



# TATTLE TRAILS

Newsletter of the Harding Township Green Village Bridle Path Association

## 2015 Officers

- President - Brita Tansey  
973-271-7186
- Vice President - Megan Finkle  
908-331-0600
- Secretary - Victoria Sroka  
908-304-5762
- Treasurer - Mare Olsen  
973-765-0337
- Members-At-Large -  
Jamie Miller  
Kathleen Young  
Joanna Bligh  
Ingrid Johnston  
Miriam Scully
- Newsletter Editor -  
Ingrid Johnston

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**Membership Letters have been mailed. Please renew**

**your membership as soon as possible to enjoy the beautiful Harding Trails. If you would like to print the forms online please go to**

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

## From the Editor

Well, it's been a long winter and I'm very ready for Spring to arrive. I've spent the winter months bonding with my horse, teaching her tricks and anxiously awaiting a new competitive season. Santa surprised me with a new computer and now we have a new format for our Newsletter. I hope you like it. If you have any suggestions for improvement, please let me know. Also, as ever, please send me any contributions you have - we all LOVE to hear what you've been up to. The deadline for the next newsletter, which will come out in August, will be July 1.

Lots has happened since we last "met". In December, amid the holiday festivities, we managed to squeeze some official business in and elected a new President, Vice President, and several Members-At-Large. Special thanks to our outgoing members, Jessica Jones, Sean Colquhoun, Esq, Barbara D'Asaro & Melissa Monti

## Meet the Board

Our new President, **Brita Tansey** feels privileged to be a part of Bridle Path and is looking forward to her new position as President. Brita was our past Vice President and is a huge supporter of open space and riding. She loves the opportunity to have horse fun in our own back yards and throughout our community. Brita and her husband Doug have 2 kids and keeps their 4 horses their farm in New Vernon. Brita will be President thru 2016



Our new Vice President - **Megan Finkle** is excited to be our VP. She competes on the "A" Circuit in Jumpers and teaches Hunters, Jumpers, and Equitation out of her and her family's Crewe Hill Stable, where she lives with husband, Peter, and their 2 kids. Megan will be VP thru 2016



## ASK THE Trainer



Here we have a picture of horse and rider over the log jump of the cross country phase of a three day event. The horse is well turned out with good weight and shine to his coat. He looks relaxed and focused on the job at hand. The rider looks confident and in control; experienced at this level with a good position, heel down, eyes up and looking ahead for the next jump. I would like to see her bring her elbow closer to her body to create more of a direct line to the horse's mouth and lift her seat higher out of the tack over the top of the jump. Overall a nice picture of horse and rider.

This issue is by Megan Finkle. Megan is a co-owner of and trainer of Crewe Hill Stables in New Vernon, NJ. Megan specializes in Hunter/Jumpers and successfully competes in the A Circuit of the USEF/ AHSA



Our Secretary **Victoria Sroka** stays on as Secretary for another year. She boards her horse, Isabel, at LogansBrook Equine Center in Basking Ridge and enjoys training with Nancy Jones. She and Isabel like to mix things up with varied activities like showing, hunter paces, trail rides, hunter trials, and clinics. Vicky has enjoyed being our Secretary for the past year and looks forward to supplying us with all the information we need. Vicky will be Secretary thru 2015



Our Treasurer - **Mare Olsen** stays on for another year. Mare is a past President and Vice President and is currently our Treasurer. Mare lives with husband, Richard, in Green Village on their farm, and has been an avid supporter of Bridle Path, representing us in many town committees and helping with trail maintenance. Mare will be Treasurer thru 2015

Members-At-Large: **Miriam Scully** is a mother of 3, wife of 16 years and has a full time job of managing house, kids, husband, horses, chickens & dogs. She enjoys riding, skiing and tennis. One of her favorite pastimes is being with her horse, The Senator, and her friends at Crewe Hill. She very much enjoys our Bridle Path trails and is looking forward to continuing to support our organization. Miriam will be a trustee thru 2016.

**Ingrid Johnston** is a past President of Bridle Path and has been a member since the early 1990s. She is an avid equestrian competitor in the sport of eventing. She currently has 3 horses at her parents Gooseberry Farm in Green Village. Ingrid and husband, Brad, enjoy helping with the Show Grounds and Trail maintenance. Ingrid will be a trustee thru 2016



**Joanna Bligh** has been our Secretary for the last 5 years and an active member of Bridle Path for over 10 years. She actively rides and drives her Morgan, RLta, and competes in driving events. She is looking forward to helping Kathleen Young with trail maintenance, organizing clinics and shows, soliciting new members and helping our officers with their tasks. Joanna will be a trustee thru 2016

**Jamie Miller** is a lifelong resident of New Vernon, and his family has been in the township since the Revolutionary War. Jamie works for the Township and is also a member of the New Vernon Volunteer Fire Department and First Aid Squad. An avid horseman, Jamie still tries to find time to saddle up and enjoy the beautiful trails in town when he's not working on them. Jamie will be a trustee thru 2015.





**Kathleen Young** has been involved with horses and the bridle trails in **Harding** since the mid70s and has always had an interest in the history and preservation of the beautiful and abundant trail system we have. She is a member of the Essex Fox Hounds and a sustaining and supporting member of Spring Valley Hounds. Kathy lives in New Vernon with husband Ron, horse Jay, Nellie Rose the pug, Santini the rooster and 5 cats. Kathleen will be a trustee thru 2015

## Trail News

Our trails are the backbone of our organization. We rely solely on our members to maintain them. We'd love to have you out to help on our next scheduled trail maintenance days. It's a great day to spend outside with friends. If you see an area that needs attention, don't wait for the next clean-up day - please call Kathleen Young at 973-377-0884 or Brita Tansey at 973-271-7186 to let them know. Please remember that our trails are not open to bikes, ATVs or any other motorized vehicles and are mostly on private land. The trails are for equestrian activities only.

March 21 / rain date is March 22

May 16 / rain date is May 17

September 12 / rain date is September 13

## New Business Around the Grounds

Thanks to the wonderful support of our members and the community, we will be buying a new mower to help maintain the trails. Our new mower should last us for a long, long time and should be here by the first spring mow.

We're also looking to replace our Bridle Path Flag, which is getting a little tattered around the edges. We'll hopefully have a grand old flag holding court under our Nation's Flag over the show grounds this spring.

The Duck Crossing fence got a facelift and looks young and bright.. Many of our other fences haven't aged well are looking for cosmetic improvements - if you are interested in doctoring any up, please contact Mare Olsen at 973-765-0337

## What's Happening??

We're planning on some clinics and fun activities this year! Please join us for any and all - they're always a great time. More information will be provided as plans are finalized. If you have any suggestions for upcoming events, please contact Joanna Bligh at 857-919-7939 or any member of the Board. Some things we have in mind are:

**Clinics - April 18 - Megan Finkle @ the ShowGrounds**

**More TBD in June and September**

**May 19 - Membership meeting (open to ALL) - Brita Tansey's house on Miller RD**

**Memorial Day Parade - anyone interested please contact Joanna Bligh @**

**857-919-7939 & meet at the school before the parade to march on your own two feet or your horse's 4 feet.**

**July 11 (rain date July 12) - Summer Picnic**

**October 3 - Fall Fun Show @ the ShowGrounds**

**Holiday Party**

## Kash's Merry Christmas and welcome home - by Anne Quinn

17 years old and a true, easy keeper...Kash had his first major surgery just before Christmas....the sperm cord was never removed during his castration 16 years ago, and finally it had wrapped around his intestine and turned the organ purple. Timing was perfect, MidAtlantic had him on the operating table in record time, removed the cord, and turned the intestine pink again. The intestine should have had a sausage like casing around it, but had a half inch thick wall of scar tissue from the sperm cord irritation. The Vets had never seen anything like this. My boy has been in pain for 16 years, and on his best day quite uncomfortable. Recovery is successful and speedier than expected.



Once home, the whinnying, screeches and clucking was deafening. The stall doors were all opened out to the pastures and Kash's stall had a waiting line outside of sheep, goats and alpaca...all to welcome him home like a rock star! He pulled his hay from the wall feeder on to the ground so they can all eat together and if the hay landed on a sheep or goat's back, he gently nibbled it off. After a while, he lowered his head and gave a subtle back and forth to the sheep & goats and they all quietly left his stall... except for Daisy, his buddy the black sheep...and they ate in peace together. He is out of pain. A very Merry Christmas for Kash!

### **Wanted:**

- **Barn help** needed for a week or a few days for 4 horses, a pony and 2 alpacas in Boonton, just 20 minutes from Harding. Responsibilities include feeding in the morning and turning out. Advanced notice (2 months) when needed can be provided. Please call Eleanor Weissenrieder at 973-917-3748 or 201-637-6358.

### **FOR SALE:**

45 Anthony Wayne Road, Harding Township, NJ  
2 Story Southern Colonial on 3.5 acres with in-ground pool, gazebo, and barn with 2 Turn Out Stalls with private pastures and Heated Tack Room. Access on Bridle Path.  
Call George at 973-615-0204 for more info.

Contact Ingrid Johnston @ [alliefinale1@gmail.com](mailto:alliefinale1@gmail.com) with any newsletter items.