



## Trail Tales

Mountain Valley Trail Riders  
P.O. Box 752  
Washington, PA 15301

Volume 35 Number 4

September 2020

### Upcoming Events

- Sept. 20**    **Mingo Creek County Park Ride**  
**Host: Suzanne Weimer (724)263-8054**  
Meet in the Big Lot and be ready to ride out at 10:30. Bring a lunch for after the ride to sit and enjoy everyone's company.
- Sept. 27**    **Member's Only Fun Show ~ Ivan's Way Farm**  
Show starts at 11:00. Bring a dish to share after the show. You must be a member to attend the show. Memberships will be accepted the day of the show. Helpers please arrive at 10:00.
- Oct 2-4**    **Barkcamp Campout Weekend**  
Please reserve your own site. Contact Elaine Clemens Mowl at (724) 255-7932 for more information.
- Oct. 10**    **Club Picnic**  
The Club Picnic this year will be held at Jeanie Taylor's house on Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> at 4:00. This is a potluck event so please bring a dish to share. More information to follow.

### Reminders

The next club meeting will be **September 16th at 7:30** in the Big Lot at Mingo. Bring a chair. Please check the Facebook page for any updates on cancellations due to weather. There will be a **Director's Meeting** prior to the **October** club meeting at 7:00

If you have a change of mailing or e-mail address or are not receiving your newsletter, please make sure to notify Meaghan Hettinger at (724) 514-7781 or [Meaghan\\_hettinger@comcast.net](mailto:Meaghan_hettinger@comcast.net). Keeping your current address updated with the club will ensure you continue to receive your newsletter and other club notifications.

Pictures are always needed to document the activities of the previous year. Please send by e-mail to Meaghan at [meaghan\\_hettinger@comcast.net](mailto:meaghan_hettinger@comcast.net) or a physical copy of the picture to 106 Chestnut Court, Canonsburg, PA 15317.



Happy Birthday wishes for the month of September go out to Karen Baker, Kathy Caruthers, Hannah and Matthew Colussy, Denise Esenwein, Brooke Hower, Elaine Clemens Mowl, Dennis Prpich, Gwen Sanders, and Roger Shumaker. We hope everyone has a wonderful day!

**Members in Attendance** at the August meeting were Marci and Dave Kirchner, Kellie DiBattista, Jeanie Taylor, Tammy Schweitzer, Patty Walker, Sue Macurak, Elaine Clemens Mowl, Marge McCormick, Suzanne Weimer, Michelle Frye and Diana Hughes. Thank you to everyone who takes the time to keep the club running.

**2020 Membership:** Due to the difficulties of creating a schedule while under restrictions for COVID-19 it was decided to extend all memberships from 2019 through 2020 and to reduce the price of a new membership to \$10. **If you were a member in 2019 you do not need to fill out another form!** A membership form will be included with this newsletter for any new members wishing to join. New members may also join on our website at [www.mvtriders.com](http://www.mvtriders.com).

**Parades:** We have received no formal information regarding the parade in Bentleyville. Jeanie will be checking with the parade officials to give an update at the next meeting. If the parade is still on it is a good event to start out a horse that is new to parades. We will keep you updated as we receive any new information. Please contact Jeanie Taylor if you are interested in participating.

**Blanket Repair:** Club member Connie Davis has a blanket repair service for any of those in need of repair. She asks that blankets be cleaned prior to coming to her for repair for the health of her sewing machines. Connie also is the Pennsylvania Equine Council rep for Washington County and has Equine Liability signs if anybody needs one. Please contact Connie at (724) 945-6596.

**Feed Labels Still Needed!** Club Member Diana Hughes is still collecting feed labels for Tribute, Southern States and Legends brand feeds. Each label collected and turned in brings .25¢ to the club. This may not seem like much, however Diane has taken these labels and brought in a significant amount of money for the club. Every little bit helps!

## **Purple Paint Means No Trespassing!**

**HARRISBURG, PA** - Landowners who post their properties now have the option of using purple paint rather than signs to alert others that lands are private and trespassing isn't permitted.

House Bill 1772, which was signed into law by Gov. Tom Wolf in November, and took effect in January of 2020.

The bill adds language to the section of state law dealing with criminal trespass.

Under the law, a person is considered a "defiant trespasser" – which carries enhanced penalties – if he or she enters or remains in any place where notice against trespassing is given by actual communication, lawful posting or fencing.

House Bill 1772 makes the use of purple paint on trees or posts a lawful posting method **in all but Allegheny and Philadelphia counties**.

Vertical purple lines must be at least 8 inches long and 1 inch wide. The bottom of the mark must not be less than 3 feet or more than 5 feet from the ground. And painted marks must not be more than 100 feet apart.

Now that the "purple paint law" is effective, hunters should know they might encounter purple markings on trees and that these marks are meant to define the boundary of an adjoining private property that's posted against trespassing.

The new law also authorizes unarmed persons to go onto private property for the sole purpose of retrieving a hunting dog.

## Meeting Notes

The **July 15, 2020** meeting of the Mountain Valley Trail Riders was called to order by President Elaine Clemens-Mowl at 7:31 pm with 17 members in attendance.

The **Invocation** was given by Howard Anderson.

The **Minutes of the June 17, 2020** meeting was read by Marci Kirchner. A motion to accept the report was made by Jeanie Taylor and 2nd by Diana Hughes.

The **Treasurer's Report** was given by Diana Hughes. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Kellie DiBattista and 2nd by Jack Welch. No Bills Against the Club were presented.

**Correspondence** - No new correspondence has been received.

**Sick Members/Deaths** – No sick members or deaths

**New Members** – No new members

**Trail Rides** – The planned club ride scheduled at Mingo Park on Saturday, July 18th, has been changed to Sunday, July 19th. All other information remains the same.

**Publicity/Highway Clean-Up** – As of July 8th PennDOT has authorized the Adopt-A-Highway activities to resume. It is recommended that safety procedures such as mask wearing, social distancing and frequent hand sanitizing be practiced. We are planning our clean-up efforts on Racetrack Road to be Sunday, September 13th at 10:00 am. This is an important community and public relations event and more volunteers are needed. Please make an effort to participate.

**Newsletter** - Meaghan Hettinger noted that several email addresses for members are needed and she is reaching out to find these. It was also brought to light that lifetime member Joann Fowler should be on the mailing list for the newsletter. Meaghan is also looking to find her address.

**Trail Blazing** – It was reported that an area in Mingo which is very near the road by the creek crossing is very overgrown and in need of trimming. Tammy Schweitzer will contact the park's maintenance department to notify them of the situation. Other than this area, the park is in good condition.

**Quarter Master** – Nothing to report.

**Horse Shows** – It is confirmed that Ivan's Way in Hickory will be the venue for the fall Fun Show. The planned date is Sunday, September 27th with a start time of 11:00 am. The date will be confirmed once the ribbon order is placed and the receipt date of the ribbons is known. This will be a covered dish event – please bring something to share. More details to follow.

**Parades** – Nothing to report

**Banquet** - The Tradesman Inn was contacted about holding our yearly banquet in January. Their decision of booking the event is pending due to the current COVID-19 pandemic situation.

**Old Business**

- There has been a change in the summer picnic - Jeanie Taylor will be hosting the picnic at her house. Planned date for the picnic and bonfire will be Saturday, October 10th starting at 4:00 pm. More details to follow.

**New Business**

- Tammy Schweitzer detailed a circumstance she recently dealt with concerning a 38 year old horse in very poor condition whose owners did not have the money to euthanize and haul away the horse. A discussion on the possibility of the Club creating an Emergency Care Fund to help in certain qualifying situations. This will be discussed further at the next Director's meeting.
- The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 19th at 7:30 pm.

A motion to Adjourn the meeting was made at 8:05 pm by Meaghan Hettinger & 2nd by Diana Hughes.

## Officers and Committee Chairpersons

**President** *until 2022*

Elaine Clemens Mowl  
(724) 255-7932  
Mvtr.email@gmail.com

**Treasurer** *until 2021*

Diana Hughes  
(412) 580-7658

**Directors**

*until 2021* Jeanie Taylor  
Marge McCormick

*until 2022* Michelle Frye  
Patty Walker  
Marci Kirchner

**Vice President** *until 2022*

Dave Kirchner  
(412) 551-9795

**Quarter Master** *until 2021*

Suzanne Weimer  
(724) 263-8054

**Rec. Secretary** *until 2022*

Marci Kirchner  
(412) 551-9795

**Parade Captain** *until 2021*

Jeanie Taylor  
(724) 255-2764

**Corres. Sec.** *until 2021*

Meaghan Hettinger  
(724) 514-7781

<b>Scrapbook...</b> Lauren Hettinger (724)514-7781	<b>Adopt-A-Highway</b> Kellie DiBattista (412)337-2031
<b>Banquet</b> Elaine Clemens Mowl (724)255-7932	<b>Trail Tails.....</b> Meaghan Hettinger (724)514-7781
<b>Trail Scheduler</b>	

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