

Trail Tales

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

Volume 32 Number 4

April 2017

Upcoming Events

- April 2** **MVTR Members Only Fun Show**
Ivan's Way Farm, 209 Walnut Rd., McDonald, PA
10:00 a.m. start time. Additional details in newsletter.
- April 30** **Hillman State Park (Bavington)**
Host: Patty Walker (724) 926-9380
This ride has an 11:00 a.m. start time. Please bring a covered dish to share at the end of the ride.
- May 14** **Mingo Creek County Park ~ Big Lot**
Host: Patty Walker (724) 926-9380
Gather in at 10:00, ride leaves at 11:00. Pack a lunch.
- May 21** **Raccoon Creek State Park**
Host: Meaghan Hettinger (724) 514-7781
Gather in at 10:00, ride leaves at 11:00. Pack a lunch. This ride is weather permitting. Please contact the ride host if you plan on attending so you can be contacted in the event of a cancellation.

Reminders

The next club meeting will be **April 19th at 7:30** on the first floor of the Courthouse Square Building. Remember, meetings count as 1 point towards Participation Points for next year's membership.

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@gmail.com. Keeping your current address updated with the club will ensure you continue to receive your newsletter and other club notifications.

Pictures are always needed for the club scrapbook. Please send a physical copy of the picture to Caitlin Woods Taylor at 211 Russie Ave., Bentleyville, PA 15330. You can also e-mail them to meaghan.hettinger@gmail.com.



Check out MVTR on Facebook! Just search Mountain Valley Trail Riders.

Members in attendance at the March meeting were Tammy Schweitzer, Jeanie Taylor, Diana Hughes, Kellie DiBattista, Marge McCormick, Bob Kane, Michelle Frye, Barbara Gregg, Dennis Prpich, Valerie and Roger Shumaker, Meaghan Hettinger and Patty Walker.

Reminder

It's time to renew your membership to MVTR for the year. If your membership is not renewed by the next meeting, you will no longer receive the Newsletter. You can renew at www.mvtriders.com or with the form in this Newsletter.

Happy Birthday!!!

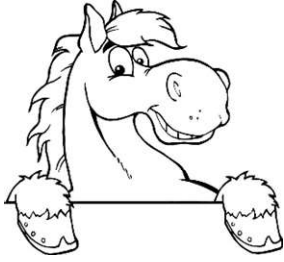
Happy Birthday wishes for the month of April go out to Brent Blazier, Roy Irey, David Kirchner, Jane Lyons and William Vance. Have a wonderful day!



We are excited that we have several new members to welcome to the club this month! They are Gabriel and Margo Bonal of Hickory, Rebecca Maxin of Hickory, Riley Stowinski of Finleyville, and Sestie Hildreth of Oakdale. Welcome everyone and we hope to see you at an event soon!

Discussions continue on the best format for the Judged Trail Ride. There has been some thought about consolidating the obstacles to just around Area 10 and clustering multiple obstacles together. The clustering of the obstacles would allow 1 person to judge more than one obstacle which would reduce the number of judges required. A theme will be decided upon at the next meeting so come with ideas! We still need judges and helpers.

The **Members Only Fun Show** will be held at Ivan's Way Farm in McDonald on April 2nd. At this show we will be doing potluck style food. Please contact Leslie Maxin by 3/25 at (412) 974-6636 or lesliemaxin@gmail.com with what you plan to bring so we can coordinate for the best variety of food. Please see the attached flyer for more information.



MVTR - Members Only Hairy Horse Show



*Sunday, April 2nd 10:00
Ivan's Way Farm, 209 Walnut Rd.,
McDonald, PA*

Class List

Kids Classes Age 17 & Under:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>1. Water/Hot chocolate race</i> | <i>2. Carrot Race</i> |
| <i>3. Rescue the Teddy Bear Race</i> | <i>4. Australian Pursuit</i> |
| <i>5. Egg and Spoon</i> | <i>6. Poles</i> |
| <i>7. Barrels</i> | <i>8. Crepe Paper Race</i> |

Adults Classes:

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| <i>1. Ride a Buck</i> | <i>2. Carrot Race</i> |
| <i>3. Crepe Paper Race</i> | <i>4. Egg and Spoon</i> |
| <i>5. Bat Race</i> | <i>6. Australian Pursuit</i> |
| <i>7. Poles</i> | <i>8. Barrels</i> |
| <i>9. Dolly Parton Race/Panty Race</i> | |

**** Entry Fee \$30 Ride All Day ****

All Youth Riders must wear a helmet.

Children may not be attached to horse/saddle in any way.

Ribbons 1st - 6th places in each division.

Youth classes will begin at 10:00. Adult classes will immediately follow the Youth classes.

Show will run rain or shine.

Please bring a potluck dish to share with the group. Please notify Leslie Maxin of your intended dish by 3/25 ~ (412) 974-6636 or lesliemaxin@gmail.com

You must be a member of MVTR by March 31st to participate in this show!!!

Class Descriptions

Water/Hot Chocolate Race: Depending on if the day is hot or cold, water or hot chocolate is put into a cup. The rider holds the cup while following directions from the announcer such as “walk, trot, canter, reverse, back up, etc.” Rider with the most liquid left in the cup at the end wins.

Carrot Race: The rider runs to a bucket with carrots at opposite end of the arena. Rider dismounts, gets a carrot and lures horse back to the starting point in the arena. Fastest time wins.

Rescue the Teddy Bear Race: The rider runs to a barrel with a teddy bear placed on it. They must “rescue” the bear and run back to the starting point. Fastest time wins.

Australian Pursuit: Class begins with all riders on the rail. There will be approximately equal distances between each horse before class begins. All horses will begin trotting at the same time. Fastest horse at a trot wins. If you are passed by another horse or your horse breaks gait you are out. If horse fails to trot within 5 strides rider will be disqualified.

Egg & Spoon: The rider is given an egg and a spoon. The rider must balance the egg on the spoon in one hand while holding the reins in the other. Rider may not use an artificial means to hold the egg on the spoon. No fingers, thumbs, gum etc. Spoon must be held at the end farthest from the egg. Rider will follow instructions from the announcer. Last rider with the egg on the spoon wins.

Poles: Run down to opposite end of poles, weave down, weave back up, run back to starting point. Fastest time wins.

Barrels: Cloverleaf barrel pattern. Fastest time wins.

Crepe Paper Race: A pair of riders holds a section of crepe paper between them while performing various maneuvers. May be done as a timed class or a group class where the last pair holding the crepe paper wins.

Ride A Buck: Rider is on horse bareback. Puts a dollar under the backside of their thigh. Follows directions of announcer. Last rider with dollar still under leg wins.

Bat Race: Rider runs to helper holding horse. Dismounts and runs to baseball bat in the middle of the arena. One end of the bat stays on the ground while the rider puts their head on the other end. Rider circles bat three times and then runs back to horse, remounts and runs the rest of the pattern. Fastest time without falling off wins.

Dolly Parton/Panty Race: A bucket of unmentionables will be stationed at one end of the arena. Rider runs down, puts on said unmentionables, remounts and runs back. Fastest time with clothes still on wins.

MVTR show management reserves the right to make decisions regarding safety at any time.

Youth or Adult _____

MVTR Members Only Fun Show

Sunday, April 2, 2017

Show begins promptly at 10:00 with Youth Classes. Adult classes to follow.

RAIN OR SHINE

Ivan's Way Farm, 209 Walnut Rd., McDonald, PA

Rider's Name: _____

Horse's Name: _____

Address: (Street) _____

(City, State, & Zip Code) _____

Mountain Valley Trail Riders will not tolerate animal cruelty. The Show Chairman and/or Club President has the final say on any decision in question. There will be no refunds on show fees. No stallions will be permitted.

In accepting my entry, I hereby release Ivan's Way Farm and Mountain Valley Trail Riders, Inc., their officers, members, and co-sponsors at this show from any claim or right for damages which may occur to me or my horse. I assume and accept full responsibility for any damages done by me or my horse at this show. **I agree to the rules and conditions set forth.**

Rider/Parent Guardian Signature

Date

Show Fee: \$30 _____ pd Cash _____ Check # _____

Returned checks will be subject to a \$25 fee.

MOUNTAIN VALLEY TRAIL RIDERS WAIVER Form (To be signed by all Guest Participants/Guardians),

I hereby agree to participate in the MVTR Members Only Fun Show sponsored by Mountain Valley Trail Riders, Inc. at my own risk and subject to all rules and regulations of the event and directions of the event leaders.

I further agree that in the event of any damage occasioned by or loss incurred to horses present, that I will make no claim against: Mountain Valley Trail Riders, Inc., its Officers and Directors; or any person or organizations (State, County, Local, or Private) connected with said event.

I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless any persons or organizations connected in any way with said event against all claims, demands, suits and expenses arising out of any injury or claims to me or any persons connected to me.

WARNING: Under Pennsylvania law an equine activity sponsor, participant or professional or any other person is not liable for an injury or loss to or the death of a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities under the Equine Activity Liability Act.

Due to insurance regulations, any participant in an MVTR event **under the age of 18 is required to wear a helmet when on a horse.**

Persons to be notified in case of Emergency:

Name/Signature of Rider

Date

Address

City

Zip

Name/Signature of Parent/Guardian (If Rider is under age 18)

Note to Event Leaders: Guests must sign this form prior to participation in any MVTR event. Forward all signed waiver forms to the Club Secretary after the event. In the case of an accident or incident, notify the Club President as soon as possible. Be prepared to provide a description of the accident/incident and a list of those who were witnesses.

Mountain Valley Trail Riders 2017 Event Schedule

- Apr. 2** **Members Only Fun Show**
Ivan's Way Farm 10:00 a.m. start time
Youth classes first and Adult classes immediately to follow. You **MUST** be a member prior to March 31st to participate in this show. All Youth riders are required to wear a helmet.
- Apr. 30** **Hillman State Park (Bavington)**
Host: Patty Walker (724) 926-9380
Gather in at 10:00, ride leaves at 11:00. This is a food ride so please bring a dish to share after the ride.
- May 14** **Mingo Creek County Park ~ Big Lot**
Host: Patty Walker (724) 926-9380
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- May 21** **Raccoon Creek State Park**
Host: Meaghan Hettinger (724) 514-7781
Gather in at 10:00, ride leaves at 11:00. Pack a lunch. This ride is weather permitting. Please contact the ride host if you plan on attending so you can be contacted in the event of a cancellation.
- June 11** **Mingo Creek County Park ~ Big Lot**
Host: Tammy Schweitzer (412) 303-3761
Gather in at 10:00, ride leaves at 11:00.
- June 30** **Crafton Parade**
Parade Captain: Jeanie Taylor (724) 255-2764
- July 4** **Canonsburg Parade**
Parade Captain: Jeanie Taylor (724) 255-2764
- July 12** **Hillman State Park ~ Evening Ride**
Host: Tammy Schweitzer (412) 303-3761
- Aug. 11-13** **Barkcamp State Park, OH**
Host: Patty Walker (724) 926-9380
- Aug. 25-27** **Salt Fork State Park, OH**
Host: Tammy Schweitzer (412) 303-3761 & Jeanie Taylor (724) 255-2764

Sep. 17 **MVTR Fun Show 9:00**
Washington County Fairgrounds arena

Oct. 6-8 **Mingo Creek County Park Campout Weekend**

There will be more rides added throughout the season so please monitor our Newsletter, Facebook page and our webpage www.mvtriders.com

Stay safe and have fun!

MOUNTAIN VALLEY TRAIL RIDERS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

P.O BOX 752, WASHINGTON, PA 15301

Please complete application and make checks payable to: Mountain Valley Trail Riders, Inc.

New Member _____

New members pay the **Active Membership** dues the first year. Do not complete pg 2. Active membership status requires participation in at least 6 MVTR activities in the calendar year.

Renewal Member _____

Active renewal members must complete pg 2 of the application. Participation points are from the previous calendar year! Non-Active members are not required to complete page 2.

TYPES OF YEARLY MEMBERSHIPS

A) Active: Required to have participated in at least 6 MVTR meetings or activities in the previous calendar year (2016):

Household: \$30 Adults with or without children under age 18 living at the same address
Individual: \$20

B) Non-Active: Not required to participate in any MVTR meetings or activities

Household: \$50 Adults with or without children under age 18 living at the same address
Individual: \$40
Youth: \$ 5 Person under the age of 18 – exempt from participation requirements

Member's Name(s)

Birthday Month

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Emergency Contact: Name & Phone #: _____

E-mail address: _____

Please provide your e-mail address if you would like to receive your newsletter electronically.

The undersigned applicant, in consideration of accepting this entry, does for himself/herself, his/hers heirs, executors, and assigns, waive and release Mountain Valley Trail Riders, Inc. and all individual members thereof, and all other persons, regardless of their capacity in any way connected with the Club described herein, their representatives, heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns from any and all rights, claims, or liability of any kind or nature that he/she might have. Further, he/she acknowledges that said release will extend to any accidents, damages, or claims arising out of the Club activities by his/her acts of anyone or any animal.

Applicant's signature: _____

Date: _____

If Youth, Parent or Guardian: _____

Date: _____

MVTR ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS FOR 2016

Participation in at least 6 MVTR activities or meetings in 2016 is required for Active Member status in 2017. Please check the following activities you participated in for the calendar year 2016.

	1-2	3-4	5-6	More than 6
Meeting(s):				

	Crafton	Canonsburg	Wheeling
Parade(s):			

	Full Day	Partial Day
Fun Show: (9/11)		

	4/29
Hwy Cleanup:	

	Hours:
Trail Cleanup:	

	10/9
JTR Helper Or Worker:	

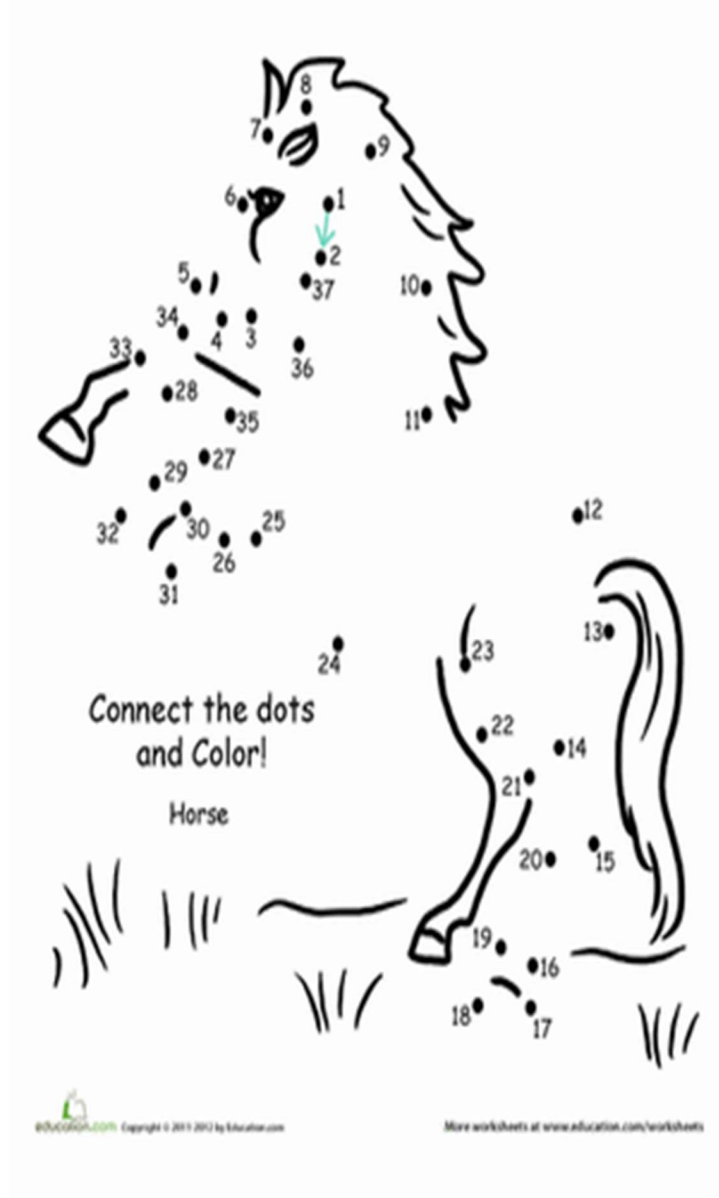
	# of rides:
Hosted or Cohosted Ride:	

** Participation points are recorded by Meaghan Hettinger. It is the member's responsibility to make sure that they check in with the event host to get credit for participating in that activity. Meaghan's list is the final determination of points earned. Most activities are worth 1 point. In 2016, a member could earn 2 points for a full day of participation in the Fun Show. **

Office Use Only Check # _____ Amount Rcvd _____ Date Rcvd _____

We are in need of a volunteer for our Highway Clean Up Committee. Rose Johnson (Milavec) has decided to give up the position after moving to Ohio. A big thank you to Rose for her past work on this position for us! Please contact Tammy Schweitzer (412) 303-3761 if you are interested in taking on the Highway Clean Up seat.

Club member Suzanne Weimer is looking for her next trail riding buddy. She would like “a super broke, no spook, no bucking or silliness - trail horse that can also go to judged trail rides, parades, fun shows and overnight camping. Prefer gaited, 15 hands or under. Gelding or mare: the personality and been there done that quality is most important. Older rather than younger, a horse that can sit for a bit and be the same as before. (Don't want to have to have a trainer helping me fix things all the time 😊) Flexible budget.” If you think you have something that fits the bill, please contact Suzanne (724) 263-8054 with your information.



Officers and Committee Chairpersons

President *until 2018*
Tammy Schweitzer
(412) 303-3761
Mvtr.email@gmail.com

Treasurer *until 2019*
Diana Hughes
(412) 580-7658

Directors
until 2018 Barbara Gregg
Roger Shumaker
Suzanne Weimer
Meaghan Hettinger
Dennis Prpich

Vice President *until 2018*
Jeanie Taylor
(724) 255-2764

Quarter Master *until 2019*
Suzanne Weimer &
Barbara Gregg
(724) 263-8054

until 2019 Kellie DiBattista
Patricia Walker
Jeanie Taylor
Elaine Clemens Mowl

Rec. Secretary *until 2018*
Patricia Walker
(724) 926-9380

Parade Captain *until 2019*
Jeanie Taylor
(724) 255-2764

Corres. Sec. *until 2019*
Meaghan Hettinger
(724) 514-7781

Pony Rides Barb Gregg (724)350-7055	Adopt-A-Highway ... Rose Milavec (412)496-1337
Points Meaghan Hettinger (724)514-7781	Trail TailsMeaghan Hettinger (724)514-7781
Scrapbook Caitlin Taylor (724)350-7059	Trail Scheduler Tammy Schweitzer(412)303-3761
Banquet Elaine Clemens Mowl (724)255-7932	Horse Show

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

