make a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make your check payable to "ERTX LPT" and return it along with this form to:  
Patricia Norcia 188 Cow Hill Rd, Clinton, CT 06413. Thank You! For more information,  
please call Patricia at 860 391-2767 or email her at pnorcia@mac.com*





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

**2018 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.)

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

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## LCRVHC/BPC 2018 Calendar

Please think about the 2018 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, or a skill to share, please e-mail 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 organizations so we can work around them.

### May (see page 1 for more detail)

5, Cinco de Mayo ride at Machimoodus, contact Lynda Perry, cymaronfarm@snet.net  
5-6: Jumping Derby at Horsepower Farm  
12, raindate 13: Games Day at Rough Draft Farm, contact lcrvhc.org@gmail.com  
13: CDCTA Dressage/2-phase at WHC  
19: Treasure Hill Dressage and CT Schooling Show  
20: Pomfret/Tyrone Farm Trail Ride

### June (see page 1 and below for more detail)

2: 9 am National Trails Day, work party and picnic, continue work on yellow trail at Pattaconk Reservoir  
9: Potluck Ride from Julie and Dave's  
28: 7 pm Natural Horsemanship 7 Games, Review/Demo. Rough Draft Farm, 24 River Road, Clinton

### July

6-7: Jumping Derby at Horsepower Farm  
14: Baroque Equestrian Games at High Hopes, contact Patricia Norcia, pnorcia@mac.com  
15: CDCTA Dressage/2-phase at Mystic

### \_\_\_: Summer picnic, need host and location

28: Treasure Hill Dressage and CT Schooling Show

### August

10-11: Jumping Derby at Horsepower Farm

### September

8: Treasure Hill Dressage and CT Schooling Show  
9 and/or 15: BPC work party, mow/weedwhack fields for hunter pace

### October

7: CDCTA Dressage/2-phase at WHC  
12-13: Jumping Derby at Horsepower Farm  
21: BPC Work Party, Clip & Ride & Mark Hunter Pace course  
27: Treasure Hill Dressage and CT Schooling Show  
28: Fall Festival Hunter Pace/Silent Auction/Raffle

### Other ideas:

Poker Ride-Emma Saunders  
Horse camping  
Touch a tractor Event-Liz Kennedy, June 2019  
Goddard Park Ride-Jane Samuels  
Bell/Bead making and/or other similar craft night

### RESCHEDULED HOLIDAY POTLUCK RIDE

#### Saturday, June 9. Ride out early afternoon. Potluck supper at 5 pm

Park and Ride from Dave Beaudette and Julie Berman's place, 98 Stevenstown Rd., Deep River (where we do the hunter pace). Please bring a dish to share (we can warm it after the ride if needed—or crockpot?), ready to ride about 2 pm. We will supply a map of the state forest. Riders can go out in pairs or small groups or whatever they like, ride as long, far and as fast as they like, and return for potluck about 5:00. Non riding members are welcome to join us for potluck too. Please RSVP to lcrvhc.org@gmail.com. You might tell us what you plan to bring so we can head off duplicates. Dave and Julie also extend the invitation to riders who missed out on the hunter pace.

### SUMMER PICNIC

Do you have a nice yard for a picnic? We are looking for a location for our summer picnic. Club provides hot dogs and burgers and soft drinks, potluck. Just need a place to sit and a grill. Email lcrvhc.org@gmail.com if you are up for this or have another idea.