

TATTLE TRAILS

The Newsletter of the Harding Township/Green Village Bridle Path Association

www.bridlepath.org

PO Box 710, New Vernon, NJ 07976-0710

January 2007

From the Editor:

Thanks to all who contributed to this edition of Tattle Trails and to our new (and recurring) officers. This year is looking to be filled with exciting activities and ambitious ideas. If there's something that you'd like to see in your newsletter, let me know; we're always looking for news. Our members have been busy celebrating, learning, and enjoying their horses. The year for me has started slow, but promises much success inside the arena and out on the trails. Hopefully you've been able to control the abundance of excess hair our horses have put on and are gearing up for the spring with thoughts of new grass, new trails and the inevitable task of shedding out. In the meantime, bundle up and enjoy our trails!

Ride on!

Ingrid

HT/GVBPA Officers

President: Mare Olsen – 973/765-0337
Vice President: Barbara D'Asaro – 973/377-0536
Secretary: Anne Quinn – 973/701-6990
Treasurer: Dorothy McCann – 973/443-0622
Web Master: Anne Quinn – 973/701-6990
Newsletter Editor: Ingrid Olsen 201/213-8287
Trustees: Lisa Chapman, Mady Devine, John Nagro,
Hal Scaff & Hugh Symonds



We hope you're glad to get his newsletter, but if not, please let us know. We will remove you from our mailing list, saving us on postage and you with unwanted clutter.
Ingrid.Olsen@sanofi-aventis.com - Editor

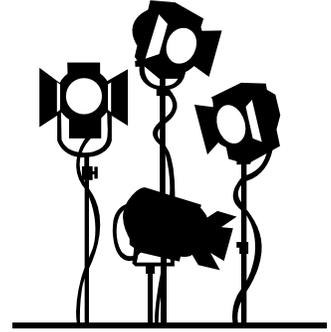
Be sure to visit our website (www.bridlepath.org) frequently for updates on clinics, trail activities, horse trades and much more! We also communicate by email when we need to get the word out quickly, so please make sure your electronic address is listed and up-to-date. Webmaster@bridlepath.org - Webmaster

If you didn't make it to the Bridle Path Annual Holiday Party, you missed an awfully nice offering of holiday delights as well as the camaraderie of old and new friends. We met again in the Tunis-Ellick House celebrating our Harding traditions in a charming historic setting. Both Bridle Path and the Tunis-Ellick share some history of Harding, each being a remnant of a bygone era when horsepower transported us, getting the job done, and we all lived in a simpler and harder lifestyle. Bruce Wild, President of the Historical Society came by to wish us well.

The evening ceremony was the opportunity to honor our out-going President, Linda Halsey, who, in addition to being our president for the past two years, was also the first president of Bridle Path and perhaps several other times as well. She was always there to get the job done, often the mundane but necessary work of insurance arrangements, non-profit registration, taxes, easements, and the list is endless... all elements that organizations must deal with in the modern world. For her labors in this bureaucratic wilderness, Bridle Path gave her a small token of appreciation - an engraved gold charm to add on her bracelet. We hope it will remind her of all the good times, good people, and good horses in the past and in the times yet to come with Bridle Path.

The business portion of the evening was very brief, consisting of election of these officers for the coming year: Mare Olsen (973 765 0337) - President; Barbara D'Asaro (973 377 0536) - Vice President; Anne Quinn (973 701 6990) - Secretary; and Dorothy McCann (973 443 0622) - Treasurer. By way of introduction, a short horsey bio of these servants is in our Member Spotlight section.

Member Spotlight



OUR OFFICERS

Mare Olsen: My Motto: "I never met a horse I didn't like." I began my life with horses about 25 years ago when we traded a Volkswagen for our daughter's first pony, "Pebbles". Several years later we traded our comfortable suburban home for a little farmette in Green Village in order to have our horses at home. Our current 3 residents have done, are doing, or hope to do it all in support of our daughter's eventing program, and I've been fortunate to ride in between. Beginning as a Pony Club Mom, later DC, I now think of myself as an experienced groom, horse show attendant, map reader and horse/human care giver traveling up and down the East Coast as Ingrid continues to compete. I'm looking forward to an exciting year with Bridle Path and with our 4 footed friends.

Barbara D'Asaro: Barbara has been riding on the Harding/Green Village bridle paths since the late 1950's. She has been a continuous member of the Morris County Bridle Association, the precursor of our current association and remembers most of the old-time trails. She stables at Hilltop where she is the longest-time boarder. Formerly very active in the Spring Valley Hounds hunt club (she was the Honorary Secretary for 14 years), she and her husband Art have hunted with the club for 32 years and are still sustaining members. Professionally she has a private practice as a Consultant Nutritionist/Dietitian. Her family includes 4 grown, married children; the three girls all rode.

Anne Quinn: I was raised in Chester, NJ, the oldest of 4 children. After working on Wall Street I was transferred to Chicago, where I lived & worked for 13 years. Each year, I would visit my brother & his wife in Vermont, and we would ride together. I watched my fears increase & my abilities decrease. After I quit my job in 2002 for a better life, one of my goals was to get over my fears of riding & remember how much I used to love it. I moved back to NJ & started taking regular lessons on a wonderful school horse, who I leased & eventually bought. Frosty was the best instructor I ever had. He taught me about trust, and my fears slowly dissipated. My Vermont visits are more fun now, (I have nieces to ride with) and I even began a new career in real estate. Frosty still takes very good care of me and although we are still lessoning together, our best adventures are on the trails.

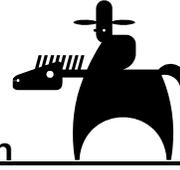
Dorothy McCann: I'm just beginning my third year as Treasurer, and was Secretary for two years before that. My Horse, leased from Carla Prentiss, is named Cupcake and now resides in Allamuchy. Cupcake is a white and buckskin paint and a wonderful mare. "Cuppy" misses the trails in Harding and looks forward to showing in Harding this Spring and Fall. Meanwhile, I have lived in Harding Township for 6 years as a home owner on Village Road. In addition to my involvement with the Bridle Path, I am active with the Harding Land Trust. My other interests besides horses? I love to throw pottery, play piano and just have fun.



In January, the new officers met informally to find out where we are and begin to determine where we need to go as an organization. We identified four people to serve as Trustees as replacements for those who have moved away. Our Trustees now are: Lisa Chapman, Mady Devine, John Nagro, Hal Scaff, and Hugh Symonds. These Trustees and the officers above make up our governing body



Speaking about clinics: Lynn Salerno is planning our ***Bomb Proof your Horse*** clinic for May 12th (rain date May 19th). She has secured Lt Wieland of the Morris County Mounted Park Police to teach at the showgrounds. Specifics and Signup will be coming soon (watch the website!). Think about how useful this training will be for you and your horse - you never know when and where you might meet a fright on the trail, at the show, on the trailer, or, well, just anywhere you find a horse.



Police Equestrian Competition

Diane Hinds

I attended the 23rd Annual Police Equestrian Competition on the weekend of September 22/ 23 at the newly renovated Seaton Hackney Farm. Lt Wieland and his Morris County Park Police (who will be presenting our **Bomb Proof your Horse** clinic) competed in this event, so I felt the local interest growing. Over 100 horses from Kentucky, Canada, Colorado, New York, Texas, Pennsylvania and New Jersey participated, beginning with a police escorted motorcade to New York City on Friday night. They parked on the piers, mounted up and rode to Ground Zero for a memorial ceremony. Saturday began with a formal inspection with each participant meticulously turned out in their company regulation uniform. To my surprise, regulation uniform ranged from formal dress to more practical gear. (I was especially interested in this phase, because I remember the countless formal inspections we had in Pony Club.) Having never attended a competition like this before, I expected drill teams and quadrilles. Instead the entries were divided into four flat classes divided by weight of the horse, and both horse and rider were judged. Top combinations then competed in a later ride-off. I was impressed by the numerous breeds represented. From the smallest 14 hand Rocky Mountain horses to Quarter Horses, Saddlebreds, Thoroughbreds, and huge Percherons and Clydesdales. The second phase of the competition was most impressive. It involved a series of obstacles to be navigated like a trail class. The class was divided into pairs and individuals. The obstacles included a teeter-totter style bridge where the horse had to balance himself, a stage area with steps and ramps, and a fun house with large streamers, life-size punching bags, and, suspended from the ceiling, a homeless box complete with a simulated body popping out. Also to be contended with was a jack hammer, flares, a hand-cuffing exercise, a giant medicine ball to be pushed, and finally, a huge wooden cart containing dummies to simulate crowd control. The riders had to navigate a Maze consisting of a simulated recycling dump. Another activity was an actual rescue helicopter landing. Even with all the noise and commotion, not a single horse flinched! I planned to stay for an hour but wound up staying and volunteering to reset obstacles throughout the day. There was only one mishap when a pair crossing the stage boot-to-boot had a small misstep and fell off the stage. After some anxious moments both horse and rider were cleared to compete the next day. I was so impressed with the rapport between the horse and rider as they negotiated the obstacles. As each obstacle was conquered you could sense the feeling of trust which had developed between the two - a true partnership of horse and human experiencing unique situations. This competition may not have had the excitement of an Event or Open Jumper Class, but it was truly something to behold. I came back on Sunday for the Awards Ceremony and concluded that it wasn't about the breed, the size or the conformation; it was about partnership and trust. - *Diane*.



And finally, a message from the President:

Coming up almost immediately is the annual membership renewal. Remember that the general purpose of our organization is to “promote the retention, reclamation, and maintenance of a network of trails” in our community “strictly for equestrian use”. (An important part of preserving the unique character of Harding Township, we feel.) This purpose can’t be met without you to ride the trails, maintain the network, run the shows and clinics, enjoy the parties, and, of course, provide the financial support for the always necessary insurance and expenses.

We have a wonderful situation here. With open space shrinking everywhere, we still have riding opportunities in meadows, woodlands, open fields, through backyards and down driveways, and on short stretches of quiet residential roads. We have a town that is horse friendly and lots of residents who actually invite us to ride across their lands. Aren’t we lucky to be able to intersperse a walk through the woods, or, better yet, a canter through a field with the often tedious ring work around and around the arena. Nothing comes without a price, however, and the price of having this bit of horse heaven is your participation. I invite you to participate by signing up for membership in the organization, getting out on the trails, and joining in a fun show or clinic. Look for a membership renewal letter soon. - *Mare*

Note to all: The next Board Meeting, open to all members, will be on Thursday, March 22nd in the New Vernon Fire House at 7:30pm. Be sure to mark it on your calendars - we hope to see you all there!

Classifieds

To Advertise here Contact HT/GV BPA webmaster@bridlepath.org

Following are Equestrian Classified Ads provided to us by various Members and Equestrian friends.

HORSE FOR SALE

"stormy"

Versatile quarter horse gelding. Up to any job: perfect 4H, pony club horse, field hunter, lower level event horse or trail horse.

Hunted two seasons with Spring Valley Hounds. A gentleman in the field. Perfect for first flight or riding quietly in the back.

Six years old. 14.3 Hands. Green in the ring. Plenty of stride. Will jump anything cross country and go anywhere. Loads – no problem. Sound.

\$2500 Can be seen at Stepping Stone Farm in Allamuchy. Call owner

Lynn Jayson Kurdzialek 908 362 6806. **(posted 1/11/2007)**

HORSE FOR SALE

"Abe "

17.2H TB 1994 YO, Grade 3, gelding. Solid Training w/ Prelim miles; Level 4 jumpers. Super in the dressage ring, bold cross country, and careful in stadium. Great confidence builder. Doesn't get nervous. A fun ride, and has the most beautiful lead change you will ever see. Many wins & placings, including the American Eventing Championships OT, 10th; 2nd individually, 3rd place team MSCTA Team Challenge; Area VIII Year-end Jr. Training 3rd place; 1st Gemwood Horse Trials- OT; Competed in Canada & US OP, was 3rd at Prelim last event. Dressage scores in the high 20's, low 30's. Competed last 4 years with a JR/YR. Absolutely sound. College forces sale, he needs to find a new home now. No reasonable offer refused. Contact Kiley Dill –573-239-9386

(posted 1/7/2006)

HORSE FOR SALE

A walk in the clouds "Skye"

Skye a handsome grey 16.2hh tb/warmblood cross with valuable show experience in both the 2'6 hunter

division and equitation. He is perfect for a novice rider moving up to the 2'6 division or an experienced 2'6

adult/child rider. An attractive mover, Skye places consistently over jumps and under saddle and has been

both champion and reserve in the pre-children's and schooling hunter divisions of A and AA shows. He is fun

to ride with a smooth canter and trot. He is safe, dependable, honest to the jump, and has auto changes. Not

only is he reliable, but he is smart and takes care of his rider. He is a perfect gentleman at every show and

when we took him to Garden State this year he placed two 4ths and a 3rd. Skye's owner is moving up so he needs a new home. Price negotiable to a good home. Has been to Zone finals for the Children's hunters and could get there again! [Contact bridlepath webmaster for more information.](#)

UPDATE Skye is no longer being offered as a show horse. Due to a recent injury the vets and owners have decided Skye is only available as a companion or flat with light jumping horse. He is still available, but he does need some time off to heal. Please call if you are interested, price is negotiable obo.

(posted 1/8/2007)

COMPANION/TRAIL HORSE AVAILABLE

IKEA (IKEA HAS BEEN PLACED IN A GOOD HOME)

Ikea is a 27 year old, 16.3 hh thoroughbred cross who has been in a lesson program for approximately

10 years. Ikea walks, trots, with impeccable ground manners and is perfect for an occasional trail ride

or would make a great companion horse.

Price is reasonable for the right home. For more information, please contact

webmaster@bridlepath.org

(posted 12/10/2006)

BARN CATS AVAILABLE FOR RODENT CONTROL FROM RESCUE GROUP

Please contact Tina for information at 908-252-1322.

PS Lin Salerno recently received 2 cats from this rescue group for her barn. **(posted 9/2006)**

EQUINE RESCUE: Older and lame horses needing homes. They need donations to help save more horses.

Any donations can be sent to:

Mylestone Equine Rescue

227 Still Valley Road

Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

<http://www.mylestone.org/>

Susan-Kelly Thompson:

908-995-9300

mer@eclipse.net

Go to our [Links](#) page for other Rescue Groups

Posting of these Ads is not an endorsement, or recommendation of the goods or services advertised by the HT/GV BPA.