



TATTLE TRAILS

Newsletter of the Harding Township Green Village Bridle Path Association

2016 Officers

- President - Brita Tansey
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- Vice President - Megan Finkle
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- Secretary - Dorothy McCann
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- Treasurer - Mare Olsen
973-765-0337
- Members-At-Large -
Jennifer Burns
Joan Fitzhugh
Ingrid Johnston
Miriam Scully
Katrina Vitale
- Newsletter Editor -
Ingrid Johnston
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Its **Membership Time** again! It is important for everyone to sign up and pay their dues to keep our wide network of trails pristine! Membership renewal forms will be mailed out shortly and can also be found on the website www.bridlepath.org. Please submit your membership dues and the **SIGNED** membership form by April 15.

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, which included lots of yummy food, great conversation and friends, and a Silent Auction, we managed to squeeze some official business in and elected a Treasurer, a new Secretary, and several Members-At-Large. Meet the Board:

Current President, **Brita Tansey** remains President for another year. Brita has brought enthusiasm and energy to this position and is ready to tackle 2016 with the same vim and vigor,



Current Vice President - **Megan Finkle** remains Vice President for another year. Megan has been very supportive of Bridle Path and has shared many good ideas for our future.



Dorothy McCann is our new Secretary. She held this position 10 years ago and is excited to be supporting the BPA once again. Dorothy has lived on Village Rd for the last 15 years, and is a long-time Harding Township resident. She's psyched to be riding on the our trails and contributing to the "cause," and looks forward to her term thru 2018.

YOGA by ALLIE

Winter typically means little riding time. The holidays, loss of daylight, cold and snow, really puts a wrench in the cogs of riding. While you might not be able to saddle up with your equine partner, there's still plenty of things the two of you can do to keep in shape. YOGA is a great way to develop and maintain flexibility and core strength and you can both do it. In this edition, we'll look at 2 great poses that will help your horse stay limber during the frigid arctic days.



Above we have the **Downward Dog**. This pose stretches the back and shoulders while strengthening the limbs.

Below we have a great stretch called the **Half Lord of the Fishes** pose. This pose energizes the spine and stimulates digestive fire.



Our Treasurer - **Mare Olsen** has been elected for another term. Mare is a past President and Vice President and has been keeping our money in line as our Treasurer since 2014.



Members-At-Large: **Miriam Scully, & Ingrid Johnston** (left) continue as Members-at-large thru 2017. **Katrina Vitale** (below) was voted in mid-term last year to fill a vacancy and will continue thru 2017. Katrina lives in Green Village with her husband, Anthony, dog, Chester, QH, Moose and Leopard Appaloosa, Mo.

She grew up in a barn, having a father who is a Standardbred racehorse trainer. She enjoys riding the bridal path trails and competing in hunter paces and fun shows.



Joan Fitzhugh joins us as a new Member-At-Large thru 2018. Joan began riding at 13 on her grandfather-turned-riding stable in Monroe NY. They quickly grew to 20 head by the time she was 20. She rode Western and learned by doing. Joan married, had three kids and couldn't afford to ride regularly for the next 40 years. Not being able to stay away, she began taking English lessons at Lord Stirling Stable and was hooked! She was introduced to riding the beautiful trails in New Vernon by member Barbara D'Asaro when she half-leased a horse named SevenUp at, what was then, Hilltop Stable and has been with us ever since.



Jennifer Burns also joins us as a new Member-At-Large thru 2018. Jennifer has her 8 year old OTTB, Lockerby's Legacy, at Crewe Hill where she practices jumpers. Although she has been riding most of her life, Legacy is the first horse she's owned. She grew up riding in Vermont and chose Harding as her next home due to our beautiful trails.



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.**

Some proposed trail clearing dates are:

March 12
April 30
June 11
August 13
October 15

New Business Around the Grounds

We're planning on adding some new footing to the dressage ring this spring as soon as the ground dries out. The Town has generously offered to help us! We're also going to aerate the grass field and grass ring this summer. This should help keep our grass growing green and soften up the footing a bit so it doesn't get so slick in the hot, dry summer months and allow the grass roots to flex their muscles a bit.

Welcome to New Member **SUSAN SINAY!!**

Susan met Oliver Twist over a year ago at lovely Crewe Hill Stable where she rides and immediately knew why he was called the Brad Pitt of the barn. Oliver Twist aka Ollie is edgy, spunky and handsome. They had a few opportunities to ride together and she appreciated his spunkiness and youthful spirit. He became available to own in the Summer of 2015 and without hesitation, she knew they could enjoy their lives together. Since then, Susan has continued to learn a lot from him, probably more than he has from her, and he has quickly become a beloved new member of her family. Ollie and Susan love to ride together on the beautifully maintained bridle paths that surround our bucolic township. Susan and Ollie always look forward to being close to nature in lovely Harding Township. Susan is thankful to the Bridle Path Association for making this possible for all of us in the community.



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 any member of the Board. Most things are in the infant stages, and more information and details will follow as they are finalized, but some things we have in mind are:

Available March 1st.

Several Clinics throughout the year with some of our local talent

June - Bridle Path Horse Show at the Show Grounds

July - Summer Picnic

October - Fall Fun Show @ the ShowGrounds

December - Holiday Party

April 9-10: Logan's Brook Equine Center is hosting a hunter/jumper clinic with **Jeff Cook**, one of the nation's leading clinicians, at the USET Headquarters in Gladstone NJ. Jeff has cemented his place as a top trainer while working beside George Morris. His students have won many championships, domestically as well as internationally, and he is a regular contributor to magazines such as Practical Horseman. The clinic will consist of 3 sections (2'6, 3', 3'6 and over) and lasts 2 hours. The cost of the 2 day clinic is \$400 (\$20 to audit). For details & forms, please contact:

Nancy Jones at 908-581-8158 or jonesie@logansbrook.com

Vicky Sroka at 908-304-5762 srokas1@verizon.net

April 10 at 2:00 - Unmounted First Aid Clinic with Dr. Christina Wilson, DVM / Equiheart Veterinary

Services at Crewe Hill Stable warming room (attached to the indoor) 107 Sand Spring Rd, Morristown. Please RSVP to Dorothy McCann dorothymccann.dm@gmail.com. Come join us for an afternoon of learning what all of us need to know to keep our horses safe and until the vet arrives.

Equiheart Veterinary Services provides mobile veterinary care for large animals, including horses, goats, sheep, llamas, alpacas, and pot-bellied pigs. Centrally located in Califon, they provide routine visits and expedited emergency service in Hunterdon, Warren, Morris & Somerset counties. 24 hours a day / 7 days a week.

2 stalls in private barn with good turn out (corral attached to barn with covered area and separate large fenced field), direct access to trails, electricity, running water, full loft, small tack room. Rough board, \$200 a month/stall.

Contact Hope Hazen at [973-267-5575](tel:973-267-5575) or hopehazen@aol.com

Are **YOU** looking for a long term riding buddy or someone you can go out on a casual riding date with? We're starting a "Personal Column" in the next newsletter so that we can help facilitate riding "hook-ups" . Just send your "personal ad" to alliefinale1@gmail.com and we'll get the word out there for you.

Contact Ingrid Johnston @ alliefinale1@gmail.com with any newsletter items.

Beth Fischer's horses Palace Smarty and Punchetta , who live on Featherbed Lane, sure seem to have enjoyed the recent snow!



Dorothy McCann and Bella snuggling up during the recent snow

Best view in the world!



And Remember March 13 at 2:00am is DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME!!!!!! :-)