

# MEDINA COUNTY O.H.C.

*DEDICATED TO PROMOTING RIDING IN  
THE CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL PARK*



## November 2005 Newsletter

### Presidents message

Hi Folks,

Here it is November, and as I look back over the last year, in fact, as I look back over the two years, I wonder where the time went. Over the last two years, our club has put on some very ambitious events. We have tried to find what our membership wants to participate in. We ran the gambit from parades to competitions to Social Rides. This year, we successfully, put on four very large events. The Regional Ride, Hosted for MANY Years by Phil and Ronda Urbank, The Celebration 2005 CTR Ride, Chair'd by Patricia Vance, The Judged Trail Competition, Chair'd by Sandy Bauer, and the Halloween Gala, chair'd by the Officers with food by Bob and Susan Burrows. All these events were well attended, all a success in the eyes of the bottom line and our club members. For this, I am very grateful, for no Club President can do it alone.

On my "watch" I was very lucky to have the imagination and drive of Sandy Bauer, whose Calendar idea did wonders for our coffers, She came back this year with the Judge Trail Competition, and while, in terms of an event, was not done with a lot of notice, made a healthy contribution to our funding efforts. Thank you Sandy; for coming forward and helping.

Over the last two years, we have attracted new ideas and energy through "new" member contributions. Stacy Sadar, came forth to become Club Treasurer, but also, came up with the idea for, and does the work for our wonderful web page. ([www.medinacountyohc.com](http://www.medinacountyohc.com)) Our Web page, has been a good example, for all the OHC county chapters in the state. Stacy has advised many a chapter of how to get started with a web page...That's US, Medina Co OHC paving the way again!

Bob and Susan Burrows joined the club and never looked back. Cooking is their pleasure! We have had some amazing food at our tailgate rides! In fact Susan has taught us the meaning of well used left overs..I think we ate Chicken and Rice for four events last year! This year's Halloween Gala, featured our first annual Clam Bake, and was attended by 25 hungry members, This doesn't sound like a lot, but that particular weekend, it rained so hard that we had a river running thru the tent area!!! Our entertainment after dinner was to pull people out of Robinson Field with Chains!!! We have been blessed with breakfast "Burrows Style" many times on our rides and during our events. Bob and Susan also graciously frequently open their home to our committee meetings. Bob has also stepped up to work on Financial and legal issues. And it was Bob's Idea that produced last years Banquet Theme.

Jack and Linda Weese have been my side kicks and confidants for two years, Linda's work on the Celebration 2005 was beyond amazing. She has taken on the roll as Ms Sunshine to help with keeping touch with the members thru sickness and in health. Jack has served as VP for two years, and has been my not so silent partner in Co chairing the Presidents chair, helping with anything he can and ALMOST never complaining. Jack Chaired the By-Laws

Committee, that changed our club from Board Run, to Member Run last year. He has paid me back many times by leading rides on his new horse, where I have trotted for H O U R S... Thank you both for your constant support.

Patricia Vance, came forward and Chair'd the celebration 2005 ride. This ride not only made us respectable money, It changed the way the entire club view'd the ride, Because of this, many exciting changes are in the works for this, our annual fund raiser. Thank you Patricia for your help, consultations, and criticisms, I am grateful for it all!

There is Vicky Rondy, who silently in the background this year, come up with the theme, and planned the entire Annual Banquet. Its theme this year is CARNIVAL! Please watch for the promos and the flyers. This should be the Show of Shows, so to speak. Thank you Vicky.

Reuss Griffiths, who for four years has been our liaison to the CVNP. Reuss has worked tirelessly to gain the respect and repair relationships with the Park Personal. This is not an easy job, and sometimes a thankless job. Highlights of the last two years have included convincing the Park to try out sustainable trails on the two Perkins By-passes .Re-open parts of Wetmore (in process now). He has also gotten the approval of the CVNP to put in a gravel base for our Tent at Robinson Field....! And much more that is in the works. Thankyou Reuss, for all that you do.

We sadly say good-bye to Phil and Ronda Urbank, who have moved out of the County ( the ONLY way they could retire from doing the Regional Ride!!) We will miss them at our meetings and on our rides. I will miss their quiet help and advice and insights. Its hard to loose good friends and members, but we wish them well with their new Farm and retirement.

In fact, there are so many of you that have contributed to the success of my Presidency, that it is hard to name you all. There is Joyce Tretow, quietly in the backround doing just whatever it takes to make the show go on, Deb Aldredge with her funny, funny, sense of humor, Carol Himmelright, keeping a watchful eye on us and the Park. Rosemary Young, who continues, year after year, to do a great job at any office asked of her, and now with the memberships, Robin and Sue who are always there to chip in the time. I know I have missed a few of you, but rest assured that I am very grateful for the help, advice and time all of you have contributed.

Last week we elected our new officers to man the bridge for the next year. They are:

Jack Weese – President  
Mike Andrea – Vice President  
Stacy Sadar – Treasurer  
Joyce Tretow – Secretary

I wish them the best of success for the upcoming year. I hope that each and everyone of you will come forward and participate in some way with our Club events. It's a new club, Full of new ideas, and great people.

Thanks for the memories! And see you on the trail.

Sherry Eucker  
Past President MOHC

## **Mark your calendars for January 21**

**O.H.C. annual banquet is having a carnival night, where you can play games to win not just one prize but groups of prizes.**

**\*\*\*\*Prizes totaling close to \$1500.00\*\*\*\***

**Come meet new and old friends, eat drink and be merry**

## *Jack's Stall NOV. 05*

It is hard for me to believe that the year is almost over. It seems like the older we get the faster time flies. It is also hard for me to believe that as of Nov. 11 I will have been on this earth for 65 years. To repeat the old line, "if I had known that I would live this long I would have let Linda take better care of me."

This has been a very busy year for the Medina chapter of OHC. We have had many successful events and many good times. I am very much looking forward to more of the same next year.

All of us owe Sherry Eucker a big **THANK YOU** for the job she has done as club president for the last two years. Sherry devoted a huge amount of thought, time and energy to our club. I am proud to call her a friend. I can only hope that I will be able to continue guiding MOHC in such a positive manner.

It is beginning to look like the park is going to try to open some of the closed trails. That will be wonderful. I miss riding the Wetmore and Langes Run trails.

The park has decided to reroute the Valley Trail so that riders will not have to travel on AP Road to cross Robinson Run (I think that that is the name of the stream). We will be relocating the trail on our next work party on Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>. The National Trails Council will be working with us that weekend. The new trail crossing will be located close to the bridge on AP Road just south of Northampton Road. The work party will meet at Robinson Field at 8:30 AM give or take a few minutes. Everyone is invited to help get this section into place. If we run out of work there we can continue turnpiking the trail between the golf course and Rt. 303.

And speaking of trails. It is about time to turn in your trail miles to Susan Burrows. Even if you did not keep accurate records of your riding please try to make an honest estimate of miles ridden and turn that number in to Susan. I know that we will never have 100% of our membership reporting trail miles but I would like to see 80 or 90% reporting. Showing that our trails are being used really helps get the attention of the various park officials and shows them just how important the trails are to us as we traverse the trails of life.

New officers for the coming year were elected at the Nov. meeting. They are myself Jack Weese as president, Mike Andrea VP, Stacy Sadar Treas, and Joyce Tretow Sec. We are all looking forward to the coming year. I will be appointing committee heads in the near future. If anyone is interested in a committee job please let me know. We need everyone working together for the club to reach its greatest potential.

The NE Regional meeting was held 11-5-05 at David's Fireside Restaurant in Rootstown. Eight of the 14 counties in the region were represented. Medina was represented by Jack and Linda Weese, Bob and Susan Burrows, Reuss and Sherry Griffiths-Eucker, and Mike Pota. Plans were made for the hosting of the spring state meeting in Delaware. JoEllen Reikowski of Stark County was chosen to be our region representative to the state Executive Cabinet (assuming the bylaw revision passes). There was a discussion regarding helping the region representative with travel expenses. Any profits from

hosting the state meeting will be earmarked for region representative expenses. All in all it was a pretty good meeting. I only had to be told to sit down and be quiet one time. I was too busy visiting. I'll try to do worse the next time. Phil and Ronda were asked about and Phil's smiling face was missed by all. Mike is slipping, he was only able to sell one calendar.

Linda, Willie and I attended the Ashtabula County Regional Ride. It was great fun and the food was very good. Everyone was disappointed that Ronda and Phil were not able to attend. Ronda's spill into the river is still a topic of conversation. Willie was not exactly on his best behavior. I really should have ridden him for at least 20 miles on the day before the ride. I'll try to do that before our next group ride.

Vicki Rony has been working very hard to put together a wonderful evening of dinner and entertainment for our annual January banquet. It is an event that you will not want to miss. It will be at Stancato's in Richfield on Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> from 6PM to 10PM.

The State meeting on Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> should be interesting. As many of you know I am running for State Vice President. I guess that I am a glutton for punishment. The bylaw revision that Reuss and I had a part of is a big step forward for the state. I feel that under Rick Patterson's leadership we will be seeing many positive changes in the State OHC. I hope to have a hand in many of those changes and am looking forward to working with many wonderful and talented OHC members. In the past couple of years I have met so many horsemen from all parts of the state. Everyone has something to offer their home chapter and the state organization. It is fun to be involved. There is some question as to whether a chapter officer can also be a state officer. We'll cross that bridge if I'm elected to the state office.

For this month I will leave you with this thought. "A pretty horse is only a light switch away."

May you be with your horse, Jack

## **Trail Maintenance Report November 2005**

The trail work project for October was to "turnpike" the Valley Trail between the golf course and Rte 303. About 300 ft of trail was elevated by laying down parallel telephone poles, putting geofabric between them, laying down a layer of #1 & 2 stone and topping it off with trail mix. The top was then tamped in with the Parks "tamper". The portion of trail finished looks pretty good. We roped it off for the winter to allow it to settle in and solidify before riding on it.

The work party was held in conjunction with the Halloween camp out weekend. As an incentive to come out and work, we concealed four horseshoes, gold, silver, bronze and red, close to the trail. Those workers who found the horseshoes received a very nice prize. We will be hiding these horseshoes on a random basis next year. You never know when you might be able to win a prize.

Our next work party will be held on November 19 in conjunction with the Trail Council. We will work in two areas, depending on the turnout. The primary project will be to reroute that portion of the Valley Trail south of Robinson field where it goes out onto AP road near Northampton Rd. The rerouted trail will skirt the road and

cross thru Robinson Run close to the bridge the rejoin the old trail by the wheat field south of the bridge. If we have enough people, we will split up and continue work on the turnpike project down by Rte 303.

During October, Bob Burrows, Jack Weese, Joyce Tretow and I met with representatives of Cleveland Area Mountain Bike Association (CAMBA) to seek common ground in working with the Park on trail programs. The CAMBA people have been trying to get mountain bike trails in CVNP for several years without success. Because of an agreement between the National Park Service (Washington DC) and the International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) to pursue mountain bike trails in appropriate venues, the CVNP is now applying to be one of two parks for a pilot mountain bike program. Our experience with CAMBA so far has been very positive. Our objective is for both groups to work together with the Park to secure and maintain separate mountain bike and horse trails. We want to avoid competing with each other for existing trails as is happening at Mammoth Cave in Kentucky. I personally believe that it would be a good idea to pursue a shared bike/horse trail in the future to prove that we can coexist with bikes on the same trail and that if built properly, the trail can withstand the rigors of both bike and horse traffic. Both groups will be meeting with the CVNP in the near future for an update on the Park's new master trail program.

Lastly, the Park has agreed to investigate opening portions of the closed trails in the Wetmore and Langes Run system. I have made several recommendations on portions of the trail that could be opened with minimal impact. The Park is out looking at the damage on the closed trails and will be reviewing what trails can be opened in the near future. I am hopeful that all of Wetmore, Table Top and Butler can be opened. I have suggested a reroute that will allow portions of Langes Run to be opened but I am not as optimistic that it will fly. We will probably have to do a lot of maintenance and repair to open these trails. I will push to get this done as early as possible next year.

Reuss Griffiths - Trail Maintenance Chairman

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## **What Time is it? It's Membership Renewal Time !!!! Be sure and read- Some things are a-changin'**

### ***A personal note from your friendly membership chairperson-***

Hey it's that time of year again! Time to renew your membership with the Medina Chapter of the Ohio Horseman's Council. Join now and your membership will be good through December of 2006. Remember if you don't renew by March of 2006 you'll be dropped from the membership lists!. That's Medina county and the state. You will no longer receive the Corral or state newsletter. I often have people calling me wondering where their newsletter is, where the Corral is, etc. This is because you either did not send your renewal in on time or did not specify that you needed a paper copy of Medina's newsletter.

**New for 2006** - Membership cards will be mailed out in a general mailing in March of 2006 for those renewing their memberships. New members will get their card with the welcome letter.

### **Just follow these simple rules (and nobody gets hurt!):**

1. Fill out the membership form !!!!! (legibly, please) with all the correct information. This goes to the state, so it's not just for our benefit.
2. Make sure you specify if you need a paper copy of the newsletter.! Now that it is in our website we are able to save money by only mailing it to those who have no internet access.

3. Include your e-mail address. This way we can keep you updated with current news and events. Don't worry we aren't going to sell your email address!
4. Sign the form !!!!
5. Family memberships include children under 18. 18 and older must have their own membership
6. If this is a Secondary membership be sure to write "Secondary" across the top of the form. Secondary memberships are \$10.
7. Make your check payable to : Medina OHC
8. Mail the check and completed form to :  
Rosemary Young  
9480 Tracy Trail  
Parma Ohio 44130

Also remember to let me know of any address, telephone number or e-mail changes. Just use the membership form and write "Address change only" across the top.

Thanks - Rosemary Young      Your friendly membership chairperson

It is with great pleasure to inform the Ohio horse Counsel of Gene Glasscock's arrival into Ohio. Gene is the Long Rider that has been traveling all the lower 48 State Capitols entirely by horseback. Columbus will be the 48th and final capitol on a long and inspiring equestrian journey across America. Gene is planning on attending the horse expo in Novi, Michigan this week-end. On the 14th of November he will pick up the trail at the Michigan / Ohio border. I extend an invitation to all your members to join us at the capitol building on December 1,2005 to meet with governor Bob Taft to celebrate Gene's historic ride. I look forward to hearing from you soon. Tammy Brown - Glasscock Coordinator ( [geneglasscock.org](http://geneglasscock.org) - [Txlady0207@aol.com](mailto:Txlady0207@aol.com) )

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### **Christmas Open House at Z-Bar Farm :**

Our barn is having an open house Sat. Dec. 3rd from 1pm - 4pm. We are going to be having pony rides, cookies, hot chocolate and coffee, a crafting table where kids can come and make a country craft, decorations and christmas music being played by a guitar player. we also are going to have a booth set up for horse photography and my massage booth. We are trying to bring people in the barn to let them know the different services we are offering and our goals as we grow.

Z Bar Farm is located JUST East of State Road, on Fixler Road. Contact Meredith for more information: 330-256-0042, [therapyconnection@yahoo.com](mailto:therapyconnection@yahoo.com)

Meredith Glog

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Our Care Code: **medinaohc**