



# Connecticut Horse Council

"Horsemen United in Leadership, Service and Education"

Check out our *new* website at [www.cthorsecouncil.org](http://www.cthorsecouncil.org)

## 2010 SPRING NEWSLETTER

Hello Everyone,

Thank you to all who have joined the CT Horse Council for 2010. A reminder for those that have not paid their dues – please take the time now to send in your dues. The 2010 application is on pages 35-36 of this newsletter. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Our supporting organizations and business members are listed on pages 28-32 and will be posted up on our new website shortly.

**We have a Calendar Photo Contest – See page 3 for details!**

Have a fun and safe Spring & Summer!

**Attention All Trail Riders - Attached is a Press Release from the Department of Environmental Protection reminding trail users of the rules and using trail etiquette. Please take the time to read this and remember to respect the trails and other people out on the trails. Page 18**

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## **Your CHC Representation around the state...**

### **Legislation UPDATE:**

Unfortunately The Connecticut's General Assembly 2010 session came to an end without the passing of **HB 5457: *AN ACT ENHANCING PENALTIES FOR HARM TO VULNERABLE USERS OF A PUBLIC WAY.***

The bill would have enhanced penalties for criminally negligent drivers that injure or kill vulnerable users like pedestrians, cyclists, equestrians, highway workers and first responders outside their vehicles, among others.

CHC President Amy Stegall worked with Representative Kehoe on this bill to include equestrians. While there was little opposition to the bill, time restraints on the session left the bill short of a vote by the Senate.

We will hopefully see this bill come up in the next legislative session. Thank you to all who wrote to their representatives and senators asking for their support.

### **Good News – Coventry Economic Development Equine Forum**

CHC President Amy Stegall, Shelly Fetterhoff, Doug Dubitsky, Joan Nichols (CT Farm Bureau), Heather Hicks (Granby Horse Council) and Dr. Jenifer Nadeau (UCONN) participated at the Coventry Economic Development Forum. Amy reports that there were over 40 people in attendance and that this was a PRO HORSE town meeting. Discussion covered linking horse friendly trails with open space, private lands and state land. CHC informed them about our educational brochures including the Roadsafes and Share the Trail. There were ideas of building an equestrian subdivision; homes on large acreage which would be all horse farms, with linking bridle trails etc. Also covered was disaster planning and Fire Prevention training that CHC could provide. CHC will follow up with more information to the town officials.

### **Equine Advisory Council News:**

Diane Ciano was appointed to the Council for the 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. We are awaiting one last appointment for the 4<sup>th</sup> District. The next EAC meeting is scheduled for June 15<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm, Northeast Utilities Building. All are welcome.

## Calendar Photo Contest

### Seeking entries for the 2011 CT Horse Council Calendar contest!

You've always known it, but now you can prove to everyone that *your* horse is truly a picture of beauty. Submit an original photo of your horse (or other horse related photo) to us by August 15, 2010 and yours may be selected for inclusion in the 2011 CT Horse Council Members Calendar. If we select your photo, you'll win more than just bragging rights – you'll also receive a free calendar and your membership dues will be covered for one year. You'll also be recognized in the CT Horse Council Newsletter as a contributor and receive attribution for your photo in the calendar.

This is a great way for you to not only show off your horse, but help the CT Horse Council in the process. Please note that we can only accept high resolution electronic submissions in JPG format, and that all photos submitted for judging become the property of the CT Horse Council. It is important that you submit only original work, and include the following:

- Name of photographer
- Name of Horse
- A one-paragraph explanation of your photo

So start searching for those precious shots you always wanted to show your friends – perhaps your photo will hang on the walls of barns throughout the state for the entire year!

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Entries will be received until August 15, 2010. All entries received after that date will be considered for next year's calendar.

By submitting a photo, you also agree to transfer copyright for the photo to the CT Horse Council for reproduction in the CT Horse Council calendar and other promotional and fundraising materials.

**Please submit photos via email to:**  
**[photocontest@cthorsecouncil.org](mailto:photocontest@cthorsecouncil.org)**

# 2010 Connecticut Horse Council Awards Ceremony

## STATE LEGISLATORS



### Representative DebraLee Hovey Monroe

**Thank You Representative Hovey for your support to the equestrian community.**

Rep. Hovey was responsible for the proposal of HB 5457:

- ***AN ACT PRESERVING CERTAIN HORSE TRAILS***

that established certain trails to be recognized as historically used by equestrians. The 7 trails in the bill passed in 2008 were:

(1) Larkin State Park; (2) Airline State Park (3) Hop River State (4) Moosup Valley State Park (5) Huntington State Park (6) Natchaug State Forest trails; and (7) Cockaponset State Forest trails.

- **Instrumental in establishing the CT Equine Advisory Council**

### Representative Thomas J. Kehoe Glastonbury

**Thank You Representative Kehoe for your support to the equestrian community.**

Representative Kehoe is on the Legislative Transportation Committee and has been instrumental of including equestrians on our state Dept. of Transportation (DOT) enhancement programs for improving roadways, signage and the educational Road Share Program.

**HB 5457: AN ACT ENHANCING PENALTIES FOR HARM TO VULNERABLE USERS OF A PUBLIC WAY.** Purpose: To protect vulnerable users of a public way by enhancing penalties for operators of motor vehicles whose careless driving causes serious physical injury or death to a pedestrian, bicyclist or other vulnerable user of a public way.



# Department of Environmental Protection



## **Laurie Giannotti** **Trails & Greenways Coordinator**

**CHC recognizes and thanks Laurie for her efforts and support to communicate and work with the equestrian community.**

As Trails & Greenways Coordinator for DEP, Laurie is responsible for the States Recreational Trails and Greenways Small Grants Programs in addition to trails and greenways planning, policy and management of CT's Trails Database. In this capacity Laurie serves as the chair of the Recreational Trails Advisory Committee and the DEP's Trails Committee and as a member of the DEP's Property Acquisition Review Committee. Laurie is the DEP's liaison for the Connecticut Equine Advisor Council. She has also served on the State Bike & Pedestrian Planning Advisory Committee and various CT greenway planning committees.

## **Scott Dawley** **Eastern DEP District Operations Supervisor of State Parks & Forests**

**Honoring Scott for his past and continued support of the equestrian community and his support of multiple use designation for trails.**

Scott's job responsibilities include a multitude of responsibilities that include the day to day operations of facilities and the overseeing of all State Parks & Forest lands east of the Connecticut River. He has been with DEP for 29 years –the past 3 as District Supervisor. Scott serves on the DEP Trails Committee in Hartford.

Previously he has been, and still continues to be the Supervisor for Pachaug State Forest, our largest forest, 28,000 acres in Voluntown, CT for the past 26 years. This forest includes one of two horse camps in our state.

Scott was instrumental in getting two new solar toilets installed at the **Frog Hollow Horse Camp** as well as getting 3 trail systems approved to be permanently marked in the forest as multi-use trails. With the help of DEP's Tom Nosal's maps, CHC mapped a 5 - 10 & 15 mile looped trail system and will be marking it this year.

The CT Horse Council is in much appreciation of Scott's lifetime work and commitment to promote forest use to all groups.



## **Officer Keith Williams**

**DEP Environmental Conservation Police Officer**

### **Appreciation Award Recipient for investigation of the Larkin Bridle Trail incident**

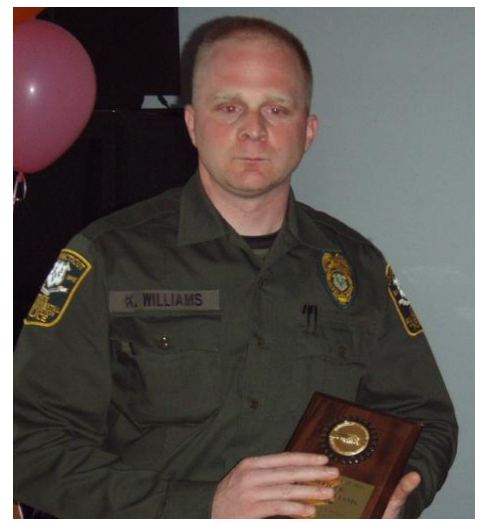
Officer Williams works as an EnCon Police Officer. This job responsibility is to serve as the primary police agency within our state parks and forests. Officers conduct patrol work within our state parks and forests to act as a deterrent to such criminal activity.

Enforcement against the illegal use of ATVs on state lands

has been brought to the forefront by an incident on the Larkin State Bridle Trail where a horseback rider was seriously injured when two ATVs trespassed directly on the trail and left the scene of the accident they caused.

Officer Williams has been conducting an ongoing investigation concerning this criminal trespass by ATVs on the Larkin State Bridle Trail.

Officer Williams patrols of the trail by ATV and on foot have been noted by local trail users. Trail users sighting an ATV on the trail were quite surprised to discover upon closer inspection, that the ATVs were actually DEP Officers on patrol!



# **Officers & Board Members**



**Carol Birdsey with President Amy Stegall**

## **Carol Birdsey**

**Honoring Carol for her 29 years of service to the Connecticut Horse Council.**

Carol is both our Membership & Booth Chairperson. She also has held the position as CHC Secretary in the past.

Her volunteer service of both these major committees comprises of many devoted hours of which CHC appreciates her dedication.

Besides her service to CHC, Carol has been a 4-H Leader over 30 years, a member of the Middlesex County 4-H Advisory Committee, a 4-H program Assistant for Middlesex County and the CT State Coordinator for New England 4-H Horse program.

## Cheryl Mastele

### **Honoring Cheryl for her 10 years of service to the Connecticut Horse Council.**

Cheryl has served as our CHC Treasurer for the past 10 years. She also helps with the CHC booth at the Equine Affair and UCONN Symposium. Cheryl has also been a member of the Volunteer Horse Patrol since its beginning in 2003.

Cheryl is an appointed representative from the Town of Durham for the New England National Scenic Trail Stewardship Council.



Both Fred and Cheryl are founding members & officers of the New England Arabian Trail Organization (NEATO) and serve on Region 16 of the Arabian Horse Association.

Fred has also served as an officer and board member of the Arabian Horse Club of Connecticut and the Connecticut Horse Shows Association.

## Fred Mastele

### **Honoring Fred Mastele for his 10 years of service to the Connecticut Horse Council.**

Fred has served as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President for the CT Horse Council for 9 years. He also has served the Council in Public Relations and as the past editor of the Newsletter for several years.

Fred has also been a member of the Volunteer Horse Patrol since its beginning in 2003.

Fred is a representative from the Town of Durham for the New England National Scenic Trail Stewardship Council and is a member of the Trail Management and Maintenance Committee and serves as Chairman of the Trail Use Committee.



## Meg Sautter

### **Honoring Meg for her service to the Connecticut Horse Council and the Volunteer Horse Patrol.**

Meg is a member of the Board of Directors of CHC And is the News Letter Editor for CHC.

Meg joined the Volunteer Horse Patrol in 2003 and since then, has become a Co-Supervisor. She is the also the CPR / First Aid Instructor for the Program.

Meg serves on the CT Equine Advisory Council



## Daisy Gmitter

**In grateful appreciation of her time and work in revising the CT Horse Council's Website.**

Daisy has taken on the position as the CHC Webmaster. Daisy has spent countless hours updating the site and enhancing its image as well as adding several tools so that we can receive and disseminate information easily.

Daisy is a member of the Volunteer Horse Patrol.

She has been a member of the Cheshire Horse Council since 2002 where she has held positions of secretary, webmaster communication and trips organizer.



## Alesia DiFederico

**Honoring Alesia for her service to the Connecticut Horse Council and the Volunteer Horse Patrol.**

Alesia joined the Volunteer Horse Patrol in 2008 and since then, has been the "behind the scenes" person who has helped CHC with acquiring zoning, legislative and legal information in order for the organization to address equestrian issues as they come up.

Alesia is the secretary for the Southbury Horse & Livestock Association.

## Kowboy Ken Forcier

**Honoring Kowboy for his heroic act of coming to the aid of a fallen rider on the Larkin State Bridle Trail who was left by two ATVers after they caused an accident and fled the scene.**

Kowboy Ken is a member of the Volunteer Horse Patrol.

Ken has been a co-leader of the Pineview 4-H Horsemen for the past 17 years.

He is a member of the CT Trail Riders Association, CT Renegades and CT Mounted Shooting.





## The Lower Connecticut River Valley Horsemen's Club & Bridle Path Conservancy



Peg Lupone, Jim Griffin, Gina McManus, Amy Stegall, Barbara White, Dr. Lynda Perry, Melissa Evarts

**The Lower Connecticut River Valley Horsemen's Club** was started in 1962 by a group of friends who were interested in taking care of local trails and riding together on weekends. Members worked hard to influence the state's purchase of the Weber Woods section of the Cockaponset State Forest and have since maintain the trails of this area and throughout the many sections of the fragmented forest. More than 6 years ago, in light of the heavy development in their area, concerns for the loss of trails they had ridden for decades became extreme. They decided to create a separate 501c 03 corporation from their trails committee and organized **The Bridle Path Conservancy**. The mission statement follows:  
A non-profit group dedicated to the preservation, enhancement and acquisition of multi-purpose, passive-use, recreational trails on public and private land in Connecticut and southern New England. While the Conservancy was founded by equestrian enthusiasts, it seeks to support all open space and trail initiatives. By managing, educating, and cooperating with others to create opportunities to facilitate and preserve trails, the Conservancy strives to keep recreational land available for present and future generations to enjoy.

A non-membership organization depending on LCRVHC for manpower and motivation, the BPC was able to do some fund-raising among the membership and obtain some grants for tools and supplies. Early grants included funds from ELCR (Equestrian Land Conservation Resource) and NEMBA (New England Mountain Bike Association). They also partnered with the CT chapter of NEMBA and the Deep River Sprockids on some projects. They formed relationships with local land trusts (especially those in Clinton and Westbrook, but also Killingworth and Lyme) and helped them with trail work including building bridges. They also established a relationship with the folks from CT Forest & Park Association, teaming up with for National Trails Day events--working on the trails and replacing bridges.



Then, in addition to maintaining Weber Woods Trails, they started looking for ways to link-up existing trails to create a linear trail and campaigned for acceptance as a designated multi-use trail. It has been named Quinimay Trail! (Quinimay roughly means long path in the Pequot language.) Future plans include creating a brochure about the Quinimay Trail, establishing a horse camp and extending the trail south, possibly to Long Island Sound making a connection to the New England National Scenic Trail.

Currently about 60 members strong, they hold monthly meetings (often with an educational program), trail rides, an annual Fall Hunter Pace as well as almost-monthly trail work parties, and potlucks and parties for the members. Quite a few of their members are also active in the CHC-VHP program.

## POMFRET HORSE & TRAIL ASSOCIATION



**Karen Richmond, Margie Huoppi & Penny Foisey - President**

For hundreds of years equestrians in the Quiet Corner of Connecticut have enjoyed unparalleled open space, breath-taking scenery, and the freedom to explore the countryside on miles of beautiful trails. But even in rural northeastern Connecticut, trails have started to disappear as large tracts of land are sold and developed.

The town of Pomfret is fortunate to be home to large tracts of land belonging to the Connecticut Audubon Society, Wyndham Land Trust, Nature Conservancy, New England Forestry Preserve, as well as the state of Connecticut. In the past two years the town approved a \$4 million bond specifically for the purchase of open space. However, many of these parcels of land were not open to equestrians.

In the summer of 2008 a group of concerned horse enthusiasts started a grass roots organization whose mission is to protect and enhance the interests of horse lovers in the town. In a few short months the group created a logo, put up a web site, joined the Connecticut Horse Council, created by-laws, wrote trail use regulations and safety rules for horseback riders that include information for motor vehicles, and started mapping the system of trails currently in town. They also joined the Wyndham Land Trust in order to support its effort to preserve land. One of the first projects was to cut a trail through the Tucker Preserve, one of nearly 30 parcels owned by the Land Trust in nine northeastern Connecticut towns. The Land Trust has in turn supported the Horse & Trail Association's desire to create new trails by allowing access to this and other properties.

In addition the PHTA has cleared other trails both on public and private lands , reconstructed a bridge and assisted the local Lions Club in an event held at the town recreation park.

The most recent accomplishment is a new trail designation on state land that was opened to equestrian use. The organization worked to improve the trail section and it is now part of an eight mile trail loop that includes town-owned property, the Airline Trail, New England Forestry Preserve and Mashamoquet State Park.

Now with 46 members, PHTA is starting to work with private landowners to create and maintain trails for equestrians. A number of members have joined the CHC Volunteer Horse Patrol. In order to maintain good relationships and communication with landowners, the group has put together a packet of information that includes a contract and release form, Connecticut equine liability statute, PHTA trail use regulations, a list of members, certificate of insurance and membership application materials.

They worked hard to become a well regarded organization and to have a positive impact on the town of Pomfret. Their informational materials and good public relations is a high priority, and they are trying to get the support of landowners by showing that they are a knowledgeable and responsible organization."



## CT Horse Council TRAIL NEWS Volunteer Horse Patrol SPRING 2010



Submitted by Diane Ciano

### National Trails Day Events

#### **Natchaug State Forest, Hampton:**

CHC received the final approval to start the **Lost Silvermine Horse Camp** Project! A workday to construct and install a kiosk for our first project to renovate the camp is scheduled for National Trails Day, Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. A VHP Campout & trail ride will take place that weekend.

#### **Goodwin State Forest, Hampton:**

The newly formed group, Friends of Goodwin State Forest is holding a National Trails Day event on Saturday June 5<sup>th</sup> to introduce the public to the forest and educational center. CHC-VHP is looking for a couple of VHP members & their mounts to meet and greet the public from 1-4 p.m. Please call Diane if you can help. (203)757-1904)

**\*Both forests are near by and these National Trails Day Events can be coordinated with our VHP Camp out.**

#### **Pachaug State Forest, Voluntown:**

Markers for Pachaug SF will be purchased for this spring to be posted on the approved trails. CHC will need help in marking them. Please call Diane if you can help.

### CT Forest Roundtables

Diane reported that there was a coalition of conservation groups that hosted 4 separate "roundtables" in February, designed to create a vision for what Connecticut's forests might become in the future. The results will lay the foundation for an important state forest planning process underway right now. This forest resource "assessment" and plan, under the direction of the Connecticut Division of Forestry, will directly impact the amount of federal funding Connecticut receives for future forest management and conservation.

Diane noted that was a great opportunity for equestrians to get involved to directly influence Connecticut policy for the future of our forests. A goal of CHC Trails was to have local equestrians and organizations participate at each roundtable event across the state, as this was a venue for equestrians to address usage of our forestlands such as parking availability for trailers, access for equestrians and carriage drivers and signs. CHC Trails encourages public land owners to provide "friendly user recreation" that would encourage CT residents and others to visit and vacation in Connecticut that will ultimately help to bring income back into our state's economy. **A BIG Thank you** to the members of the CHC that gave their time to participate: **Shirley Vicchitto, Diane Ciano, Jan Collins, Gina McManus, and Peg Lupone.** Also, a thank you goes to **Representative Debralee Hovey** who attended the round table in Bethel.

## **Past Educational Programs & Events:**

**CHC & VHP Presentations - Bethany & East Haddam** - Meg & Diane presented the Volunteer Horse Patrol Program and information on CHC to the **Bethany Horsemen, Inc.** and the **Connecticut Valley Driving Club**.

**VHP Presentation - Newington** - Meg & Diane presented the Volunteer Horse Patrol Program for New & Interested Members – This was an open invitation and we had over 40 attendees. From this presentation, we now have **29** New VHP members to the program! Attendees were asked to bring horse equipment donations for the rescued horses at Niantic. Thank you to all who contributed to this.

### **Larkin Bridle Trail Update:**

Diane noted that the Reward Signs need to be replaced – the winter storms took havoc on them – the red ink ran and they need to be redone in black ink only. Some of the signs were torn at some of the crossings. There have been no leads to finding those responsible for the incident.

## **CHC Trails Committee News:**

### **New England National Scenic Trail News (formerly the MMM Trail)**

Mary Lou Millet and Fred Mastale have been attending the Sub-Committee Meetings of the Trail Stewardship Council. Fred was elected Chair of the Trail Use Committee. They are seeking to evaluate the entire trail for its condition and user groups that are now using it (legally or otherwise). Diane attended one of these meetings and presented the Equestrian Trails Evaluation book that CHC had done a few years ago. A copy was given to the National Park Service (NPS). CHC had done two separate evaluations for the study and presented it to CFPA as a guideline for their evaluation they will be developing, as the trail needs a current evaluation since there has been trail relocations. At this particular meeting it was noted that where the trail utilizes state DEP land in the southern part (Mattabeset Trail) - Cockaponset area will remain multi-use (*thanks to DEP Supervisor Alex Sokolow*). The Northern section of the trail (Metacomet) is questionable as to whether multi-use will be included on state land. Diane noted that CHC needs to contact DEP Supervisor Vinny Messino on land issues he may have and get involved in multiple use access where accessible on state land. Mary Lou Millet continues attendance on the Landowners & Trail Protection Committee and reports back to CHC Trails Committee.

**Recreational Trails Act Advisory Board** met at DEP to discuss issues and revisions of the RTA Applications including definitions of multi-use. Diane Ciano & Jan Collins who represented equestrians offered suggestions on changes on the applications that would define multiple use to clarify the point value system and ratings on future RTA applications. CHC supported the change to include a specific definition of multi-use trail to include equestrian and bicycle use and a requirement of the grant applicant to contact all user groups for input for their project. There was also discussion on two projects that received approval by the Advisory Board to include equestrian use (Keney Park renovations (Hartford) & land acquisition of the Town of Harwinton that would connect town owned land to state (Roraback WMA). A review of the criteria and suggestions to future applicants also included multi-use bridges or water crossings. The final outcome of the meeting will be reported once Diane & Jan receive notice from DEP.



# CT Horse Council Recognition Awards & VHP Annual Meeting

Legislators, DEP Personnel, CHC Officers and VHP members were honored for their dedication and support to the equestrian community.

VHP awards were given to those members with high numbers on their patrols, patrol and trail maintenance hours.



Over 40 VHP members and guests in attendance



Meg Sautter & Diane Ciano

## Volunteer Horse Patrol Statistics for 2009

The VHP has come a long way from its small start in 2003 of 5 patrol areas to **58** areas around the state, including town parks, open spaces and land trusts. As we continue to grow, we are expanding our riding opportunities and helping to create long distance connecting trails. Congratulations to you all, because each of your patrol logs, no matter how many hours you patrol and maintain trails adds to the grander total of statewide hours. This service provides CHC, DEP and other Land Management Areas with information on how the equestrian community is continuing its effort to maintain trails for multiple use, while promoting and educating the community and other equestrians of our volunteer efforts.

For 2009, we had a total of **1,654 patrols** with **58 patrol locations** around the state in parks, forests, wildlife management areas, preserves, land trusts, town parks and open spaces.

There were **3,905 patrol hours** logged with **692** hours of trail maintenance. saving the state (that's you and me!) **\$76,144.00** for **2009** alone!

There were 16 areas of DEP land and 10 others, making a total of 38 areas patrolled statewide.

The total savings of our 7 years in volunteer service hours is **\$312,655.00** !

The 7 years include **6,158\* Patrols**, **16,029 Patrol Hours**  
with **2,941 Trail Maintenance Hours**.

## 2009 Volunteer Horse Patrol Member Awards

### Patrol Hours over 100:

1. **Meg Sautter**: 315 patrol hours, 60 Trail Maintenance hours, 93 patrols, 32 locations
  2. **Vevette Greenberg**: 230 patrol hours, 39 Trail Maintenance hours, 76 patrols, 21 locations
  3. **Diane Ciano**: 224 patrol hours, 39 Trail Maintenance hours, 66 patrols, 31 locations
  4. **Alesia DiFederico**: 183 patrol hours, 22 Trail Maintenance hours, 58 patrols, 16 locations
  5. **Lynda Perry**: 167 patrol hours, 22 Trail Maintenance hours, 61 patrols, 16 locations
  6. **Jim Griffin**: 157 patrol hours, 18 Trail Maintenance hours, 72 patrols
  7. **Jane Samuels**: 153 patrol hours, 92 patrols
  8. **Cathie Mestermaker-Harris**: 140 patrol hours, 60 patrols
  9. **Penny Foisey**: 123 patrol hours, 27 Trail Maintenance hours, 47 patrols
  10. **Debbie Sommers**: 119 patrol hours, 39 Trail Maintenance hours, 53 patrols, 13 locations
  11. **Phyllis Alexander**: 116 patrol hours, 27 Trail Maintenance hours, 52 patrols
  12. **Jean Morrison**: 106 patrol hours, 55 patrols
  13. **Barbara White**: 103 patrol hours, 36 patrols
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### Patrol Hours over 50

14. **Debbie O'Donnell**: 94 patrol hours, 32 Trail Maintenance hours, 39 patrols, 12 locations
  15. **Diane Morton**: 91 patrol hours, 29 patrols
  16. **Melanie Langan**: 89 patrol hours, 30 Trail Maintenance hours, 38 patrols
  17. **Peg Lupone**: 83 patrol hours, 36 patrols
  18. **Cheryl Mastele**: 80 patrol hours, 37 patrols
  19. **Susan Parrow**: 66 patrol hours, 23 patrols
  20. **Gina McManus**: 62 patrol hours, 47 Trail Maintenance hours, 54 patrols
  21. **Pat Bandzes**: 57 patrol hours, 26 patrols
  22. **Rose Mary Biegger**: 56 patrol hours, 41 patrols
  23. **Jan Collins**: 56 patrol hours, 23 patrols
  24. **Judy Beliveau**: 56 patrol hours, 16 patrols
  25. **Fred Mastele**: 55 patrol hours, 24 patrols
  26. **Jeanna Pellino**: 53 patrol hours, 24 patrols
  27. **Denise Ciano**: 52 patrol hours, 18 patrols
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### TRAIL MAINTENANCE HOURS Over 25

**Meg Sautter - 60**

**Gina McManus - 47**

**Diane Ciano - 39**

**Vevette Greenberg - 39**

**Debbie Sommers - 39**

**Debbie O'Donnell - 32**

**Melanie Langan - 30**

**Lynda Perry - 28**

**Phyllis Alexander - 27**

**Penny Foisey - 27**

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### MOST LOCATIONS PATROLLED

**Meg Sautter - 32**

**Diane Ciano - 31**

**Vevette Greenberg - 21**

**Alesia DiFederico - 16**

**Debbie Sommers - 13**

**Debbie O'Donnell - 12**

**Judy Beliveau - 11**

**Denise Ciano - 10**

**Congratulations** to the following new applicants that have completed all the requirements to the Volunteer Horse Patrol Program:

**Andrea Brosnan & Cinnamon**, Newtown  
**Jess Kuwayne - Tanka & Tex**, Oxford  
**Jody Dardis & Sweet baby Jane**, Oxford  
**Patti Crowther - Cledus(Catch the Threat) & Sassy (Senora Cinamon Sue)**, Naugatuck  
**Melissa Evarts - Homes & Hero**, Clinton  
**Joe Celano - Tiana & Clarin**, Guilford  
**Joel Camassar & Panda**, Durham  
**Sandy Frederick & Mica**, Middlefield  
**Hannah Hale & Crystal**, Middletown  
**Krystal Florio - Imposter & Koko**, Killingworth  
**Steve Pietruszka - Imposter & Koko**, Northford  
**Linda Wenner- Irish & Dawn**, Hampton  
**Heather Hicks & Arwen**, Southwick, MA  
**Ed Geigner & Joey**, Granby  
**Joan Davis - Bullet & Cherokee**, West Granby  
**Chris Weatherhead & Brogue**, Granby  
**Bonnie Tyler & Chance**, East Granby  
**Gloria Ludwig & Chance**, West Suffield  
**Dottie Gozzo & Romeo**, Windsor

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#### **VHP members clean up at Babcock Wildlife Management Area - Colchester**

CHC-VHP members Anne Albee and Jack Connors did their own clean up at the WMA that borders their property. Pictured is Jack Connors with some of the trash that was picked up.



**Thanks Anne & Jack!**





## **VHP Blessing of the Mounts**

On May 8, 2010 the annual Blessing of the Mounts was performed. We gathered on a rainy Saturday in Matthies Park, Beacon Falls. Steve Vicchitto, Priest and Volunteer Horse Patrol member officiated. The other five VHP members present were Shirley Vicchitto, Diane Ciano, Vevette Greenberg, Alesia DiFederico and photographer Meg Sautter. KowboyKen and his dog stopped by to see us off.

After a brief morning shower, we rode through Matthies Park to Naugatuck State Forest. We looped around the four reservoirs and returned to our trailers back at Matthies Park. By then the park was crowded with folks enjoying the nice weather.

We had a great day despite the early rainy weather and lack of participants. Thank you, Steve, for your patience, understanding and blessing.



**P R E S S      R E L E A S E**

**Connecticut DEP Recreational Trail Use Information**

The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) wants to remind trail users of rules and trail etiquette now that warmer weather is here and many people will be spending time outdoors in Connecticut's state parks and forests. To make your outdoor experience as safe and enjoyable as possible, the DEP recommends following the tips below to ensure your experience will be a positive one.

State park and forest recreation areas operation hours - daily between sunrise and sunset.

What you can and cannot do on the trails:

- Ø Trails and service, logging and other roads are open to non-motorized, multiple use activities (foot travel, mountain biking, equestrian) unless posted closed.
  - Ø Connecticut Blue-Blazed Hiking Trails and the National Park Service Appalachian Trail are limited to hiking except where they overlap a multiple use trail.
  - Ø Public roadways in state parks and forests are open to registered motor vehicles (includes registered dirt bikes) and non-motorized multiple uses unless posted closed.
  - Ø Effective January 1, 2006, riding an ATV on state or municipal property may result in charges of criminal trespass. (Public Act 05-234) At the current time, Connecticut does NOT have any public areas open to quads.
  - Ø Registered dirt bikes can ride on the motorized trail at Pachaug State Forest or at the Thomaston Dam (visit <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/recreati/tmd/tmdhome.htm> ).
  - Ø Trail building and maintenance is illegal unless authorized. To request permission to put in a new trail contact DEP's Trails Coordinator at 860-424-3578. For permission to perform trail maintenance contact the Park Supervisor.
  - Ø After it rains, please be aware of fragile areas that should be avoided such as wetlands and steep slopes. For your safety and to prevent erosion and disruption of habitats always avoid travel through streams that have no bridges or stepping stones.
- If you see an illegal activities please call the State Environmental Conservation Police (EnCon) at: 860 424-3333.

Essential for Safe Trail Use:

- Ø Always let others know where you are and when you expect to return.
- Ø Be aware where hunting is allowed and if hunting season is open. Wear bright orange for extra protection.
- Ø Remain on trails that are blazed.
- Ø Cyclists and motorized users yield to pedestrians and equestrians. Pedestrians yield to equestrians.
- Ø Park in designated areas only.
- Ø Keep your dogs on a leash.
- Ø Respect private property - when you are leaving State Land you may no longer have permission to recreate.
- Ø Plan your route! Trail maps are often found trail heads and always found on the DEP Website: <http://www.ct.gov/dep/parkmaps>

Cyndy Chanaca

Office of Communications

CT DEP

79 Elm Street

Hartford, CT 06106

**Farewell to Patrol Horse Houdini who passed away just before Christmas 2009. Our sincere sympathy goes out to Marylou Millet of Durham, VHP Coordinator for the Rockland Preserve in Madison.**

Marylou writes "Houdini passed away, leaving not only a vast emptiness, but also many wonderful memories for those who remember him. Everyone who rode Houdini or who knew him loved him. He was known for always giving 110% while out on patrol as a VHP horse OR competing at Hunter Paces. In his too brief life (19 YO) he tackled the trails as though he had been trained for that as well, and provided endless hours of pleasure and pride for me, my husband Doug, as well as friends and family. I loved Houdini and the memories will last a lifetime. We began together, we learned and grew together. He will be loved FOREVER."

## Hoofbeats in Heaven

### Candle Lighting Tribute To Houdini



### Candlelight

*As my candle, burning bright  
Sends shadows off on this dark night  
It offers peace, and hope and love  
To the horses dancing up above.*

*My prayers and thoughts will help them find  
Beloved friends they left behind.  
So they may comfort us in turn,  
And thus it is my candle burns.*

*With quiet tears, lovingly shed  
I hear the horses, overhead.  
Their pounding hooves are thunder stirred,  
For another other friend has joined the herd.*

**Paige Cerullo**

A candle has been lit for Houdini on the Hoofbeats in Heaven ,Candle Lighting Tributes website: <http://www.hoofbeats-in-heaven.com/candlelighting/>

## **Note from the Editor**

Hi and welcome to all. Just wanted to make a few comments. First let me say I'm sorry this is late. My bad...sorry. We're just not into the swing of compiling information in a timely fashion as yet. Consider it a work in progress.

Anyway, I hope you're enjoying 2010! PLEASE remember your dues (ONLY \$10 this year!) and keep me informed if you change your email address. Thanks! Meg

### **Make a no cost donation to Connecticut Horse Council through IGive!**

#### **While you are online shopping—consider this:**

CHC is now listed with "IGive" online shopping! IGive is an online shopping mall, whose companies participate in charitable giving.

They have more than 600 online stores participating in the program including Lands End, Cabelas, 1-800-FLOWERS.COM, Back in the Saddle, Barnes & Noble and more....

All you need to do is register, and then use their online portal to access the store of your choice. Each company provides a percentage of their proceeds from your purchases to the charity of your choice. This is **free to you**, and very easy to use.

Currently, CHC is one of 37,921 charities & nonprofit organizations listed with IGive. To date, IGive.com shoppers have raised over \$2,675,366.91 for their favorite causes. If you are shopping online, think of CHC and IGive by visiting: [www.igive.com](http://www.igive.com)

For more information about Connecticut Horse Council, please visit our website at [www.cthorsecouncil.org](http://www.cthorsecouncil.org)

Times are tough, and this is an easy way to help CHC continue our mission..... **AND don't forget your 2010 REDUCED dues!** You can get an application online at [www.cthorsecouncil.org](http://www.cthorsecouncil.org)

## Parasite Resistance--Wormers

By Dr. Chip Beckett, III, DVM

Parasitism in horses is probably the biggest problem for horse owners to deal with. It never goes away, but we can manage the problem. Many people have thought that managing the problem was to buy a tube of wormer every two months and give it to each horse that they owned. That worked when the wormers were new to veterinary medicine and animal husbandry 50 years ago, but times are changing.

The last new wormer class introduced was in the early 1980's, the avermectins. Ivermectin was the first available in the USA, and seemed like a wonder drug. It did lower the number of colics seen tremendously after its introduction. Unfortunately, resistance has been occurring for this product class for years in Australia and New Zealand with their intensive animal agriculture. That resistance has been found in sheep and goats in this country too, and now is being reported in horses. We will be pushed into a back to the future farm management plan.

What do I mean? The old ways of controlling parasites prior to modern wormers will become important again. Years ago, English research showed that picking up manure piles weekly was as effective in preventing worms as every two month worming. Horses graze pasture as lawns and roughs, not for golf, but for their own parasite control. They eat less grass in roughs, and only the taller, drier stems. Fecal contamination is the source of all common horse parasites, so minimizing fecal contamination of food is most important.

Modern farm management will dictate that we pick turnouts weekly, or more often. We can feed our animals on raised fence line surfaces for outside hay and grain if they are feed on dirt lots, but I like them low so dust settles to the ground(6-12" above ground level). Follow a regular worming program that rotates products and checks fecal samples so that you know that the worming products work. You may need to consult with your veterinarian to do testing or evaluations for your particular needs.

Few, if any Connecticut horse farms have these problems yet. However, farm animals have been shipped into the state with this problem, and they have been accompanied with a high death loss. We want to avoid that with our horses. Keep feed areas clean, clean up manure, and worm strategically and we should prevent this problem from occurring here.



## **Spring Cleaning Your Barn for Safety**

**By Dr. Jenifer Nadeau, M.S., Ph.D., Associate Professor & Equine Extension Specialist, UCONN**

As the days lengthen, our thoughts turn towards spring. This is a good time for equestrians to take a look around the barn area and see what can be done to ensure a safe environment for you and your horse before embarking on your spring conditioning program. Winter may have caused us to take some shortcuts in storage or management that we will want to rectify before we get too busy.

First of all, consider “cob webbing” your barn. This involves taking a long handled broom and clearing cobwebs from barn walls, rafters and ceiling if possible. The cobwebs left from dust and spiders can result in an easy way for fire to spread if the barn is ever affected by such a disastrous event. Prior to cob webbing, be sure to turn out all horses since the dust and particulate matter you generate can be harmful to their airways. Likewise, you may want to consider wearing a mask or bandana when taking on this chore.

Next, take a hard look at barn aisle ways. Have you used them as a temporary storage area? This is a good time to put away shovels, heaters, ice melter, or any other winter related items that are cluttering up your aisles. Horses and humans should have a safe path to leave the barn both for participating in day to day activities and for fire safety. Remember to store any leftover paint or other flammable items that may have been left from last spring, summer or fall away from the barn, since they can fuel a fire as well. When putting away heaters, check cords to be sure that there is no damage to them prior to storage and repair or replace heaters as needed.

Before storing horse blankets check them over thoroughly for any damage and note any repairs that need to be made. You may also want to have them cleaned by a professional or in a heavy duty laundry machine. Make any repairs now too so that they are safe and ready to use in the fall.

Have you been storing manure closer to the barn because you dreaded a long walk over ice and snow to your regular manure storage area? Now is the time to clean up any manure that you may have deposited close to the barn either by hand or with equipment and either composted on site or removed from your farm. You may want to consider installing a concrete pad close to the barn over the spring or summer so that you will be able to protect groundwater, prevent runoff, and facilitate easier removal of manure next winter.

Before beginning your busy riding or driving season, check over all tack carefully. Make sure that halters are in proper repair. Are they ripped or torn, are holes completely torn through in the crownpiece? Check them over and replace ones that are too unsafe for use. Also, check your leads for fraying, or broken clips and replace any damaged leads. Be sure that you also have some leads with chains on hand to help with proper restraint if a horse should act up either during veterinary or farrier procedures or due to friskiness with the fresh spring weather! Check your saddle carefully as well. You can check the saddle tree

by placing the pommel (front) of the saddle against your hip, and pulling on the cantle (back or seat area) of the saddle. If the saddle bends and you have a wooden tree, the tree may be broken. Some new saddle types do have flexible trees so make sure which type of tree you have before jumping to conclusions. Also check the girth or cinch of your saddle. Be sure that any holes for placing the buckles are not ripped through and that the material is not ripping. You don't want to find out the hard way that your cinch is worn out! If you have an English saddle, be sure that the safety latch where the stirrups hang from the saddle is in the down and open position so that stirrups can slide off easily if you are hung up in the stirrups. Also, make sure that stirrup leathers don't have holes that are worn through and are not ripping or tearing. If you have a Western saddle, make sure that your Blevins buckle is properly working and again that stirrup leathers don't have holes that are worn through and are not ripping or tearing. Check the bottom of your saddles to be sure that they are properly flocked and that they are smooth on the bottom. English saddles should be restuffed every 6 months to ensure proper fit and to prevent the development of pressure points. Consider washing any saddle pads you use regularly if they are not already cleaned from your last ride. If you drive, check your harness for wear such as holes ripped through and leather ripping or tearing. Regardless of discipline, check over your bridles to make sure that holes are not ripped through, leather is not ripping or tearing, and that a throatlatch is present. Without a throatlatch, a horse may be able to shake off its bridle or the bridle could get caught on something such as a tree branch and come right off! Check the bit to be sure it is in good repair and that it properly fits the horse's mouth. It should have no sharp edges. If you use a curb strap or chain, check to make sure that it is in good repair and that it properly fits.

This is also a good time to look at your feed room. Is your grain stored in a manner that your horses can't get into it? Sounds simple, but as we know, one lapse and a disastrous foray into the grain room and you could be facing a nightmare of colic and/or founder in your favorite horse! If your horses are already overweight, consider investing in grazing muzzles. Since horses evolved as grazing animals, you don't want to deprive them of pasture time. Grazing can also help prevent ulcers by keeping the stomach full and preventing the pH of the stomach from dropping, which can lead to gastric ulcers. The horses will also benefit from having more exercise by being allowed access to pasture. If you don't already have a sacrifice lot, consider installing one. This is a small area set aside for your horse for the benefit of your pasture that is basically a dry lot that can be used when the pasture is too wet to turn out your horse without creating huge holes.

Spring cleaning is common in many households. Why not make it common in your barn as well? Your horse and you will benefit from a cleaner, safer environment. Enjoy the spring!

## **2010 Connecticut Horse Symposium: Knowledge Gained Through Enjoyment!**

**By Dr. Jenifer Nadeau**

**Equine Extension Specialist, University of Connecticut**

The Connecticut Horse Symposium was held on Saturday, March 27 and Sunday, March 28 with the horse the subject of research based, informative talks and exciting demonstrations held the University of Connecticut's Ratcliffe Hicks Arena and Horsebarn Hill Arena. In attendance were over 350 people. The event was sponsored by the Department of Animal Science and College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Connecticut. It featured a vendor fair, silent auction, coloring contest, draft horse shuttle and speakers and demonstrations. Our demonstration sponsor was Blue Seal Feeds. Our regular sponsors were Farmtek, Your Office, Farm Family Insurance, and Purina Mills.

There were many vendors present including feed companies, alternative therapies, horse product vendors, and horse clubs and nonprofit organizations. The silent auction included items ranging from unique gift items to equine massage, horse feed, and a load of shavings with free delivery. Silent auction donors included Central Connecticut Cooperative Farmer's Association, Connecticut Equine Massage, Just Horses, Sigfridson Wood Products, Your Office, Purina Mills, Northeast Equine Equipment, Farmtek and many others. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the sponsors and vendors and silent auction donors for their generous support of this event. We hope to work with you again next year and would love to add new sponsors and vendors!

The coloring contest had many young participants 13 and under who colored one or two pictures of the CT Helmet Safety Program's coloring book. The coloring contest was sponsored by the Beckett and Associates Veterinary Services, LLC, Synergy Horse Therapy, RI Federation of Riding Clubs, Nutrena, The Refined Equine LLC, and Karen Von Bachel. All coloring contest participants received a ribbon for participating.

The draft horse shuttle sponsored and run by Breezy Acres Percherons LLC took people between the two arenas. We would like to thank the shuttle driver and donor, Al Cyr for his great donation of this service. Coffee breaks were sponsored by the CT Horse Council, Merry Go Round Pens, LLC, Nancy Weimer Belden Equine Artist, Ocean State Equine Associates, Ruth Beardsley, Esquire, Stonefield Equine Clinic, Tufts Ambulatory Service, and Central Connecticut Cooperative Farmer's Association.

A new feature this year was that you could bring your own horse and participate in clinics, or audit the clinic for just \$5 beyond the admission price! On Saturday, Whitney Lagace of Whitney Ridge Stables gave a showmanship and horsemanship clinic. On Sunday, Ann Guptill of Fox Ledge Farm gave a Training/First Level and two First/Second Level clinics.

There were excellent speakers on both days on informative topics who provided research based information. Speakers on Saturday included Sally Hinkle of Mystic Valley Hunt Club who spoke about how to reduce riding anxiety, Linda Francois, Esquire, who gave a talk on land preservation for equestrian uses and organizing for effectiveness at the

local level, and Josh Nelson who discussed how to save money with composting and turn a nuisance into cash flow.

In the speaker demonstration area on Saturday, Joe Lombard gave two equine appraisals. Dr. Stewart “Chip” Beckett demonstrated both acupuncture and chiropractic exams.

The First Company Governor's Horse Guard kicked off the day with a color guard. Next Patricia Norcia and her daughter Francesca gave an exciting pas de deux with their Lusitano stallions. The National Barrel Horse Association sent their Regional Director and members Jill Sweeney and Brittany Fantarella and others demonstrated how to race. Morgan Fields of the UConn Dressage Team gave a dressage performance on Andi, an Andalusian. Tim Hayes worked with Madison of the UConn herd to talk about the 4 reasons your horses says “no” and how to change them to “yes.” The USPC Polocrosse Team including members from Bucks County, PA showed how to play polocrosse with help from UConn polo team members Belinda Brody and Caitlin Tufts.

On Sunday, Doug Dubitsky of Pullman and Comley LLC gave a primer on equine law and Dr. Jenifer Nadeau gave an informative talk about disaster preparedness. An additional talk on biting was cancelled since the speaker from the Paddock was unable to participate.

Sunday's speaker demonstration area included an informative demonstration on equine dentistry by Alison Mador, how to select and safety check a trailer by Jon Henderson of CT Trailers, and Peter von Halem gave an interesting driving demonstration and performance with a wagonette.

On Sunday, the UConn Morgan Drill Team opened the day in the arena by riding an exciting pattern. There was a dressage demonstration by Ann Guptill and her Fourth Level horse Mad Hatter. The UConn Equestrian Team gave an exciting jumping demonstration. Then the UConn Polo Team gave us an exciting ending to the weekend with their intersquad polo match.

A great time was had by all!! Thanks to all participants and attendees. The money generated from this event goes to support future symposiums, equine research, and equine extension programs. Eight University of Connecticut independent study students, two work/study students, and three graduate students, were involved in the planning, organizing and running of this event along with Dr. Nadeau. This event would not have been possible without their hard work and dedication. Alma Farnsworth also inspired Dr. Nadeau to implement the idea of including clinics. The students included: Morgan Fields, Jessica Horn, Caitlin Lewis, Jessica Marciniak, Kayleigh Meyer, Chelsea Mora, Amanda Morris, Berkeley Olkes, Melissa Philbrick, Natalie Santelli, Jennifer Szela, and Sasha Tatro.

If you would like to be on the mailing list for next year's symposium, are interested in becoming a sponsor, vendor, speaker or wish to give a demonstration, please call, fax or email: Dr. Jenifer Nadeau, (860) 486-4471, (860) 486-4375 (fax) or email [jenifer.nadeau@uconn.edu](mailto:jenifer.nadeau@uconn.edu). Also, don't forget to check out our website at [www.canr.uconn.edu/ansci/equine/extension](http://www.canr.uconn.edu/ansci/equine/extension) for more upcoming events and information! We look forward to seeing you at next year's symposium to be held March 26 and 27, 2011! Don't miss out on this great educational opportunity!



## **CERT and CTSART news**

Laurianne Goulet and Meg Sautter completed the 8 week Community Emergency Response Team (**CERT**) training in East Hartford on April 8<sup>th</sup>. Topics covered included Disaster Preparedness, Fire Safety, Disaster Psychology, Disaster Medical Operations, Terrorism, SMART Triage and Light Search and Rescue. The course consisted of classroom instruction, hands-on practice, and a final exercise of a mock disaster.

This was a great course and we really learned a lot, starting with our own homes. East Hartford CERT runs a food wagon and responds to many incidents. They were on scene for the Middletown explosion and do stand-by for many Police DUI checkpoints.

**Connecticut State Animal Response Team (CTSART)** region 5 just bought a two horse trailer and some equine supplies. **CTSART** region 5 is very active in training and is headed by Donna Corbelli, DVM. Some other CHC members in this region include Josephine Barker, Diane Ciano, Esme Hoban and Luci Dembek.

**CTSART** region 3 had a meeting in April. Arnold Goldman, DVM is the head of the region 3 **CTSART**. Laurianne and Meg are both CHC members affiliated with this region.

**Anyone interested in finding out more information on Connecticut State Animal Rescue Team please visit the website**

**[www.CTSART.org](http://www.CTSART.org)**

**Anyone interested in finding out more information on CERT, Community Emergency Response Team, please visit:**

**[www.citizencorps.gov/cert/](http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/)**

# Supporting Members

Welcome to our new members!

Welcome back to those of you who have renewed your membership!

Your support is what keeps the Connecticut Horse Council able to fight for the rights of horse owners in the State of Connecticut with trails issues, zoning, and legislative issues.

*Tell a friend about the CHC!*

**\* = Volunteer Horse Patrol Members**

## **New Family Members:**

Hannah\*, Cindy, Daniel & Randy Hale - *Middletown*  
Maryanne, Chris & Katrina Little - *Killingworth*

## **New Business Members:**

Auto Heaven - *East Haven*  
Bittner Farm - *Guilford*  
Birgit Rocconella Natural Hoofcare - *Enfield*  
Brush Meadow Farm - *North Franklin*  
Karen von Bachel - *South Windsor*  
Parish Hill Stables - *North Windham*  
The Refined Equine - *Naugatuck*

## **New Members:**

Elisa Bellervie\* - *Middlebury*  
Joseph Celano\* - *Guilford*  
Amy Celli - *Middletown*  
Cathy Chase - *Killingworth*  
Colleen Colbert\* - *Woodbridge*  
Jody Dardis\* - *Oxford*  
Sandy Federick\* - *Middlefield*  
Ed Geigner\* - *Granby*  
Deborah Jawin-Sheak\* - *Harwinton*  
Linda Lehrbach\* - *East Granby*  
Gloria Ludwig\* - *West Suffield*  
Tracy Messenger-Quoka - *Southbury*  
Cathy Newman\* - *Burlington*  
Loree Osowski - *Baltic*  
Trish Panico - *Madison*  
Steve Pietruszka\* - *Northford*  
Kaylynn Sherman - *Durham*  
Bonnie Tyler\* - *Granby*  
Chris Weatherhead\* - *Granby*

**Renewing Members:**

Marilyn S. Allatin - *East Hampton*  
 Marti Aman - *South Windsor*  
 Josephine Barker - *Norfolk*  
 Dave Basconi - *Durham*  
 Amanda Bogue - *Stonington*  
 Denise Bucci\* - *Oxford*  
 Terry Buckley - *Guilford*  
 Terri Burke\* - *Southbury*  
 Deborah & William Carlson - *Derby*  
 Denise Ciano\* - *Wolcott*  
 Diane Ciano\* - *Plymouth*  
 Catriona Cleveland - *Durham*  
 Kim Cotnoir-Abate\* - *Middlebury*  
 Jennifer DePrisco - *Westbrook*  
 Angela Deschenes\* - *Newington*  
 Helen Donaher - *Burlington*  
 Jeanne Eichelsdoerfer - *Bethany*  
 Kristin Elliot Leas\* - *Westbrook*  
 Melissa Evarts\* - *Clinton*  
 Esther Fiddes - *Bethel*  
 Nancy Fischbach - *Deep River*  
 Julie Gasiorek - *Dayville*  
 Cynthia Giancaspro\* - *Shelton*  
 James Griffin\* - *Branford*  
 Susan Hamilton - *Derby*  
 Rob Hathaway - *Ivoryton*  
 Heather Hicks\* - *Southwick MA*  
 Kristen Jezerski\* - *Pomfret Center*  
 Cynthia Joyce\* - *Sandy Hook*  
 Diane Kane - *West Granby*  
 Gina Labbe\* - *Pomfret Center*  
 Janice Mandel - *Bridgeport*  
 Ray Martino - *Bethany*  
 Debbie McConnell\* - *Chester*  
 Cathie Mestermaker-Harris\* - *Plainfield*  
 Cindy Miller - *Newtown*  
 Jean E. Morrison\* - *Chaplin*  
 Leslie Neikrie - *East Haddam*  
 Susan Newbury - *Newtown*  
 Cheryl Peatfield\* - *Brookfield*  
 Dr. Lynda Perry\* - *Killingworth*  
 Suzanne Principe - *Woodridge*  
 Karen Purrone - *Torrington*  
 Gillian Rose - *Guilford*  
 Janeen Rose - *Chaplin*  
 James Salvato - *Wethersfield*  
 Judith F Smith - *Bethany*  
 MaryAnn Smith\* - *Salem*  
 Kitt Tierney - *West Hartford*  
 John Van Epps - *Guilford*  
 Barbara White\* - *Killingworth*

**Renewing Members that joined as Family Members:**

Dr. Jean Amara - *Colchester*  
 Gery Bakaj - *Lebanon*  
 John Colflesh Family - *Barkhamstead*  
 Wayne & Karen Davidovich\* - *Killingworth*  
 Pamela & Larry Deptula - *Somers*  
 Roger & Linda Ferraro - *Salem*  
 Peter & Sharon Haddad - *Franklin*  
 Ron Hocutt Family - *East Windsor*  
 Margie & Richard Huoppi - *Pomfret Center*  
 Pat Martin & Brad Turley - *Chesterfield SC*  
 Jeanna\* & John Pellino - *East Hampton*  
 Cat\* & Bruce Wilder - *Durham*  
 The Pamela Wilhelm Family - *Roxbury*

**Renewing Organizations:**

The Bethany Horsemen  
 CT Dressage & Combined Training Assoc  
 CT Valley Driving Club  
 Lower CT River Valley Horsemen  
 Marlborough Tails & Trails 4-H Club  
 Northwest CT Draft Horse Assoc.  
 Pomfret Horse & Trail Assoc.  
 Reddington Rock Riding Club

**Renewing Business members:**

Acorn Studio - *Glastonbury*  
 Chester Equine Practice - *Chester*  
 Crosswinds Farm & Sawmill - *Oxford*  
 Ebony Horsewomen Inc. - *Hartford*  
 High Hopes Therapeutic Riding Inc. - *Old Lyme*  
 Horse & Carriage Livery of Loon Meadow Farm - *Norfolk*  
 Housatonic Veterinary Care - *Cornwall Bridge*  
 Law Office of Donna Sims - *Hartford*  
 Lindy Farms of CT - *Enfield*  
 Movado Farms Inc. - *Durham*  
 RE/MAX Right Choice Realty - *Newtown*  
 Saw Horse Farm - *Harwinton*  
 Steed Read - *Salem*  
 The Barn Yard - *Ellington*  
 Tyrone Farm Management - *Pomfret*

**PUT YOUR ORGANIZATION'S  
 INFORMATION HERE  
 AND . . .  
 SUPPORT YOUR  
 CT STATE HORSE COUNCIL  
 Thank you!**

# Supporting Organizations

<p><b>The Bethany Horsemen</b> President Eric Lehman 203-393-2222</p>	 <p><b>Marlborough Trails &amp; Tails 4-H Club</b> Elida DeLuca 860-563-0443 <a href="http://www.4-h.uconn.edu">www.4-h.uconn.edu</a></p>
 <p><b>Cheshire Horse Council</b> <a href="http://www.cheshirehorsecouncil.com">www.cheshirehorsecouncil.com</a></p>	 <p><b>New England Arabian Trail Organization</b> <a href="http://www.orgsites.com/ct/neato">www.orgsites.com/ct/neato</a></p>
 <p><b>CT Dressage &amp; Combined Training Association</b> <a href="http://www.cdctaonline.com">www.cdctaonline.com</a></p>	 <p><b>Newtown Bridle Lands Association</b> <a href="http://www.nblact.com">www.nblact.com</a></p>
 <p><b>CT Valley Driving Club</b> <a href="http://www.cvdriivingclub.com">www.cvdriivingclub.com</a></p>	 <p><b>North West Draft Horse Association</b> <a href="http://www.northwestctdrafthorse.com">www.northwestctdrafthorse.com</a></p>
 <p><b>Litchfield Hills Driving Club</b> <a href="http://www.litchfieldhillsdrivingclub.org">www.litchfieldhillsdrivingclub.org</a></p>	 <p><b>Pomfret Horse &amp; Trail Association</b> <a href="http://www.pomfrehorseandtrail.com">www.pomfrehorseandtrail.com</a></p>
 <p><b>Lower CT River Valley Horsemen</b> <a href="http://www.lcrvhc.org">www.lcrvhc.org</a></p>	 <p><b>Reddington Rock Riding Club</b> <a href="http://www.RRRCLUB.ORG">www.RRRCLUB.ORG</a></p>



# Business Member Directory

CHC would like to encourage horse owners to use the services of our member businesses. This will help our industry to prosper. If your business does not appear here, consider joining CHC so that we may add your listing as well. This information is made available at our trade show booth and on our website.

**Note: Listings in our business directory is a service to our members only, and does not necessarily endorse any individual, business, or product.**

## Acorn Studio

**Mary & Chip Geer**  
86 Sunset Drive 06033 - 4141  
Glastonbury, CT

**860-430-1950**  
[mary@acornstudio.biz](mailto:mary@acornstudio.biz)

AUTO HEAVEN L.L.C.  
Wholesale Retail Vehicles

We Buy Cars  
Cars To Order

Brian Maccubbin  
Owner  
203-764-2434 office  
203-764-2436 fax

598 Main St. Front  
East Haven, CT 06512  
cell 860-460-4077

## BECKETT & ASSOCIATES VETERINARY SERVICES LLC.

Main St. Glastonbury CT 06033  
860-659-0848

[www.beckettvet.net](http://www.beckettvet.net)

We are a mixed animal veterinary practice located near the Old Cider Mill in Glastonbury. We offer both traditional & alternative therapies for dogs, cats, horses, small ruminants & more. We offer acupuncture, chiropractic and Chinese herbal treatments, in addition to routine dentistry, endoscopy, ultrasonography, digital radiography and more. Stalls, turnouts, cattle chute and surgery suites for large and small animals.  
Haul in and farm calls available.



BITTNER FARM LLC.  
boarding & trails

**Stan & Marlene Burrows**  
OWNERS

1442 Durham Road  
Guilford, CT 06437  
[www.bittnerfarm.com](http://www.bittnerfarm.com)

Tel 203-464-6444  
Fax 203-488-0357  
[boarding@bittnerfarm.com](mailto:boarding@bittnerfarm.com)

## BRUSH MEADOWS FARM

**Sherri A. Colby**

Robinson Hill Rd  
North Franklin, CT 06254

**860-550-0958**

[sherri@brushmeadows.com](mailto:sherri@brushmeadows.com)

## Brigit Rocconella Natural Hoof Care

79 North Street -Enfield, CT 06082

**860-849-1124**

[www.thehoofladuy.com](http://www.thehoofladuy.com)

I provide Barefoot Farrier Services in Northern and Central Connecticut and in Southern Massachusetts (Springfield Area). I specialize in transitioning Horses from Shoes to Barefoot, Navicular and other Hoof related Problems using Barefoot Trimming Techniques.

## Chester Equine Practice PC

Frank Palka DVM

69 Cedar Lake Rd  
Chester, CT 06412

860-526-2280

[frankpalka@aol.com](mailto:frankpalka@aol.com)

## CLCA HORSES & PONIES HOPE FLOATS FARM

Maureen Kenny  
707 Hanover Road – Meriden, CT

203-886-7717

[clcponies@yahoo.com](mailto:clcponies@yahoo.com)

## CROSSWINDS FARM & SAWMILL

180 Moose Hill Rd  
Oxford, CT 06478

203.881.3748

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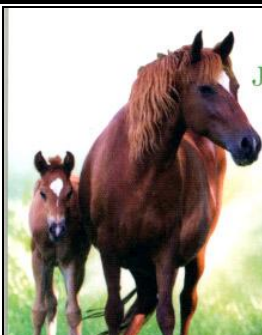
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## Lindy Farms of CT, LLC

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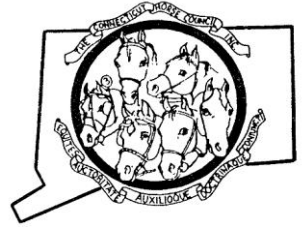
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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**Temporary Recession  
Reduction Offer ends  
12/31/10**

**2010**



**Membership Classification (Check One)**

☐ Individual \$10 ☐ Family \$15 ☐ Student \$8 ☐ Business / Professional \$20 ☐ Club \* \$20

☐ **NEW** ☐ **RENEWAL** **Membership decal available** ☐ Static ☐ Sticker

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**How did you hear about the CHC?** \_\_\_\_\_

**CLUB or BUSINESS NAME** (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**STREET** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY / STATE/ ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

**NUMBER OF HORSES OWNED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**AREAS OF INTEREST** (Please check all that apply)

☐ Trails ☐ Zoning ☐ Booth ☐ Legislation ☐ Website ☐ Emergency/Disaster Preparedness

☐ Volunteer Horse Patrol ☐ Education ☐ Horse 911

**I would be willing to serve on a committee of my interest.** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ More info, please

**I would be willing to have my name listed with CHC Connections as a person to contact in an emergency involving horses, or for emergency resources.** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ More info, please

**Please describe resources/services you would be able to provide on the back of this form.**

**I wish to join The Connecticut Horse Council, Inc.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Signature

**Make checks payable to:**

The Connecticut Horse Council, Inc.

P.O. Box 57

Durham, CT 06422-0057

[www.cthorsecouncil.org](http://www.cthorsecouncil.org)

(over)

Connecticut Horse Council **Connections** is a volunteer network being developed to provide assistance and resources to our fellow horse owners in the state during times of natural or man-made disasters, or emergency incidents such as fires, loose horses, or trailer accidents. When there is an incident or emergency situation involving horses **Connections** will be a resource for local fire departments, first response dispatchers, and, as they continue to organize, with local CTSART Region Team Leaders. If you choose to participate in **Connections**, CHC will add your name to our list of people who can be contacted when help is needed.

[ ] CHC has my permission to make my name available to my local Fire Department/local Emergency Dispatcher as an experienced horseperson to call in the event of an incident involving horse/s.

My local FD is \_\_\_\_\_ Local Police \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] CHC has my permission to contact me to provide emergency trailering for horse/s.

Type/size of vehicle \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] CHC has my permission to contact me to provide temporary emergency shelter/housing/paddock space for horses which need to be relocated in emergency situations.

Describe \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

[ ] CHC has my permission to contact me to provide emergency supplies (feed, bedding, or other) for horses involved in emergency incidents.

Describe \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

[ ] I am unable to participate at this time but would like to be included in future alerts or mailings.

**Although not yet mandated by Connecticut statute, the CT State Animal Response Team regions recognize the needs of large animals. CHC remains committed to assisting the five Region Team Leaders in their efforts to include horses in their disaster response plans.**

[ ] Please give me the contact name of my CTSART Region Team Leader so I can contact him/her.

**I attest that I am at least 18 years of age and that the information I provide The Connecticut Horse Council, Inc. is true and accurate. I understand that I may, in any particular situation, prudently decline to offer my good faith services. I further understand that The Connecticut Horse Council, Inc. acts only as a conduit for providing this information to individuals and/or organizations for the purpose of emergency response, and CHC is not liable for any injury or misadventure resulting in my volunteer efforts.**

\_\_\_\_\_

## 2010 – 2011 CHC Officers and Board of Directors

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**P.O. Box 57**  
**Durham, CT 06422-0057**  
**[www.cthorsecouncil.org](http://www.cthorsecouncil.org)**

**NEXT CHC MEETING: JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2010**

**This is the final meeting before the summer break!**

**We will resume in October and the last 3 meetings of 2010 are:**

**OCTOBER 5    NOVEMBER 2    DECEMBER 7**

**Media Inquiries: Please contact CHC President Amy Stegall**  
**[president@cthorsecouncil.org](mailto:president@cthorsecouncil.org) 860-684-6583.**

**Meetings:** CHC holds its monthly meetings October through June, the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 P.M. Please join us at the Northeast Utilities Building at 107 Selden Street, Berlin CT 06037. The public is welcome. You may also contact the specific committee chairs directly.

The Connecticut Horse Council Committee members are individuals who volunteer their time by uniting together to help the equine industry grow.



# **An April Conversation**

By Cathy Sautter

I'm shaking off the cold  
And soaking up the sun  
A crust of frost melts in the meadow  
Winter's trucked its tail and Run

Then *they* arrive on the horizon  
Arms outstretched like Frankenstein,  
Draped with bridles, bits and blankets-  
And plans that will conflict with mine.

Long cold afternoons alone and idle  
To graze and gossip, munch and stare,  
Now our people hook up trailers  
Intent to squeeze my big What?! Where?!

These folks need to take it slow!  
Together, let's all just say whoa!  
Circle, snort, put on a show  
Here they come, -- okay let's go!

Make 'em break out treats and carrots,  
Give a firm deep scratch behind the ear,  
Pile on sweet words and full lipped kisses  
Or a gentle pat on 'the old rear'.

Because truth be told, I miss my people  
And long slow walks down forest trails  
Okay, we need to stop and let 'em catch us  
You know our people walk like snails.