

DEDICATED TO PROMOTING RIDING IN THE CUYAHOGA  
VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

# MEDINA COUNTY CHAPTER OF OHIO HORSEMAN'S COUNCIL

[www.medinacountyohc.com](http://www.medinacountyohc.com)



February 2011

## Meetings:

1st Wednesday of the Month  
6:30pm Social  
7:00 pm Meeting  
at Boston Store  
(Boston Mills Rd.)  
Cuyahoga Valley  
National Park

## *President*

Patricia Vance  
[pavancelaw@aol.com](mailto:pavancelaw@aol.com)  
(330) 836-9358

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[www.medinacountyohc.com](http://www.medinacountyohc.com)

## NEWSLETTER

Copy Deadline 8:00 p.m. on the  
Friday after the  
Monthly General Meeting  
Stacy Sadar, PO Box 247  
Richfield, OH 44286  
330-659-7155 ext.201  
[stacy@medinacountyohc.com](mailto:stacy@medinacountyohc.com)

If you have received  
donations, you need to get the  
Business Card to Stacy Sadar  
for inclusion in the newsletter.

## **Advertising Deadline**

**1st of the Month**  
**MOHC members get business**  
**card size ad for FREE!**

For all other Prices contact:  
Stacy Sadar  
OR  
Linda Weese

Ad Prices are listed on the  
Website too!

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Patricia Vance, [pavancelaw@aol.com](mailto:pavancelaw@aol.com) 330-836-9358

Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, President's Day – February is a whole month of days! And so, it will soon be March! Winter came in and is still with us, but just the other day we had a bit warmer breeze and even some sunshine so we will not lose hope, spring will come in.

We have not had meetings in January or February but your committees are busy.

25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary committee, Rosemary Young and Cynthia Greene have been investigating some very interesting possibilities for this event.

Your trail committee had our first quarterly meeting with the Park this month. We set up the trail work session dates. (they are in this newsletter –mark them on your calendars!). We also set up dates for various projects to be accomplished this season. A lot was accomplished in 2010 to improve our beloved trails and these projects will continue. You are all invited to join us. It is due to the efforts of all of us that all this gets accomplished and our trails get better and better improved.

Our first session set for March 12 unless the ground is covered with snow, then it will be March 19. We will send out email notices if there is any change and of course check the web site or call one of your trail committee. Our contact info is in this newsletter. We will meet at Covered Bridge lot. We will be clearing leaves, culverts and ditches. This is very important. We got a lot of the leaves last fall, but due to winter's arrival and snow, we were not able to get to all the areas. When we get the leaves off, (leaves hold water) the dirt will be able to dry quickly and harden up as early in spring there is not leaf cover on the trees to shade the trails.

If we can make arrangements, after the March trail work session, instead of Karen's Kwiseene we will head over to Hale Farm for pancakes and maple syrup. Anyone who shows up just in time for lunch will need to pay for their own lunch. The club provides lunch for volunteers who

actually work on trail or otherwise contribute to the trail work session that day.

Plans for Celebration 2011 are underway. This is year 19 for our annual event. We continue to receive many compliments about our great volunteers who are on hand during the event and preparing for the event. The competitors tell us this is the best of all the rides. Mark your calendars. July 8, 9, 10. This is our major fund raiser. Be a part of it!

We have a report of the passing of one of our club's founding members, Al Garrett. Several years ago Al was injured in a horse accident and had been residing in a care center. We long time trail crew members recall the time when our volunteers, with the help of Dan Manning, were assigned to build the bridge which is over a drainage on the trail in the pines along the connector road. Due to a mixup in location, Al was not at the site when we all arrived to begin the project. Dan acknowledged to us he is not a carpenter. Phil Urbank was away on vacation somewhere and Mike had not yet joined the club. So we decided to give it a try and began to build the bridge. All of a sudden, Al drove by. I ran out to stop him. He said he was not prepared to help us. But we convinced him and he came over. The first thing he pointed out was that our beginning of a bridge was very crooked. So we took apart what we had done and the project then proceeded under the guidance of a master carpenter. Al had many funny stories to tell and we all learned a lot and had a good time and the bridge was done right. Give a thought to Al next time you ride over that bridge.

Our first meeting of 2011 is March 2, refreshments at 6:30, meeting at 7pm at Boston Store.

Thanks to all of you who help make this club the great and successful organization that it is.

Patricia Vance, President

# NOW IS THE TIME!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Yes, now is the time to start keeping track of your trail mileage and saddle hours for 2011. From what I've heard, some keep a sheet of paper posted in their trailer with a conveniently attached pencil, some buy an inexpensive calendar to use exclusively for recording horse related activities – good also for keeping track of worming schedules, vaccinations, turnouts etc. At the end of the year, just tally up mileage, hours and locations send them in. A lot of time is spent on your horse, so you might as well get credit for all those miles and saddle hours.

For the reporting year 2010, 55 members reported 18,620 miles ridden, and 3912 saddle hours. Top mileage reporters were Sammy Kendrick: 1545, Kathy Tompkins: 1190, Jack Weese: 680, Brigitte and Don Colloca: 670, and Teresa Heger 651. Mary Vedda and Larry Owens were top saddle hour reporters. Top riding locations for Medina Members continue to be the Cuyahoga Valley National Park: 6309 miles, Hinckley: 2184 miles, and Brecksville 1361 miles. This year, members also reported 946 miles ridden out of state, with locations varying from neighboring states to as far as Ocala National Forest in Florida, and Yosemite National Park.

## TRAIL MILEAGE AND SADDLE HOURS

(Information from state OHC website)

Saddle Hours and Trail Mileage are *different* from each other. Time on the trail is reported as MILEAGE and time in the saddle **not** on the trail, is reported as HOURS. See below for more detailed definitions.

### A. Trail Mileage Definition

Our state, national and county parks and forests provide many miles of trails for riding and driving. Our state agencies have an interest in knowing where we are riding and how much the trails are being used. Reportable trail mileage is miles ridden on trails that traverse multiple types of terrain. Because some areas of the state have only limited trail systems, miles ridden on county and state roadways are reportable trail miles. Miles ridden in an arena, small field, or on a track do not qualify as trail mileage but can be reported under riding hours.

### B. Riding Hours (Saddle Hours) Definition

Our members have a wide variety of equine interests. Hours in the saddle showing and competing, pleasure driving, riding in parades and schooling can all be counted toward the member's lifetime achievement record.

### Trail Mileage and Saddle Hour Reporting

Trail Mileage: There are three categories for trail mileage—PK/FRST, PUB/PRV and STX.

**PK/FRST:** Park and forest trail miles are miles ridden on a legally designated trail in any park or forest owned by a city, a county, the state of Ohio, or the federal government within the state of Ohio.

**PUB/PRV:** Public trail miles are miles ridden on a trail that is open to the general public and is owned by an individual or organization. A fee to use these trails may or may not be required. Miles ridden on rails-to-trails, county and state roadways are also considered public trail miles. Private trail miles are miles ridden on a trail that is NOT open to the general public and is owned by an individual or organization.

**STX:** Out-of-state trail miles are miles ridden on trails that match any of the above criteria but, are ridden in a state other than Ohio.

### How to calculate Trail Mileage and Saddle Hours

Unfortunately, horses don't come with odometers and no genius has come up with one yet that we know of. The only way to determine miles ridden is to estimate. Good estimating skills come from having accurate references. The best way to obtain that is to ride your horse on several types of trails where you can accurately assess the number of miles ridden. Keep track of the time that it takes you to ride this distance (do not include breaks and the time it may take you to get your horse to cross the water obstacle!). This should help you get a pretty good estimate of your MPH (miles per hour).

Minutes to go 1 mile	Speed in MPH
30	2 MPH
20	3 MPH
17	3.5 MPH
15	4 MPH
13	4.5 MPH
12	5 MPH
11	5.5 MPH
10	6 MPH
9	6.5 MPH
8.5	7 MPH
8	7.5 MPH
7.5	8 MPH
6	10 MPH
5	12 MPH

Most seasoned trail riders estimate MPH at 2.5 to 5 miles per hour depending on the gait ridden. The typical horse walks at 3-4 MPH, trots at 8-10 MPH and lopes at 10-17MPH. If you have a good mile stretch of area that you can practice the following table will help you estimate your horses MPH.

### Saddle Hours

There are three primary categories for saddle hour reporting--Competing, Schooling and Pleasure Driving.

**Competing:** Keep track of any hours that you spend in the saddle competing. This may be at any type of show or competition. Breed shows, open shows, ranch horse competitions, extreme cowboy races, etc are all examples of what would fall into this category.

**Schooling:** Many of us work daily with our horses to continuously improve their performance or to keep them (and us!) in shape. This category would include clinics, lessons and working in your home arena.

**Pleasure Driving:** This category is for members that enjoy their horses from the on top a cart or rig. Hours reported in this category are for any hours spent driving for pleasure--whether schooling, competing or just enjoying the trail.

# Why do you do it?

People frequently ask me that question. You don't ride a horse, so why are you so involved? Well, when I first got involved it was because Jack, my husband, was involved with OHC. Then, I found that I enjoyed being around horses (but not too close) and the people who love those beasts. Plus, it was fun!

But then I soon found out that OHC is a great organization because of the members who care about: all breeds of horses, all disciplines of horsemen, the major issues that involve equine and their owners in this country, the horse trails, and promoting fabulous events for horsemen. OHC members are involved in accomplishing great things all over the State of Ohio. Their good relationship with ODNR and other state and national agencies is imperative to the well being of horses and horsemen in Ohio. I came to believe in OHC and decided to lend a hand whenever there was a way to help that didn't involve climbing on one of those magnificent beasts.

So why am I a Medina OHC member? My husband Jack loves the trails in the CVNP. The Medina Chapter was formed because folks were passionate to ride in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. That passion for the trails continues today. Just ask any of the horsemen who regularly ride the CVNP. Medina OHC has three dedicated Trail Co-Chairmen who scope the trails and have many planning sessions in preparation for park meetings and also the work party adventures. Talk about passion, there was a big response from horsemen when the park asked for input on the new CVNP Trail Management Plan. Thanks to OHC members who came out for several lengthy meetings to work on our OHC Stakeholder Response to the Trail Management Plan. Sincere thanks go to all OHC members who come out to the Work Party Adventures and contribute greatly to keeping the horse trails in the CVNP among the very best in Ohio. Just ask folks at our August State Ride what they think of our trails. We've had a couple of folks who have said they are sending in their reservation now for our August State Ride so they won't miss out on the fun!

Then, what about those special things that Medina OHC does to make life fun not only for its members but for others as well? There's the Spring Ahead Ride, the Celebration Competitive Ride, the OHC State Ride and Pig Roast, the Obstacle Ride, the Halloween Gala and Clambake, and the Holiday Dinner. And, we can't forget our work party sessions followed by those fabulous light lunches or the fun we have at our meetings.

Getting involved at the State OHC level is a great way to get informed and also make friends from all corners of Ohio. I love it! OHC is a great organization. In fact, the Ohio Horseman's Council is continually growing. There are now 65 County Chapters in Ohio. The Meigs, Jackson, Gallia County Chapters in the SE and the Fayette County Chapter in the SW are newly formed chapters in the last year.

My involvement with the state OHC Equine Affaire Booth Committee has been both worthwhile and rewarding. OHC members are great! It's totally amazing to me when you combine the efforts of all 65 County Chapters in Ohio. It actually blows the mind --- it's huge when you think of the accomplishments of all of those chapters and their members for horses and horsemen in Ohio.

So I will ask you instead ----- get involved ----- why wouldn't I?

Linda Weese



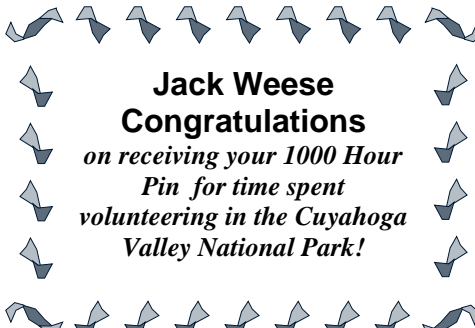
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**Big Dee Bonus Bucks**

Don't forget to ask Big Dee's for **Medina OHC BONUS BUCKS** when you shop online at [www.bigdweb.com](http://www.bigdweb.com) or at Big Dee's Tack & Vet Supply Store at 9998 SR 43, Streetsboro, Ohio 44241 We earn 5% of your purchase!



**Jack Weese Congratulations**  
on receiving your 1000 Hour Pin for time spent volunteering in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park!

## Jack's Stall ~ February 2011

As I am writing the sun is shining, the temperature is above freezing and spring is on the way. Life is good.

Lots of things have been and are going on with OHC. A NE Region regional meeting was held January 29, 2011 at the Yellowtail Japanese restaurant in Fairlawn. There were approximately 25 OHCers present representing at least 10 of the 15 NE Region chapters. Reuss Griffiths, Patricia Vance, Jack Weese and Linda Weese represented MOHC. Carolyn Sullivan of Summit County and Penny Passalacqua and Bonnie Evans Evans of Cuyahoga County were also at the meeting.

The NE Region is the host region at the State Meeting coming up March 6, 2011 at the Eagles Lodge in Delaware, Ohio. JoEllen, our regional representative is coordinating the many details that go into hosting a state meeting. It was so nice to see so many folks step up to head key activities. Additional help will be needed on the meeting day. Chapters need to donate desserts. There will also be a silent auction. If you have equine related items that you would like to donate for the silent auction please get them to Linda Weese, Reuss Griffiths or myself. We will be attending the State Meeting. The proceeds will be split between the OHC Youth Program and the Brecksville Stables.

The State Meeting is open to all members and everyone is encouraged to attend. The Executive Cabinet of which JoEllen is a member replaced the Executive Council a few years back in the scheme of OHC government. That now means every State Meeting is now a General Meeting and every member attending is entitled to vote on the issues of the day. MOHC in an effort to increase participation at the state level will purchase lunch for all MOHC Primary Members who attend. Reservations need to be made by Feb. 25. If you wish to attend please notify Linda Weese who will make the reservations for our group. We also attempt to car pool whenever we can.

The OHC booth at the Equine Affaire 2011 will highlight each of the five regions. At the Regional Meeting ideas for the NE Region display were kicked about and several folks expressed their desire to help with this project. I think that the region will be presented in a very positive upbeat manner. I would guess that by now most of you know that Linda Weese is the Booth Committee Chairman and if I must say so a mighty fine one. Of course I may be a bit influenced by the amount of work that I see that she puts into seeing that the OHC Booth is the nicest and most informative booth of all of the booths at Equine Affaire.

The MOHC Trail Committee met with Bill Zimmer and Kim Norley 2-1-11 at the first Quarterly Meeting of the year. The work session calendar was finalized subject to change. It was the first Quarterly Meeting that I have missed in a long, long time. The snow was just a little too much for me.

I am ready to resume work on our lovely trails. The first couple of sessions will involve general clean up work and leaf blowing. Getting the leaves off of the trails really speeds up the drying out process and cuts down on the mud repair work. We will resume work session camping at Robinson Field as the weather permits.

Our first club activity is the infamous Spring Ahead Ride. March 27 is the date; Hinckley is the place, ride out at 10 am and tailgate lunch after the ride. I hope to see a big bunch of you shaking off the winter cobwebs at the ride. We always have a wonderful day. Even if you are unable to get your trailer out of a remaining snowdrift, come out, have lunch and enjoy the fun and fellowship. I would love to see more MOHC members and friends taking part in little events like this. We need to spend time enjoying our horses, communing with nature and having adventures and misadventures that become more awesome with each telling.

I have not completely discarded the "Over The Top" judged trail ride competition; however, I do not want to take on the complete responsibility for the event. I hope that several of you will step forward to work with me and that at the March 2 club meeting we agree to move forward with the event and start getting the event publicized so that we can have a super number of riders enjoying testing themselves and their horses. I have been receiving some email requests for information regarding the event. We need to decide one way or the other what we want to do so that folks can plan their September calendar.

On Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> Linda and I attended a Volunteer Enrichment program at Happy Days Lodge. CVNP Superintendent Stan Austin spoke of his visions of the future of CVNP. I feel that CVNP is in very capable hands. Deb Yolanda of the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park explained the reasons for the name change from the Cuyahoga Valley National Park Association. The Lodge was packed with volunteers and some very insightful questions were asked during the question and answer session after the speaker's presentations. Most importantly, the refreshments were of the highest quality and extremely tasty.

Willie and I continue to have our misadventures. This is the latest. We were out in the field behind the barn and Willie was being Willie. His back feet slid out from under him and we gently ended up on our sides in the snow. I ended up with my coat pocket full of snow. Don't you just hate it when something like that happens? Willie is fine and my coat will recuperate.

As always may your horse be with you as you traverse the trails of life because no matter how badly behaved you are, your horse always gives you a second chance.

See you on the trail and at a work session.

*Jack Weese*

## **THE OHC BOOTHS**

### **Equine Affaire<sup>®</sup>, April 7- 10, 2011**

Ohio Expo Center ~ Breed Pavilion in the Voinovich Center



#### ***STOP BY FOR A VISIT OR VOLUNTEER TO BE A BOOTH GREETER!***

Visit your Regions special Area in the OHC Main Booth.

See your Chapter Banner, Chapter Book, and Chapter Promo Page on display.

Stop by the Youth Booth for the OHC Youth Photo Contest.

**OHC MEMBER BOOTH GREETERS** are needed from all 5 Regions of OHC.

*Sign up for 2- hour shifts. Volunteer for as many shifts as you like.*

**Greeters are needed on Thursday through Sunday ----- April 7, 8, 9, and 10**

*You'll have a very good time talking OHC and Horses!*

**Help Set-Up on Wed. April 6 starting at Noon.**

**Help Tear-Down on Sunday April 10 at 5:00 PM.**

**Volunteers sign-up by emailing: [webmaster@ohiohorsemanscouncil.com](mailto:webmaster@ohiohorsemanscouncil.com)  
or contacting Linda Weese at 440-234-9668 or [Lsweese@aol.com](mailto:Lsweese@aol.com).**

**When you sign up include: Your Name, Chapter, Region, Days & Times, Phone No., Email**

From the archives ----

#### ***Happy 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Medina County Chapter! 1986 to 2011***

According to information found in the Medina OHC Archives - - - "George Windate's bold leadership and strategic planning got the ball rolling." A Charter Membership Meeting was called for all interested horse people to attend a meeting on Sunday March 2, 1986 at 1:00 PM at the Old Phoenix National bank in Sharon Center, OH. The Medina County Chapter of the Ohio Horseman's Council was officially formed.

#### **The very first meeting flyer said:**

**"HELP US MAKE A DREAM -----A REALITY! OUR GOAL IS TO CREATE AN EQUESTRIAN TRAIL SYSTEM THROUGH THE MAGNIFICENT CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL RECREATION AREA. BY FORMING AN OHIO HORSEMAN'S COUNCIL CHAPTER IN OUR AREA WE WILL HAVE THE STRENGTH OF THE OHC TO ACCOMPLISH OUR GOAL."**

To our Charter and Early Medina OHC Members we say Thank You! Because of your vision, your perseverance, your dedication, your determination, your hard work, and your love of trail riding, we have wonderful equestrian trails in the magnificent Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

***THE DREAM LIVES ON ---- MEDINA OHC!***

## Medina OHC

[www.medinacountyohc.com](http://www.medinacountyohc.com) or [www.ohiohorsemanscouncil.com](http://www.ohiohorsemanscouncil.com)

**Meetings/General Information:** Patricia Vance, [pavancelaw@aol.com](mailto:pavancelaw@aol.com), (330) 836-9358

**Membership/General Information:** Rosemary Young, [mohotta@prodigy.net](mailto:mohotta@prodigy.net), (440) 884-7994

**Trail Co-Chairs - Work Party Adventures information:**

Mike Andrea, [mlandrea03@yahoo.com](mailto:mlandrea03@yahoo.com), Cell (330) 592-5953

Patricia Vance, [pavancelaw@aol.com](mailto:pavancelaw@aol.com), (330) 836-9358

Jack Weese, [weesej@att.net](mailto:weesej@att.net), Home (440) 234-9668, Cell (216) 780-9668

**Website/Newsletter/Advertising:** Stacy Sadar, [stacy@medinacountyohc.com](mailto:stacy@medinacountyohc.com), (330)-659-2551 x201

### ***MEDINA CO. OHC - our 25TH YEAR! 2011 Schedule of Events***

March 2 (Wed) – **Medina OHC 1st Meeting of 2011**, Boston Store, CVNP, Social 6:30, Meeting at 7:00 PM. Bring a snack to share!

March 6 (Sun) – **State OHC Meeting**, Eagles Lodge, Delaware, OH. Meeting begins at 10:30 am, lunch at noon, meeting resumes at 1 pm, meeting ends at 4 pm. Lunch Reservations required.

All members are welcome to attend! [www.ohiohorsemanscouncil.com](http://www.ohiohorsemanscouncil.com)

March 12 (Sat) – **Medina OHC - Work Party Adventure**, CVNP, 8:30 AM, Location TBA

March 27 - Medina OHC - SPRING AHEAD RIDE at Hinckley Trailhead (606) Ride out at 10:00 AM, Tailgate afterwards, bring a snack to share! Jack Weese, [weesej@att.net](mailto:weesej@att.net), Home (440) 234-9668, Cell (216) 780-9668

April 6 (Wed) – **Medina OHC Meeting** - Boston Store, CVNP, Social 6:30, Meeting 7:00 PM. Bring a snack or dessert to share!

April 6 (Wed) **OHC Booth Setup at Equine Affaire** – *Help needed!* Contact Linda Weese, (440) 234-9668, Cell (216) 319-2252

April 7 - 10 (Thurs.- Sun.) - **Visit the OHC Booth at Equine Affaire**, Voinovich Building, Expo Center, State Fairgrounds, Columbus, Ohio *OHC members are needed as Booth Greeters. Please Volunteer.*

April 10 (Sun.) – **OHC Booth Teardown at Equine Affaire - 5:00 pm - Help needed!**

April 23 (Sat) – **Work Party Adventure**, CVNP, 8:30 AM, Meeting location TBA.

*Volunteer horse camping at Robinson if weather and field conditions permit.*

May 4 (Wed) - **Medina OHC Meeting**, Boston Store, CVNP, Social 6:30, Meeting 7:00 PM.

May 21 (Sat) – **Medina OHC - Work Party Adventure**, CVNP, 8:30 AM, Robinson Field

Depending on weather and field conditions – there may be camping for OHC Work party volunteers

May 19 – 22 – All American Youth Horse Show, Ohio Expo Center at Columbus

OHC volunteers are needed on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday to open and close gates at the Coliseum!

Information: Jack Weese, 440-234-9668, 216-780-9668, [weesej@att.net](mailto:weesej@att.net)

June 1 – (Wed) - **Medina OHC Meeting**, Boston Store, CVNP, Social 6:30, Meeting 7:00 PM.

June 4 - (Sat) – Cuyahoga Co. OHC, National Trails Day N. E. Regional Ride, Brecksville

Stables, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. Debbie Mitterholzer at [mitterholzer@yahoo.com](mailto:mitterholzer@yahoo.com) .

June 25 – (Sat) **Work Party Adventure**, meet at Robinson Field, CVNP, 8:30 AM,

Work party volunteers may camp with their horses Fri. - Sun.

**July 7 (Thur) - Medina OHC Meeting and Tent Setup at Howe Meadow ► NOTE CHANGE OF DATE & PLACE ◀**

**July 8-10 – (Fri – Sun.) - Medina OHC - CELEBRATION COMPETITIVE TRAIL** Compete or Volunteer – you'll have fun!

Howe Meadow, CVNP. Patricia Vance, [competitiveride@aol.com](mailto:competitiveride@aol.com), (330) 836-9358

July 23 (Sat) – **Medina OHC Work Party Adventure**, CVNP, 8:30 AM, Robinson Field

OHC Work party volunteers may camp with their horses Fri. – Sun.

August 3 (Wed) - **Medina OHC Meeting**, Boston Store, CVNP, Social 6:30, Meeting 7:00 PM.

August 3, 4 (Wed., Thurs.) – Trail Work Days at Barkcamp in conjunction with *The Gibby Ride*.

August 5, 6, 7 – (Fri., Sat., Sun.) OHC STATE TRAIL RIDE – *The Gibby Ride* at Barkcamp

[www.ohiohorsemanscouncil.com](http://www.ohiohorsemanscouncil.com), Jack Weese, [weesej@att.net](mailto:weesej@att.net) 440-234-9668

August 19, 20, 21 – (Fri. - Sun) **MEDINA OHC - STATE RIDE, Pig Roast, Robinson Field, CVNP**  
**Jack Weese, [weesej@att.net](mailto:weesej@att.net), (440) 234-9668**

August 13 – (Sat) **Medina OHC Work Party Adventure, Robinson Field, CVNP, 8:30 AM**  
 OHC Work party volunteers may camp with their horses Fri. – Sun.

Sept 7 (Wed) - **Medina OHC Meeting**, Boston Store, CVNP. Social 6:30, Meeting 7:00 PM Please bring a snack to share!

Sept 10 – (Sat) – **Medina Work Party Adventure, Robinson Field, CVNP, 8:30 AM**  
 Work party volunteers may camp with their horses Fri. – Sun.

Sept. 16-18 - STATE RIDE at Mohican – Chili Cookoff – Wayne County

Sept.– Cracked OAATS Crunch Competitive Trail Ride, [www.oaats.org](http://www.oaats.org)

Oct. 5 – (Wed) **Medina OHC Meeting**, Boston Store, CVNP, Social 6:30, Meeting 7:00 PM Please bring a snack to share!

Oct. 8 – (Sat) **Medina Work Party Adventure, Robinson Field, CVNP, 8:30 AM**  
 Work party volunteers may camp with their horses Fri. – Sun.

October 21-23 – **Medina OHC Halloween Gala and Clambake Weekend**

Nov. 2 – (Wed) **Medina OHC Meeting (ELECTION of OFFICERS)**  
 Boston Store, CVNP, Social 6:30, Meeting 7:00 PM, Please bring a snack or dessert to share!

Nov. 6 – **OHC State Meeting**, Eagles Lodge, Delaware, OH

Nov. 19 – (Sat) **Medina OHC Work Party with Trails Council. 8:30 AM**, Location TBA

Dec. 7 (Wed) **Medina OHC Meeting**, Boston Store, CVNP, Social 6:30, Meeting 7:00 pm Please bring a dessert or snack to share!

## **Medina OHC Club Clothing**

It's never too early to be thinking about what you'll be wearing when you get back out on the trails in 2011! For you hardy winter trail riders, there is still a selection of hoodies, both zip and pullover style, as well as crewneck sweatshirts, available for purchase. Call or email Kathy Tompkins if there is something you are looking for – 330-353-1412 or [KTompki1@its.nj.com](mailto:KTompki1@its.nj.com).

New to the club clothing is a wonderful jacket! We now can offer a large Medina OHC logo for the backside of this jacket or any of the sweatshirts/hoodies. Many of you may have seen this large embroidered logo on Jack Weese's jacket. He bought a state OHC jacket with state OHC logo on the chest and we embroidered the Medina OHC logo on the backside – it looks fabulous! If you have a jacket or sweatshirt you would like to have embroidered with the large Medina OHC logo on the backside, the cost is \$25.00 (for embroidered back logo only) for your own item (will need to be determined whether your article is suitable for embroidery). Denim jackets for order are also a possibility, if anyone interested, will get price for you.

**Athletic Jacket** - \$55.00 includes both chest logo and large back logo - Sizes: XS to XL. Colors: royal blue, red, maroon, hunter green, bright navy and black. All are lined with a light grey fleece lining. Logo - your choice of color. Sizes 2XXL to 6XXL - \$60.00

**Long Sleeve Unisex T-Shirt** - \$18.00 – Sizes XS to XL. 100% Cotton, preshrunk. Oodles of colors to choose from. Logo - your choice of color.

**Zip-Hoodies** - \$33.00 – Sizes XS to XL. Black, navy, red, grey. This item runs large. Logo - your choice of color. Larger sizes available.

**Pullover Hoodies** - \$29.00 – Sizes XS to XL. Black, navy, red, grey. Logo - your choice of color. Larger sizes available.

**Crewneck Sweatshirt** - \$22.00 – Sizes XS to XL. Black, navy, red, grey. Logo - your choice of color. Larger sizes available.

## **TRAIL PLAN**

**Our chapter was one of the three stakeholders representing the equestrian trail users. Along with Cuyahoga and Summit chapters, we took an active part in the initial process of the trail plan providing initial input and then responding to the Draft Alternatives proposed by the Trail Planner.**

**All of you have seen our response, it appears on the web site of each of the three chapters.**

**We have now received the latest Trail Plan newsletter from the Park. Please read through it located on the next few pages. You will see that our input and suggestions were considered and included.**

**We will continue to keep in close contact with this exciting enterprise. If you have any questions, let us know.**

**Patricia Vance, President Medina OHC**



# Trail Management Plan

## Draft Alternatives Draw Public Input

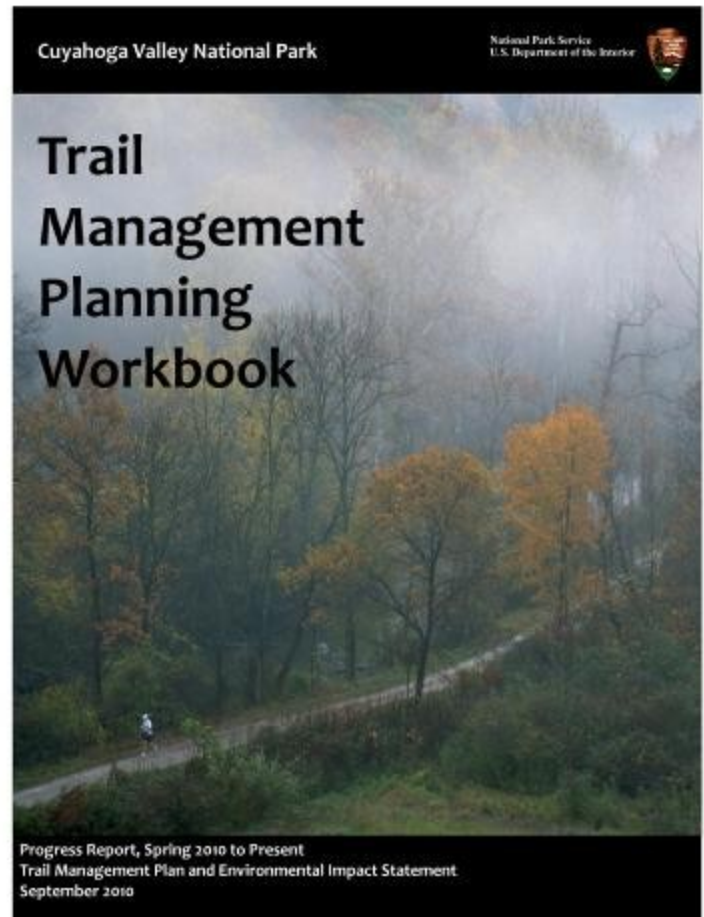
The National Park Service presented its first set of Draft Alternatives for Cuyahoga Valley National Park's Trail Management Plan. The Trail Management Planning Workbook provided a comprehensive update of the planning process and introduced draft alternatives for public review and input.

The Draft Alternatives were the first step in placing ideas on paper for the future trail system in Cuyahoga Valley National Park. The Draft Alternatives were based upon ideas from initial public scoping that included input from stakeholders of various user groups, park management, park partners, and information collected on current park use and operations. The six Draft Alternatives included a wide-range of trail recommendations, including specific restoration actions for existing trails to wide-range partnerships with local communities to expand bike lanes within the park boundaries.

The National Park Service invited the public to review and provide input on these initial Draft Alternatives in September, 2010. A summary of input received can be found on page 2 of this newsletter. Thanks to all who took time to participate and provide their input to the planning process thus far.

### In this Newsletter Issue:

- ◆ **General Summary of Input received for Draft Alternatives**
- ◆ **Overview of Environmental Impact Statement Process**
- ◆ **Old Carriage Trail Project Update**
- ◆ **Appreciation of Trail Plan Volunteers**
- ◆ **What's Next in the Planning Process**



### Cuyahoga Valley National Park Mission:

*To preserve and protect for public use and enjoyment the historic, scenic, natural, and recreational values of the Cuyahoga River and the adjacent lands of the Cuyahoga Valley and for the purpose of providing for the maintenance of recreational open space necessary to the urban environment.*

*(Public Law 93-555)*

## Message from the Superintendent

Dear Friends,

The planning process for the Cuyahoga Valley National Park Trail Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement continues to move forward. In 2010, the park initiated a broad public input process that included meetings in February and September with hundreds of park users taking their time to participate in the planning for the park's future trail system.

In 2011, we will be moving into the next stage of work for the Trail Plan that will produce a Draft Comprehensive Plan. We will invite you to provide your input once again, once the Draft Plan is complete in the coming year.

Thank you for assisting us throughout the various stages of the Trail Plan. Your participation is appreciated and continues to bring ideas to our staff in developing a comprehensive trail system that everyone can enjoy in years to come. See you on the Trails!

Stan Austin  
Superintendent

## The Trail Management Plan Partners

The Rivers, Trails, Conservation Assistance Program of the National Park Service is a partner in the public engagement process and development of the Trail Management Plan.

Cuyahoga Valley National Park has established an agreement with Cleveland Metroparks and Metro Parks, Serving Summit County to serve as administrative partners for the Trail Management Planning Process for their park units within Cuyahoga Valley National Park boundaries.

Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park's mission is to engage public support for the park and enhance public use and enjoyment of the park.



# Draft Alternative Public Input Overview

The Park invited the public to provide input on the Draft Alternatives for the Trail Management Plan, through the distribution of the Trail Management Plan Workbook, four public meetings, and the Trail Plan project website. The Park received over 600 comments from 175 individuals and groups on the Draft Alternatives. The comments reflect the wide range of trail users and park visitors that visit the park. A summary of the comments is provided in the adjacent box.

The park has reviewed all comments and continue to work on integrating the ideas into revised final alternatives that will be evaluated in the Environmental Impact Statement. Major revisions to the Draft Alternatives will include:

- Incorporating the restoration of existing trails in all Action Alternatives
- Longer mountain bike trails that are separate from equestrian trails
- New equestrian trails
- New cross-country ski trails
- Longer hiking trail experiences
- Trail and river campsites, and river access will be incorporated into all alternatives.

All stakeholders will have an opportunity to review and provide input to the revised Alternatives when the Draft Trail Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement are complete.

## Summary of Comments Received on Draft Trail Alternatives

- Restoration of existing trails is essential.
- Improved maintenance of existing trails is needed.
- Trailside and riverside campsites provide potential for new trail experiences.
- Paddle/canoe access provides the potential for new park experiences.
- Expressed desires both for and against:
  - More trails
  - More equestrian trails
  - Mountain bike trails
- A desire for longer mountain bike trails
- Shared use of trails between equestrian and mountain bike users is not desired
- Cross-country skiing only trails should be identified.
- Trail connections both within and outside the Park has the potential for improved user experiences.



## Appreciation to Trail Plan Field Volunteers

When the 1985 Trail Plan was assembled, the Park had very limited staff to carry out extensive scoping for the Plan. Many of the ideas outlined in the 1985 plan were a direct result of the many citizens with interests in hiking, biking, running, cross-country skiing, and horseback riding heading out into the park to explore and identify areas for future trails. To carry on the spirit set forth in the 1985 Plan and the citizenry that this Park was established upon, the 2010 Trail Plan invited volunteers to explore areas identified during public scoping. Over the summer and fall, volunteers logged 75 volunteer hours to explore miles of parkland with the Trail Planner where trails were proposed during public scoping. These outings assisted the park to initially evaluate proposed areas and their conditions for consideration in the Draft Trail Plan Alternatives. The park recognizes their time and give thanks for their volunteering efforts in sometimes very warm and less than ideal hiking conditions.

### Trail Plan Field Volunteers:

Frank Dessoffy  
Laura DeYoung  
Tom Fritsch  
Greg Gantzer  
Aaron Hall  
Dan Nelson  
Nancy Piltch  
Tim Rhodes  
John Sorna  
Brian Squire  
Patricia Vance  
Craig Wood

## Environmental Impact Analysis— How it Works

The Cuyahoga Valley National Park Trail Management Plan is being developed utilizing the framework required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and NPS Director's Order 12. NEPA governs the process of decision-making when a federal agency proposes any action that has the potential to affect the human environment. When those effects are expected to be significantly beneficial or adverse, NEPA requires the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), the most comprehensive evaluation process. The scope, content, and park-wide nature of the Trail Plan led the Park to decide this was the appropriate level of compliance with NEPA.

As the park refines the Trail Plan Alternatives, the next step will be to evaluate the impacts they each may have on the park resources.

The EIS achieves this through:

- Identifying impact topics relevant to the park and the proposed action, (completed during the scoping process)
- Describing the park resources that may be affected by the action (the "affected environment")
- Identifying impact indicators and thresholds to both measure and evaluate each impact. The impacts, both direct and indirect, of each alternative will be evaluated and compared to each other. Evaluation of impacts to park resources will include the short-term, long-term, and cumulative effects for each alternative.

Once the impact analysis is complete, a Draft Trail Management Plan/EIS will be released for public review. Public input will then be considered before completing a Final Trail Management Plan/EIS.

## Old Carriage Trail Project Update

One of the most beloved trails within Cuyahoga Valley National Park is the Old Carriage Trail located in the mid-section of the park. The Old Carriage Trail has all of the elements of a great trail; challenging terrain, history, scenic beauty, and easy connections to neighborhoods and the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail. In late 2009, a portion of the Old Carriage Trail was closed due to the unsafe conditions of its bridges. Many of the Old Carriage Trail and park users have contacted the park stating your desire to re-open the Old Carriage Trail. Rest assured, we feel the same way.

Unfortunately, the site conditions that have made the experience of these bridges so special for the public are the same site conditions that contributed to their unexpected degradation and will make the ultimate solutions challenging and costly.

In 2011, the park in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration, will be working on a formal engineering evaluation of the bridges and various options for the future of the trail. These options may include repair of existing bridges, replacement with new bridges, re-routing of trail, and other options that may be developed. Options will be evaluated based upon many factors, including feasibility, sustainability, support of the park's mission, and environmental impacts. Estimated costs of different options will be determined.

Once a recommended approach is decided upon, developing a funding plan for the recommendation will follow.

The park will continue to keep the public and Old Carriage Trail users informed on the progress throughout the year.

www.nps.gov/cuva  
www.dayinthevalley.com

This newsletter was produced in connection with the Cuyahoga Valley National Park Trail Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement.

Volume 1, Issue 3 (Winter, 2011)

Cuyahoga Valley National Park  
15610 Vaughn Road  
Brecksville, Ohio 44141

For more information about this newsletter or to sign up to receive future newsletters, contact:

Lynn Garrity  
Trail Planner  
Cuyahoga Valley National Park  
440-343-4803  
lynn\_garrity@nps.gov

## Trail Plan: What's Next

Cuyahoga Valley National Park has been working on a number of activities to move the Trail Management Plan process forward. These include reviewing all of the comments received on the Draft Alternatives, refining purpose, need, goals and objectives, developing Sustainable Trail Guidelines, refining Trail Plan Alternatives, and identifying Environmental Impact Statement issues for the Impact Analysis. In 2011, the Park will be developing a Draft Trail Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement. Once the Draft Plan is complete, the park will invite the public to review and provide input to its contents. The Draft Plan for public review will likely not be available until Summer, 2011.

Any updates regarding the plan will be available on the NPS park planning website at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/cuyahogatrailplan>. Contact Lynn Garrity, Trail Planner to be added to the Trail Management Plan mailing/email list.

We look forward to continuing to work with everyone on the comprehensive trail plan for Cuyahoga Valley National Park in 2011. Stay Tuned.



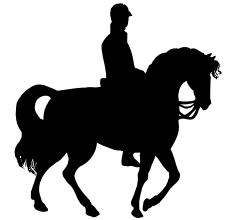
## Work Party Days will be here soon!



**Please come out and help!**  
**See MOHC schedule for work party dates.**



# 2011



## Northeast Regional Rides

<b>Stark County</b>	<b>May 1</b>	<b>Towpath Ride</b>	<b>Jill Eckroad</b> 330-833-9204 <a href="mailto:Tbarj@sssnet.com">Tbarj@sssnet.com</a>
<b>Columbiana County</b>	<b>May 14</b>	<b>Beaver Creek</b>	<b>Rita Anderson</b> 724-777-1897 andersonfarm44095@yahoo.com
<b>Cuyahoga County</b>	<b>June 4</b>	<b>Brecksville Reservation Cleveland Metroparks</b>	<b>Penny Passalacqua</b> 440-248-0156 <a href="mailto:pennyohc@sbcglobal.net">pennyohc@sbcglobal.net</a>
<b>Jefferson County</b>	<b>June 11-12</b>	<b>Jefferson Lake</b>	<b>Ron Waggoner</b> 740-407-6284
<b>Wayne County</b>	<b>July 1-4</b>	<b>Mohican State Forest</b>	<b>Ray Jenkins</b> 330-927-5231 rawva38@embarqmail.com
<b>Medina County</b>	<b>Aug 12-14</b>	<b>Cuyahoga Valley</b>	<b>Jack Weese</b> 440-234-9668 weesej@att.net
<b>Lake County</b>	<b>Aug 28</b>	<b>Holden Arboretum (Chincapin Camp) (Baldwin Field)</b>	<b>Michelle Sheliga</b> 440-635-0596 <a href="mailto:Sheliga1@windstream.net">Sheliga1@windstream.net</a>
<b>Lorain County</b>	<b>Sept 9-11</b>	<b>CharleMont Reservaton</b>	<b>Sandy Shudy</b> 440-225-2457 horsecrazy5923@windstream.net
<b>Carroll County</b>	<b>Sept 16-18</b>	<b>Harrison State Forest</b>	<b>Kathy Ross</b> 330-739-2432 <a href="mailto:krossterry@gmail.com">krossterry@gmail.com</a>
<b>Geauga County</b>	<b>Oct. 1</b>	<b>WestWoods</b>	<b>Kathryn Sickling</b> 440-543-6510 <a href="mailto:rps65@roadrunner.com">rps65@roadrunner.com</a>
<b>Ashtabula County</b>	<b>Oct 9</b>	<b>Gulf Metro Park</b>	<b>Shar Wilkerson</b> 440-224-3138 wilkersons@truckmen.com

Office Use Only: Membership Type \_\_\_\_\_ Date Rec'd \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Rec'd by \_\_\_\_\_ SR# \_\_\_\_\_

# Ohio Horseman's Council, Inc. Membership Application For Year 20\_\_

(Membership is from January 1 to December 31)

( ) New ( ) Renewal

Member Since \_\_\_\_\_

## Medina County Chapter

Please print clearly or type

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Partner: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary County: \_\_\_\_\_ or ( ) At Large Secondary \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Membership Fee: \$10.00

The Corral and State Newsletter are included in your membership fee.

I do not want to receive the Corral.  I do not want to receive the State Newsletter.

Mail Medina OHC Newsletter  Get Medina OHC Newsletter from Website E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

OHC Basic Membership (Without Equine Excess Liability Insurance)				
Type please circle your choice	Membership Fee	Chapter Charge	Total	
Individual (1) / Student / Senior (65 as of Jan 1)	\$15.00	\$5.00	<b>\$20.00</b>	
Family (2) / Senior (both 65 as of Jan 1)	\$25.00	\$5.00	<b>\$30.00</b>	
OHC Plus Membership (With Equine Excess Liability Insurance)				
Type please circle your choice	Membership Fee	Chapter Charge	Insurance	Total
Individual (1) / Student / Senior (65 as of Jan 1)	\$15.00	\$5.00	\$20.00	\$40.00
Individual with minor children (under 18 as of Jan 1)	\$25.00	\$5.00	\$20.00	\$50.00
Family (2) (with or without minor children)	\$25.00	\$5.00	\$40.00	\$70.00

If family membership, list **names and ages** of dependents (this is needed for insurance purposes).

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) (Age) (Name) (Age) (Name) (Age) (Name) (Age) (Name) (Age)

Associate Membership		
No. of Members:	Membership Fee: \$30.00 + \$10 chapter fee=\$40.00	Association President/Chairperson:

**Your application cannot be accepted without your original signature(s). If Family membership, both spouses/partners must sign; if Individual membership, applicant must sign; if Student and under 18, parent or guardian must sign. Also date this document. By signing this document, I (we) agree to the terms and conditions of the By-Laws of the Ohio Horseman's Council, Inc.**

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Medina County OHC  
Send to: Rosemary Young  
9480 Tracy Trail  
Parma, OH 44130  
www.medinacountyohc.com

Chapter Use Only:  
Membership Card Issued By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Secondary Fee: \$10.00 Rec'd \_\_\_\_\_

## More news on memberships from your membership chair-

Well, the new year is here and we are still short some 68 members! Notices will go out later this month, but if you are reading this and still have not renewed, please read on!

1). **Liability insurance** is effective with the beginning of the year or when you sign up or renew your membership. **THE AMOUNT HAS BEEN INCREASED BY \$1 PER PERSON! It's now \$20 for individual and \$40 for families.** On the 31<sup>st</sup> of December, your policy expires. If you are not signed up as a member by that time, you no longer have insurance and will not have until you re-new (or sign up). Remember it takes time for your membership to be processed by the county and the state. If something happens in the meantime, you are NOT COVERED! That is why we stress having your membership in by December.

2). **Speaking of liability insurance:** The policy "cards" for 2011 are not yet available. This is actually the handout that details the policy. They will be mailed out as soon as I have them. At some point they should also be available on the OHC website.

3). **Secondary membership to other counties:** I'm not sure if it's the new form or what, but I am getting a number of people trying to sign up as a secondary for other counties. I only process primary Medina memberships or, if you are primary in another county and want to be secondary in Medina I can process that as well. If you are primary for Medina and want to join, say, Cuyahoga as a secondary, you must contact that county. Names and contact numbers can be found on the state website or in the state quarterly newsletter.

4). **Please check the box for receiving your newsletter online from our website.** This saves considerable cost to the club.

5) **If you have an e-mail address, please include it.** It is so much easier to communicate that way!

Thanks for listening- Rosemary Young, Membership Chair

*Spring Ahead Ride  
At  
March 27th  
Hinckley  
Reservation!*

*We're on the Web!  
medinacountyohc.com*

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

**Medina County OHC**

**MOHC  
P.O. Box 247  
Richfield, OH 44286**