

MEDINA COUNTY O.H.C.

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



January 2006 Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AKA JACK'S STALL 1-06

Happy New Year everyone! I had my knee replaced Dec. 29th and my brains haven't worked right since then. Not that they did before either. I rang in the New Year in the hospital. That was kind of a bummer. I had great plans for all of those hospital sheets. Sadly, I missed the nurse's Toga Party New Year's Eve because the Morphine Drip knocked me out for the night at 7 pm. It was very disappointing!

I was very pleased with the Special Dec. 27th Meeting. We, as a club, harmoniously accomplished a very important task. Our Valley Girl Calendar Funds and Trail Funds will be secure in a new corporation that is being formed to manage the money for the specific purpose it was raised. Now that we have this settled, we as a club will be able to move forward happily on to other projects and very good times together. I would like to thank Bob Burrows, Hope Orr and Stacy Sadar for their outstanding committee work. I would also like to thank Patricia Vance, as always, for her legal knowledge and input and our outgoing President, Sherry Eucker, for her vision and leadership.

Now on to serious matters for all Equestrians. It's now time for us to speak up for our rights as horsemen and let Washington know that we are out here and we have a voice. Please read the following paragraphs and seriously consider the impact that these words will have on us as horse people if we do not speak up now. I encourage you to contact your senators and representatives after you read the following information:

The Right to Ride Bill is stalled in the US Congress because of lack of support from the horse folks. Everyone, Take a minute to follow the link in this email to write your senator or representative -- it only takes a minute:

The easiest way to contact your senator or representative is to click on <http://capwiz.com/aqha/issues/alert/?alertid=7749306> which takes you to an AQHA Action Alert. Once there, you enter your zip code, fill in your name and address for verification as a constituent, and a prepared letter of support goes to the congressional representatives you designate. Of course, if you'd prefer to write your own letter, this link also provides the bill's complete text.

"Right-To-Ride Livestock on Federal Lands Act of 2005" has stalled in the Senate because of low support from the horse world. The American Horse Council, led by the American Quarter Horse Association, have launched a campaign to GET ANYONE WHO RIDES, especially if they already ride in national parks or wilderness areas-or think they might someday-to get on the bandwagon to send off an already prepared letter of support. Some details...

Last March, Rep. George Radanovich (R-CA) introduced the "Right-To-Ride Livestock on Federal Lands Act of 2005" into the US House of Representatives, and a month later Sen. Mike Crapo (R-ID) introduced an identical bill into the US Senate. But nothing has happened since March, when the bill was referred to half a dozen committees. This is due partly

because congressmen and their staffs are disappointed by the low level of support their efforts have received from the horse world.

The bill says in part "The Secretary of the Interior shall provide for the management of National Park System lands to preserve and facilitate the continued use and access of pack and saddle stock animals on such lands, including wilderness areas, national monuments, and other specifically designated areas, where there is a historical tradition of such use. As a general rule, all trails, routes and areas used by pack and saddle stock shall remain open and accessible for such use."

Now that I've had my say about our Right-to-Ride, I can go on to a few more topics regarding Medina-OHC.

As you know, the annual banquet is coming up on January 21st at Stancato's Café of Richfield, Rt. 303 and Broadview Rd. I'm planning on being there and I hope to see you there as well. We want to thank our member Vicky Rondy who has worked very creatively and tirelessly to plan a wonderful Carnival evening of fabulous fun, games, great prizes, and very good food. We also want to thank Stacy Sadar for making sure that all of you were invited to the banquet. I'm pretty sure that our good members the Burrows have been helping out greatly behind the scenes and many of you will be helping with the games. It's time for Medina-OHC to celebrate another great year!

We have several more things in the works: We are working on having a big Celebration Ride this July. We want to do our usual OAATS sanctioned Competitive Trail Ride and also an Endurance Ride along with it. Stay tuned to this channel and we'll let you know before long how this all works out.

There is now some hope for the possibility of opening part of the Wetmore Trail System in the CVNP. As soon as we know more, we'll let you know. The beautiful horse trails in the CVNP are special and meaningful to many of us who have ridden those trails for years. Getting them back is something to which we all look forward.

We're still investigating the possibility of turning the Regional Ride into a State Ride. Getting to know equestrians from other counties and other parts of the state is very enjoyable.

Here's a little news from State-OHC:

Rick Patterson (Pres.) and I are determined that goodwill and harmony will prevail within the State organization. There are many good folks working on the state level who are dedicated to the "Horseman Helping Horseman" motto of OHC. Our Northeast Ohio Region is now assuming many more leadership roles. This is great for OHC and Northeast Ohio.

Reuss Griffiths (Medina County) is State By-Laws Chairman, Joyce Wilson (Stark County) is State Finance Committee Chairman, Sherry Eucker (Medina County) is State Grievance Committee Co-Chair, Carolyn Sullivan (Summit and Medina Counties) is Rails to Trails Chairman, Mike Gerard (Wayne County) is a Presidential Appointee to the newly formed Executive Cabinet, Jo Ellen Reikowski (Stark County) is the North East Regional Representative.

Many different state committees are looking for additional members. If you would like to get involved on the state level, step up and let someone know. The same thing holds true on the local level. Let me know, I would love to put you to work.

Well it's time to put my knee and my bedraggled brain to bed.

May you be with your Horse, Jack

Cuyahoga Valley Equestrian Trails Association, Inc.

The following is an excerpt from the minutes of our special Medina-OHC Meeting on Dec. 27, 2005 regarding the maintenance of our Valley Girls Calendar Profits and Trail Fund.

Trail Fund (Tax) Committee Report (Bob Burrows)

Bob Burrows gave a very extensive, educational presentation about our finances in regard to the State OHC organization, our 401c4 status, the purpose of the funds, securing and segregating the Valley Girl Trail Funds. He presented 4 options available to us, the tax alternatives, the need for a purpose statement for the use of the calendar money, and the committee recommendations in the form of 6 separate motions.

As each motion was presented, the members present at the meeting suggested a few wording changes and tweaks be made to the motions. Everyone present had a chance to give an opinion and enter in the discussion.

The Tax Committee offers the following motions to be read individually for discussion and voting.

Motion 1: That a non-profit corporation be formed under the laws of the State of Ohio, called the Cuyahoga Valley Equestrian Trails Association, Inc. (the 'Association').

Second Patricia Vance, unanimously accepted by members present.

Motion 2: That the Association apply for 501 c status with the IRS as a simple non-profit but not a Charitable non-profit.

Second Stacy Sadar, unanimously accepted by members present.

Motion 3: That the purpose of the new Association would be: "to plan, construct, reconstruct and/or maintain equestrian trails in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park".

Second Sandra Bauer, unanimously accepted by members present.

Motion 4: That funds transferred into the Association be used only for the underlying intended purpose as advertised during fund raising unless that purpose cannot be fulfilled; as such two separate funds would be managed within the Association:

*** A Basic Trails Fund (using \$5,000 from several fund raisers**

*** A Wetmore System Reconstruction and Maintenance fund (using the \$20,000 of Calendar Money). Wetmore would include: the 4 mile loop, Table Top, Lange's Run, Butler and Dickerson**

*** Further, no fund raising or social activities would be paid for using Association funds**

*** Further, if the Association becomes inactive for more than 18 months the funds would be given to the Cuyahoga Valley National Park for use specifically for equestrian trails**

Second Sherry Eucker, passed with one dissent by members present.

Motion 5: That the by-laws include as follows:

■ **Voting Members:**

--Members of the OHC whose primary chapter is Medina

--Officers of and people primarily active in another OHC chapter would not be eligible voting members of the Association.

■ **Officers:**

--The President and Treasurer of the Association would be the current President and Treasurer of the Medina OHC unless the individuals do not qualify as Voting Members of the Association in which case the Association would elect a different President or Treasurer.

--Five trustees elected by the voting members.

■ **Programs:**

--Officers and Trustees would be responsible for finding, defining and managing projects to fulfill the purpose.

--Projects would require approval of the general membership of the Association

■ **By-laws committee:**

--Such committee will be established to prepare and recommend a complete set of by-laws.

--The work to be completed within the first 6 months of the Associations initiation date.

Second Linda Weese, motion carried.

Motion 6: That an organizing committee be formed and given a budget of up to \$1000.00 to be used to pay professional fees to set up the Association under the laws of the State of Ohio and to make the initial filings for non-profit status with the IRS.

*** Five to be appointed by the Medina OHC membership**

*** The five would become the first Trustees of the new Association**

*** The officers of the new Association shall be bonded upon formation of the Association**

Second Sherry Eucker, unanimously accepted by the members present.

It was stated to publish the accepted motions in the newsletter. We will need volunteers to come forward who would like to be trustees.

Ron Bauer gave praise to the committee: Bob Burrows, Stacy Sadar, and Hope Orr. He said words to the effect that they worked very hard and did an excellent job. Thank you committee for your dedication to Medina-OHC and fine work.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Weese for Joyce Tretow, Secretary

January 2006 Trail Report

By Reuss Griffiths

The CVNP has been meeting to decide the extent of the damaged trails that can reopened. The Park's interdisciplinary team has evaluated the trails in December and will be meeting in January to put together a recommendation for Park management. The Park has expressed an interest in having the OTP (Ohio Trails Partnership) select the CVNP for this year's work weekend project. I filled out an application for the Park and submitted it to OTP for consideration. The OTP will be meeting on January 15 to select a park for this year's project. I have been told that we have an excellent chance of being selected.

If we are selected, it will be a massive amount of work and will require the help of many chapter members to organize and pull it off. Typically 100 to 150 people from all over the state show up to work on the trail project on Saturday and Sunday. It would be our clubs responsibility to host the event, provide lunch and dinner on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday. The Park would provide facilities for us to meet and eat, and a place where workers can camp if they like. The Park would allow us to use Happy Days Visitor center for meeting and Howe Meadow for camping.

Keep your fingers crossed that the Park is generous in their choice of trails to open and that OTP will select us. It is a golden opportunity for us to get much of our trails reopened in a hurry.

Medina-OHC Meeting February 1st

Special Time 6:30 pm

Business Meeting followed by

*** * *Movie Night* * ***

There will be a brief business meeting, and the movie will start immediately after.

The movie will be "Lonely Are the Brave", a Kirk Douglas modern day cowboy movie that is already a classic.

Popcorn will be provided, bring your own beverage!

Please visit the Prize Donors for the Carnival!

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Medina-OHC Members and Friends lend us a hand!!!!

We're looking for prospective advertisers for our website and printed newsletter. We think that this is a good way to offset the cost of our printed newsletter, website, and also add to our Trail Fund. If you can think of a business that would benefit of our services, please take a moment and send us an email.

We will send them a letter and the information provided below. We will also contact them by phone.

Thanks for your help!

Linda – Lsweese@aol.com

Stacy – stacy@medinacountyohc.com

Wild horses & burros coming to Columbus

February 10,11,12, 2006

we need you help to let your neighbors and friends know about the adoption

The details of the adoption are:

Who: U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management-Eastern States

What: Wild horse and burro adoption where more than 80 horses and a few burros will be available for adoption.

When: Animals arrive for viewing February 10, 2006, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Adoptions February 11, 2006 from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and February 12, 2006 from 8:00 a.m. to Noon

Where: Cooper Arena at the Ohio Expo Center & State Fair, Columbus, Ohio

Why: To help maintain an ecological balance on western rangelands, and preserve mustangs as "living legends." BLM gathers some horses and burros each year to control the population and offers them to qualified individuals for adoption.

Gentled wild horses in the United States are being used for trail riding, dressage, western events, and other disciplines. They are noted for their endurance, sure-footedness and intelligence. Burros are great companion animals and are sometimes used by farmers for predator control.

Thank you very much for your help in finding good homes for these magnificent animals. Hope to see you in Columbus. Be sure to bring your trailer even if you don't think you will be adopting. One of the horses or burros might catch your eye and want to go home with you. You just never know!

Bill

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

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! You will no longer receive the Corral or state 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- use the membership form and write "Address change only" across the top.

Thanks - Rosemary Young

Your friendly membership chairperson

Top 10 Spooky Things from a horse's point of view:

10. Blowing Paper:

"At any moment it could whip up into our faces, covering our noses. We could suffocate. And don't try to tell us you'd do CPR."

9. Barking Dogs:

"What? You've never read Steven King's CUJO?"

8. Puddles of Water:

"Quicksand."

7. Trash Cans:

"They've been known to swallow horses and transport them into another dimension."

6. Babies and Li'l Kids:

"Long lost tribe of horse-eating pygmies."

5. Plaid Horse Blankets:

"Hey, when was the last time you wore plaid? It adds 100 lbs."

4. Ropes and Hoses on the Ground:

"Dreaded North American Trail Snakes."

3. Ponies:

"Cute, clever, hardy. They want to take over the world."

2. Windy Days:

"Two Words: impending tornado."

1. Carts and Wagons:

"Look. You put a human on our backs, we can always buck them off. But hitching a horse to a wheeled object? It's 90 90 just not right."