

MEDINA COUNTY O.H.C.

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



March 2006 Newsletter

President's Message - AKA Jack's Stall March 2006

Happy Saint Patrick's Day everyone. Did any of you get in any riding during the warm weather that we had a couple of weeks ago? I wanted to but was not cleared to ride by my surgeon at that time. He has since told me that I can ride if I can find a way to get up on the topline of a horse. I haven't done so yet but will do so before very long. I am supposed to ride with the CVNP Trailblazers in the St. Patrick's Day parade in downtown Cleveland; however, I think that will take the safe route for once in my life and skip riding in the parade. I don't want to do anything too stupid and not be able to ride at Hinckley on April 2nd. What say we ride out about 11:00 AM, ride for 2 or 3 hours and then have a tailgate lunch? If you have any questions please give me a call (440-234-9668).

These are really exciting times for MOHC. The work weekend with The Ohio Trails Partnership coupled with CVNP's decision to reopen the closed trails is the best news that we have had in a long time! Please, we need all the support that we can muster. Any and all help will be greatly appreciated whether it is an hour or the total weekend. Take a look at the flyers for more information or contact either Reuss Griffiths or myself. To help get ready for the weekend 2 additional work parties have been scheduled for March 25th and April 1st. Help us if you can.

By the time that you read this newsletter the State Executive Council meeting will be over and done. Rick Patterson (State President) and I along with the other state officers are really committed to making the State OHC a viable organization that is more responsive to the concerns of the general membership and the local chapters. If you have not been involved with the State OHC now is a good time to get started. A starting place would be the State Booth at the Equine Affaire. Drop by and see what is going on with both the state and the other chapters. You might also give a booth worker a break by taking his or her place in the booth for an hour or so. Also check the State web site for details on signing up to work.

As far as I know the North East Region is still in need of someone with some financial skills to serve on the State finance committee. If you are interested or know of someone that you think would be a good person for this job please let me know and I will pass the information on to Jo Ellen out NE Region representative to the State Executive Cabinet. The new bylaws that the state is operating under were written to give the regions and the general membership a greater voice in the affairs of the state. This is your chance to be a part of a great organization.

The paperwork to get the Cuyahoga Valley Equestrian Trails Association registered with the State of Ohio is well under way. It should be completed soon. We will need to form a committee to fine tune the bylaws of the new Association. If interested in being on this committee you can contact any of the officers or directors of CVETA. By the way, the State of Ohio dictates that the trustees be called directors.

As my little black roan Walking/Kentucky Mountain Horse Willie and I were reading the newspaper this morning we came across a quote that Willie really takes to heart.

Quote: "If everything seems under control, then you're just not going fast enough"—Mario Andretti.

May you be with your horse. Jack Weese

March 2006 Trail Maintenance Report

By Reuss Griffiths

Much time has been spent planning for the OTP work weekend in April. We have had two special club meetings to move forward with the planning process and one quarterly meeting with the Park. We will be having another park meeting next week and at least two club work weekends prior to the OTP weekend to get ready for that event.

We have broken the tasks to put on this event into three categories 1) Publicity, 2) Food and 3) Trail Work. Linda Weese has taken charge of the publicity and has issued several flyers and contacted members and other organizations all over the northeast region and the state. Things are moving well under Linda's leadership. Bob and Sue Burrows have stepped up to handle the food arrangements. Our OTP neighbors to the north, CAMBA, are co-hosting the event with us and will be putting on a dinner for Friday evening. We are working to secure Happy Days Visitor Center to that end. The Burrows are handling Saturday and Sunday meals. They will be proposing an agenda at our next club meeting to finalize these arrangements. Reuss Griffiths will be coordinating the trail work sessions on that weekend. At the present time it looks like we will be building three bridges and putting in three trail reroutes with the largest being about ¾ mile of new trail to get around flood damage on Langes Run trail and hook up with an existing section of trail leading over to the Wetmore System. We will also be rebuilding at least two major culvert washouts.

We have received permission from the park to bring in powered vehicles to help move material for trail building to our various work sites. Our club has authorized up to \$5,000 for the purchase of trail mix and larger stone for trail construction. Based on upcoming planning sessions, we may order more material to be sure we have enough for that weekend. We will also be evaluating how much lumber we may need to purchase for bridge building and will purchase that as well.

We are starting to build a network of people who have volunteered to work that weekend and will be responding to them at the appropriate time. We need as many volunteers as we can get for the trail work crews but we also need many people to help out with support activities such as food preparation, registration, camp site preparation and clean up, etc. So if any one has a few hours that they can spend with us but are not physically up to the arduous task of trail work, we can use you help in a lot of other ways as well. Please contact me (reuss5@msn.com) and let me know when and how you may be available. Lastly, if you can't join us that weekend but wish to contribute you may make donations to help defray the significant expenses we anticipate for this weekend. Any and all forms of help will be greatly appreciated.

We have a scheduled work party for March 25th to get ready for the OTP weekend. If we still need further preparation, we will have another work party on April 1st to finish the preparations. Again, anyone willing to help will be greatly appreciated.

Reuss Griffiths
Trail Maintenance Chairman

Thank You Valley Girls

You can put your shirts back on!

Your calendar sales were a huge success

Work will begin on the closed Horse Trails

Cuyahoga Valley National Park

April 21-23, 2006

Ohio Trails Partnership - **Spring Work Weekend**

Come join the Work Parties - We're sure to have fun!

Volunteers Needed for OTP Weekend Come share the work, the fun, and the joy!

Medina-OHC has worked very hard to raise the money for materials and now we have a great opportunity to restore and (in one area) reroute the closed horse trails in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Please work with Medina-OHC, CAMBA and the rest of the OHIO TRAILS PARTNERSHIP on April 21-23, 2006. You will have a great time!

There are many ways that you can help (contact the chairmen listed below):

TRAIL – Reuss Griffiths, Medina-OHC Trail Chairman, Reuss5@msn.com

- Please WORK ON TRAIL Sat., April 22, and Sun., April 23, 2006.
- **Help right now with the preliminary work. We must order materials, organize work areas, haul materials to work areas, procure tools, organize the work areas with the park. We also need about 12 volunteers to be Work Party Leaders. We need folks familiar with the park and the trails to help the workers get to the various work sites. And, there's much more to do!**

If you can't go out on trail, then please volunteer other ways!!!!

FOOD – Bob and Susan Burrows, Chairmen, (330) 334-1528,
rpburr@msn.com

- **PLEASE DONATE A DESSERT TO THE SATURDAY DINNER**
- Help with preparing sack lunches on Fri., April 21, 2006
- Make coffee and donuts on Sat. morning,
- Set-up, serve, cleanup Sat. evening Dinner at November Lodge.
- Help with Sunday morning breakfast at Happy Days.

REGISTRATION – Nancy Cope, Chrmn, (330) 592-2401 Nancy0152@yahoo.com

- Volunteer to work Registration in Howe Meadow on Fri., Sat., & Sunday. All volunteers will need to register before they go out on trail, and they will be given instructions to the various work sites.

PUBLICITY – Linda Weese, Chairman, (440) 234-9668, Lsweese@aol.com

- Volunteer to help with publicity. We need to contact as many workers as possible to come out and help on OTP Weekend. We will need folks to send flyers via email, make phone calls, take flyers to barns and tack shops. *Please invite folks to come to the OTP Work Weekend.*

OTHER INFORMATION: Jack Weese, (440) 234-9668, Jweese2402@aol.com

For those who will **NOT** be able to volunteer, please consider making a monetary donation to offset the cost of the food for the volunteers when they come back from the trails. Thank you!

Mail Checks (payable to Medina-OHC) to: Stacy Sadar, Treas., P.O. Box 247, Richfield, OH 44286

Come to OTP Weekend. It's a fun and rewarding thing to do!

Advertise with Medina-OHC Let us promote your business!

***Newsletter * Classifieds * Events * Website * Home Page ***

For information:

www.medinacountyohc.com

Linda Weese (440) 234-9668 Lsweese@aol.com

Heigh Ho~~Heigh Ho~~It's off to work we go~~
We are very happy and excited! Work begins on the CVNP closed Horse Trails.

MEDINA-OHC

In conjunction with the **National Park Service**

INVITES YOU TO THE

OTP

(Ohio Trails Partnership)

spring Work Weekend

Cuyahoga Valley National Park

REGISTRATION IS IN HOWE MEADOW

(4040 RIVERVIEW RD. SOUTH OF PENINSULA, OHIO)

PRIMITIVE CAMPING (SOME ELECTRIC, NO WATER) IN HOWE MEADOW, CLOSEST MOTELS ARE NEAR OH RT. 8.

April 21-23, 2006

Bring your trail working TOOLS with you.

Let's restore the CLOSED Horse Trails.

Medina-OHC has raised funds to restore the closed Horse Trails that were flood devastated in '03-'04. We WELCOME the OTP and Larry Matthews, Chairman.

Please note: All those coming to the OTP Weekend under the age of 18 must have an official National Park Service Waiver signed by their parent/legal guardian. Waivers will be available at Howe Meadow or will be mailed to you in advance on request.

For information contact: Reuss Griffiths, (Medina-OHC Trail Chrm.) Reuss5@msn.com

Jack Weese, (440) 234-9668 Jweese2402@aol.com

www.medinacountyohc.com or www.ohiohorsemanscouncil.com

**** Next page for more information, directions, and tentative schedule. ****

Medina-OHC in conjunction with the National Park Service welcomes you to the beautiful Cuyahoga Valley National Park for OTP Work Weekend!

Motels located on or near OH Route 8 are closest to the park

Budget Inn – 330-650-4341 (starting at \$39.00)
Holiday Inn – 330-656-1252 (starting at \$69.99)
Comfort Inn – 330-463-5455 (starting at \$55.99)
Knights Inn – 330-467-1981 (starting at \$34.99)
Baymont Inn – 330-468-5400 (starting at \$67.50)

Directions to Howe Meadow, 4040 Riverview Rd. south of Peninsula, OH

Howe Meadow has primitive camping (some electricity, NO water).

From I – 271-take 303 east to the first light (Peninsula), turn right on Riverview Rd.,
Go about 5 miles to Howe Meadow.

From I – 77 use Exit 143 (the exit is located 23 miles south of Cleveland, 13 miles north of Akron, at I – 271 intersection), turn left, go east on Wheatley/Everett Road (changes names before turnoff) 2 miles to town of Everett (road ends), turn right (south) on Riverview Rd., Howe Meadow is approximately 1.5 miles on the right.

Tentative Schedule for OTP Work Weekend

Friday, April 21, 2006

12 pm (Noon) - Howe Meadow opens for camping.

Large gooseneck rigs use the First Entrance located to the right of Howe Meadow Site. Large rigs - do not try to go up the little hill and over the tracks...you may get stuck!

6:00 pm – Supper - CAMBA Sponsored (location to be announced)

Saturday, April 22, 2006

7:00 am – Coffee and Donuts in Howe Meadow

8:00 am – Work Parties Depart from Howe Meadow (sack lunch provided)

6:00 pm -- Dinner is at November Lodge

(Left out of Howe Meadow on Riverview Rd., turn Left on Everett Rd., turn right on Oak Hill Rd., turn right onto drive for Environmental Education Center. November Lodge is located behind the Environmental Education Center.)

Sunday, April 23, 2006

7:00 am – Breakfast at Happy Days Visitor Center and back to the trails.

(Left out of Howe Meadow onto Riverview Rd., in Peninsula turn right on Route 303. Happy Days is on Route 303 east of Peninsula. Parking is on the Left and Happy Days Visitor Center is on the Right. A pedestrian tunnel crosses under 303 from the parking lot to Happy Days.)

Medina-OHC says thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Have safe journeys and a beautiful spring on Trail.

Tools Needed

Bring your

HAND TOOLS

Shovels, Rakes, Pulaski's,

McLeod's, etc.

OTP Weekend

April 21-23, 2006

Celebrate the Joy

Horse and Rider on Trail

Mark your calendars now!

Medina-OHC

Celebration 2006

(Competitive Trail Ride)

July 7-9, 2006

Howe Meadow

Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Save that date to volunteer or compete!

Contact Ride Manager, Patricia

Vance

330-836-9358

competitiveride@aol.com

Thinking of dusting off the old riding helmet ??

Thinking of riding in Celebration 2006 in July ?????

Want to get your "feet wet" and give it a try???

ALL JOKING ASIDE >>>>> If you are interested in trying the Celebration 2006 Competitive Trail Ride for the first time or any time, there are things that you should practice with your horse at home.

Here are some things you can work on right now to prepare your horse:

- Ride your horse at the very least 2-3 hours a week.
- Work on Ground Manners. Teach your horse to stand still for the Vet Check. Your horse should be able to tolerate being touched by others. Ask another horseman to assist by touching your horse's ears, back, feet, girth area, etc.
- Prepare yourself and your horse for the Trot Out by hand trotting in a large circle both directions. Start mentally preparing now to really listen to the vet's instructions at the actual ride.

******* Stay tuned for more CTR tips next month *******

Medina County Chapter - Ohio Horseman's Council Membership Application

Year: _____ New _____ Renewal _____ Equine Activity _____ Occupation: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____ Phone Number: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail Address: _____ @ _____

(Your email address is for OHC use only. It is only used to keep you updated on last minute events.)

Spouse: _____ Age: _____ Children (under 18) _____ Ages: _____

County Chapter Affiliation: MEDINA _____ At Large _____ If Family Membership - # Of People _____

Other County Chapter Membership? NO _____ YES (where) _____

Corral Free Of Charge: Yes _____ No _____ Signature : _____ Date: _____

Newsletter: Mail it with a Stamp _____ I'll pick it up from the website _____

SELECT MEMBERSHIP TYPE

<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual	\$18.00 (State dues \$13.50+\$4.80 County)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family	\$28.00 (State dues \$19.20+\$8.80 County)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior Citizen (as of Jan 1...62 yrs+)	\$11.00 (State dues \$8.20+ \$2.80 County)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Student (as of Jan 1...18 yrs+)	\$16.00 (State dues \$10.80+\$5.20 County)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Secondary	\$10.00 (\$10.00 County)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Associate	\$36.00 (State dues \$21.20+\$14.80 County)

**MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO MEDINA OHC SEND APPLICATION TO:
Rosemary Young
9480 Tracy Trail
Parma, Ohio 44130**

Please Fill in ALL AREAS!