



# CT Horse Council TRAIL NEWS Volunteer Horse Patrol SPRING 2011



Submitted by Diane Ciano

## Your CHC Representation around the state...

### Volunteer Horse Patrol Statistics for 2010

The VHP has come a long way from its small start in 2003 of 5 patrol areas to over **88** 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 2010, we had a total of **1,795 patrols** with **65 patrol locations** around the state:  
15 - State Parks, 13 – State Forests, 6 Wildlife Management Areas, 5 Town Parks/Open Spaces,  
9 Preserves, 2 Land Trusts,  
and 16 private lands.

There were **3,957 patrol hours** logged with **741** hours of trail maintenance.  
saving the state (that's you and me!) **\$77,162.00** for **2010** alone!

77 of the 120 volunteer members were out on patrols for 2010.

There were 34 areas of DEP land and 13 others, making a total of 47 areas patrolled statewide.

The total savings of our 8 years in volunteer service hours is **\$390,6877.00** !

The 8 year totals include **7,879\*** Patrols, **16,029** Patrol Hours  
with **3,683** Trail Maintenance Hours.

# 2010 VOLUNTEER HOURS

## Patrol Hours - Over 100

NAME	# of Patrols	HOURS
Jim Griffin	140	276
Meg Sautter	87	251
Debbie McConnell	98	233
Jane Samuels	104	197
Vevette Greenberg	54	189
Cathie Mestemaker Harris	68	154
Alesia DiFederico	46	149
Diane Ciano	39	135
Lynda Perry	47	134
Phyllis Alexander	53	117
Penny Foisey	50	103
Jean Morrison	57	102

## Most Maintenance Hours

NAME	HOURS
Meg Sautter	72
Gina McManus	56
Jim Griffin	40
Diane Ciano	37
Phyllis Alexander	36
Debbie McConnell	30
Vevette Greenberg	28
Christel Maturo	23
Penny Foisey	20
Melissa Evarts	20
Alesia DiFederico	20

## Patrol Hours - Over 50

NAME	# of Patrols	HOURS
Barbara White	40	94
Kowboy Ken	27	92
Cheryl Mastele	42	73
Gina McManus	52	65
Christel Maturo	40	62
Jeanna Pellino	33	58
Melissa Evarts	28	57
Lori Gmuer	18	55
Cat Wilder	18	53
Krystal Florio	22	51
Steve Pietruszka	22	51
Chris Mard	15	50

## Most Areas Patrolled

NAME	AREAS
Meg Sautter	22
Diane Ciano	17
Vevette Greenberg	14
Alesia DiFederico	10

## 2010 Volunteer Horse Patrol Member Recognition Awards Patrol Hours over 100:

1. **Jim Griffin:** 276 Patrol Hours, 40 Trail Maintenance hours, 140 patrols
2. **Meg Sautter:** 251 Patrol Hours, 72 Trail Maintenance hours, 87 patrols, 22 locations
3. **Debbie McConnell:** 233 Patrol Hours, 30 Trail Maintenance hours, 98 patrols
4. **Jane Samuels:** 197 Patrol Hours, 104 patrols
5. **Vevette Greenberg:** 189 Patrol Hours, 28 Trail Maintenance hours, 54 patrols, 14 locations
6. **Cathie Mestemaker-Harris:** 154 Patrol Hours, 68 patrols
7. **Alesia DiFederico:** 149 Patrol Hours, 20 Trail Maintenance hours, 46 patrols, 10 locations
8. **Diane Ciano:** 135 Patrol Hours, 37 Trail Maintenance hours, 39 patrols, 17 locations
9. **Lynda Perry:** 134 Patrol Hours, 14 Trail Maintenance hours, 47 patrols
10. **Phyllis Alexander:** 117 Patrol Hours, 36 Trail Maintenance hours, 53 patrols
11. **Penny Foisey:** 103 Patrol Hours, 20 Trail Maintenance hours, 50 patrols
12. **Jean Morrison:** 102 Patrol Hours, 57 patrols

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### Patrol Hours over 50

1. **Barbara White:** 94 Patrol Hours, 40 patrols
2. **Kowboy Ken Forcier:** 92 Patrol Hours, 16 Trail Maintenance hours, 27 patrols
3. **Cheryl Mastele:** 73 Patrol Hours, 42 patrols
4. **Gina McManus:** 65 Patrol Hours, 56 Trail Maintenance hours, 52 patrols
5. **Christel Maturo:** 62 Patrol Hours, 23 Trail Maintenance hours, 40 patrols
6. **Jeanna Pellino:** 58 Patrol Hours, 33 patrols
7. **Melissa Evarts:** 57 Patrol Hours, 20 Trail Maintenance hours, 28 patrols
8. **Lori Gmuer:** 55 Patrol Hours, 18 patrols
9. **Cat Wilder:** 53 Patrol Hours, 18 patrols
10. **Krystal Florio:** 53 Patrol Hours, 15 Trail Maintenance hours, 18 patrols
11. **Steve Pietruszka:** 53 Patrol Hours, 15 Trail Maintenance hours, 18 patrols
12. **Chris Mard:** 50 Patrol Hours, 15 patrols

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### TRAIL MAINTENANCE HOURS Over 20

Meg Sautter - 72  
Gina McManus - 56  
Jim Griffin - 40

Diane Ciano - 37  
Phyllis Alexander - 36  
Debbie McConnell - 30

Penny Foisey - 20  
Melissa Evarts - 20  
Alesia DiFederico - 20

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### MOST LOCATIONS PATROLLED

Meg Sautter - 22  
Vevette Greenberg - 14

Diane Ciano - 17

Alesia DiFederico - 10

## SAVE THE DATES

### Blessing of the Mounts

**Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Cheshire – DiDominicus Property 9:30 SHARP!!**

This year we will join the Cheshire Horse Council's Blessing & St Jude Ride Hospital Charity Ride at the DiDominicus Property in Cheshire CT.

Hosted by Lou Casabona and Cathy Clouse

Coffee and Donuts provided by Cheshire Horse Council Members

Bring your own lunch and donation to St Jude

RSVP REQUIRED - **Blessing is 9:30 AM SHARP !!** – so please plan your arrival and unloading of your horse appropriately so that the ceremony is not disturbed by late comings. The Ride Out is immediately following.

Please contact Diane for RSVP and Directions: 203-757-1904 [Spirit76@snet.net](mailto:Spirit76@snet.net)

### Horse & Rider Assessment & Show n' Go Ride

**Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Shenipsit State Forest 1:00 pm**

New Volunteer Members of the Horse Patrol or members that have new mounts will have the opportunity to go through the horse & rider assessment. We'll have a trail course set up at the Reddington Rock Riding Club's Camp Glacier and then go out on a ride to explore the forest's trails and roads.

### **DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED:**

- Lost Silver Mine Horse Camp, Natchaug State Forest - Workdays for renovations
- Pachaug State Forest - Marking of 5-10-15 mile trail system
- Natchaug State Forest – Workday & camp out at Lost Silver Mine Horse Camp
- Show N' Go Rides – VHP members are asked to host a ride in their area to show other members new places to patrol. Contact Diane for any dates and locations you may be able to do this. Some suggestions are:
  - EAST: Cockaponset (Quinary Trail) – Rockland Preserve – Hurd SP
  - WEST: Nassahegon SF – Steep Rock, Stratton Brook SP, Ethel Walker
- June: National Trails Day Events June 4<sup>th</sup> (or 5<sup>th</sup>)
  - Organizations are asked to host events within their communities
    - VHP horses are needed to meet and greet the public.

## OTHER TRAIL NEWS:

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

#### **Windsor – CT River Trail**

The Town of Windsor held a public hearing for appropriating \$870,000 for costs in connection with the construction of a riverfront paved multi-use trail from the CT DEP Boat Launch at East Barber Street South to the Hartford City line.

Diane, Meg & Ruth Beardsley spoke at the Windsor Public hearing in favor of the River Walk Trail asking that a natural surface be considered. The VHP has been patrolling in the other direction from the boat launch to Bart's Restaurant on Rte 159. Pat Kelly of the Ebony Horsewomen also spoke in favor of it at the hearing. The trail proposal was very favorable to all those that spoke at the hearing except for a few people.

#### **Eastern Competitive Trail Association - ECTRA 40th Anniversary Convention – New London**

CT Horse Council members Amy Stegall, Diane Ciano, Jan Collins & Melissa Evarts (also LCRVHA & BPC) were on the Eastern Competitive Trail Ride Association (ECTRA) Panel "Can We Save Our Trails" at their convention. Other panelists included trail advocates from other organizations and from the CT Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Amy Spoke on the importance of being active in local and state legislation, Diane on trail etiquette, Jan spoke on her success story with local planning and zoning and Melissa spoke on the work and success stories of the LCRVHA & BPC.



Left to Right: Paula Burton (New England Mountain Bike Assoc. (NEMBA), Scott Hatch (Pulpit Rock Trail Blazers - Maine), Janet (ECTRA'S Maine Trail Master), Rob Butterworth (CT Forest & Park Association), Laurie Giannotti (DEP Trails & Greenway Coordinator). Jan Collins (CHC, CT Equine Advisory & CT Greenway Councils), Diane Ciano (CHC VP, Trails Chair & Volunteer Horse Patrol Supervisor, CT Equine Advisory Council), Amy Stegall – CHC President, Melissa Evarts (Bridle Path Conservancy & Lower CT River Horsemen's Association and Bob Brooks (ECTRA).