



CT Horse Council TRAIL NEWS Volunteer Horse Patrol



March 2007

The CHC Trails and Volunteer Horse Patrol held their annual meeting on February 18th. The meeting was well attended. We had over 41 people with 16 new applicants.

Welcome Aboard:

Anne Albee, Jack Connors, Oliva Duksa, Pamela Deptula, Edna Liberty, Laurianne Goulet, Lindy White, Jane Rush, Shirley & Steve Vecchitto, Lisa & Kenny Padro, Carol Marenholz, Kimberly Miller-Nardwarski, Ken Forcier, and Marcia Sigman.

2007 CHC Volunteer Horse Patrol Hours totaled 2,537 with 317 hours of trail maintenance. There were 1,001 patrols in 23 areas around the state.

Since the VHP Patrol started in 2003, total Patrol Hours are 5,671 with 795 hours of trail Maintenance, saving CT taxpayers \$ **43,383.00**

***Thank you to the 45 Volunteer Horse Patrol Members who participated in 2006
You Do Make a Difference !***

Most Hours - Over 100	
Meg Sautter	226
2nd Company Horse Guard	216
Gina McManus	191
Cathie M - Harris	173.5
Phyllis Alexander	171.5
Jim Griffin	163.5
Lynda Perry	148.5
Barbara White	118.5
Hilery Slattery	115.5
Bunny Joseph	112

Most Patrols - Over 50	
Gina McManus	123
Phyllis Alexander	97
2nd Company Horse Guard	92
Jim Griffin	63
Barbara White	59
Michael Marcus	63
Meg Sautter	57
Hilery Slattery	52
SGT Karen deFriesse	50

Most Maintenance Hours	
Gina McManus	56
Meg Sautter	37

2nd Company Horse Guard	
Patrols	92
Patrol Hours	216
Maintenance	57

Most Areas Patrolled	
Meg Sautter	9
Bunny Joseph	8
Ginger Tullai	8

The CHC-VHP Program is in the following State Forests & Parks: Airline State Park Greenway, Babcock WMA, Bluff Point, Cockaponset SF, Devil's Hopyard SP, Hammonasset SP, Larkin State Bridle Trail, Machimoodus SP, Mansfield Hollow SP, Goodwin SF, Natchaug SF, Nehantic SF, Pachaug S.F., Paugusset S.F. Roraback WMA, and Shenipsit SF. The patrol has also expanded to the Clinton Land Conservation Trust, the City of Danbury's Tarrywile Park, Fairfield Hills Open Space in Newtown, Racebrook Tract Park in Orange, and Eisenhower Park in Milford. The VHP also participated in the Great Park Pursuit Program - "No Child Left Inside" at Goodwin SF, Gillette Castle, and Osbordale SP.

We will be adding Mohawk SF and Naugatuck SF. A full report can be sent to those that did not attend the meeting or wish to view them. Contact Diane at the address below.

NOTICE: MANDATORY CLASSES for CHC-VHP CTSART Members Invited

The American Red Cross Adult CPR has been updated. This update involves some changes and we all need to be certified in these changes.

Attendance is mandatory at one of the two classes. Both classes will be held in Glastonbury at Dr. Chip Beckett's facility.

For more information or to RSVP - contact Meg Sautter mmsautter@cox.net

Saturday, March 3rd - CHC-VHP/CTSART CPR/First Aid Re-certification Class

The class will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Cost is \$15.00.

Location: Glastonbury at Dr. Chip Beckett's facility.

Sunday, March 4th - CHC-VHP/CTSART CPR FULL Certification Class

The class will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Cost is \$25.00.

Location: Glastonbury at Dr. Chip Beckett's facility.

2007 Goals

- **DEP State Trail Use Project** - Continue to work on the in getting equestrian trail accessed and approved for multiple use. For more information on how you can help, contact Diane.

- **National Trails Day Events - Saturday June 2nd, 2007**

All CHC members and organizations are encouraged to organize or participate in events to educate and promote this National Holiday in its 15th year of celebration of trails.

Please let CHC know what you have planned, so that we can advertise your event.

- **VHP Campout and Fun Weekend & Photo Shoot - Saturday & Sunday May 26 - 27**

This is **Memorial Day Weekend** at Pachaug State Forest. We will use this time to have fun and to have a photo shoot of the VHP members in their full uniforms for publicity and future informational pamphlets.

- **Recreational Trails Grant Application - Natchaug's Silvermine Horse Camp.**

to propose the revamping of this area. For more information on how you can help, contact Diane.

- **Camp Columbia, Morris, CT** - Explore the possibility of establishing a Horse Campground.

We now have brand new CHC-VHP Quarterly Logs in an excel format. These were originally created by Mary Geer in a PDF format. (Great job Mary). Cheryl Mastele was kind enough to put them in an excel format so that you can fill them on line and send them to your coordinators via e-mail. Thank you Cheryl. All other forms will be considered obsolete at this time, so please use the new ones that will be sent to you. You can save it to your files and then add your patrols to it and e-mail it off to your coordinators.

CHC-VHP members will be sent a contact list of the all the members and Coordinators for each Area.

Agenda Items discussed:

HB 5595 AN ACT PRESERVING CERTAIN HORSE TRAILS IN CONNECTICUT:

Statement of Purpose: To preserve certain horse trails in Connecticut.

House Bill 5595 names 26 specific trails within the state of Connecticut and requires that they must remain open to equestrian access. The intent of this bill is to preserve the specific named trails by directing by state statute that they remain open to equestrian access. A list of those trails can be found on the CHC website www.cthorsecouncil.org

Please ask both your representatives and senators to support and co-sponsor this bill.

To date, the following legislators have signed on to co-sponsor this bill.

Sen. Edith G. Prague, 19th Dist.

Rep. Mike Alberts, 50th Dist.

Rep. Arthur J. O'Neill, 69th Dist.

Rep. Denise W. Merrill, 54th Dist.

Rep. Thomas J. Kehoe, 31st Dist.

If your legislators do not appear here, please zip them an email. If you need talking points, please contact Diane

Please take to write to Representative Hovey and thank her for her efforts for both introducing this bill and providing support to The Connecticut Horse Council with the DEP issue.

DebraLee.Hovey@housegop.ct.gov

DEP Regulations hearing - As you all are aware we had a great turnout for the hearing. The CHC board members will be meeting to discuss further action and talks with DEP.

We will keep everyone informed

Other Legislative bills were presented and you can view our legislative update on the CHC website: www.cthorsecouncil.org

HAPPY TRAILS

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