



Trail Tales

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

Volume 33 Number 5/6

May/June 2018

Upcoming Events

June 8 Highway Clean-Up ~ Racetrack Rd.

Host: Kellie DiBattista

Meet at 6:00 p.m. in the parking lot behind the Columbia Gas building on Racetrack Rd., next to Wendy's. Dinner at Beechie's will be paid for by the club after the clean-up.

June 30 Crafton Parade

Please contact Parade Captain Jeanie Taylor at (724) 255-2764 if you plan on attending this parade. The parade is on a Saturday this year and the start time is 2:00 p.m. Meet at the Bridgeville Rest area at 12:00. Jeanie really needs anyone who can help to attend this parade! She is short a few regulars this year. Patriotic club shirt required.

July 4 Canonsburg Parade

Please contact Parade Captain Jeanie Taylor at (724) 255-2764 if you plan on attending this parade. Jeanie really needs anyone and everyone who can help! She is short a few regulars this year. Patriotic club shirt required.

Reminders

The next club meeting will be **June 20th at 7:30** on the first floor of the Courthouse Square Building. There will be a **Director's Meeting at 6:30** prior to the regularly scheduled meeting.

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 to document the activities of the previous year. Please send a physical copy of the picture to Caitlin Woods Taylor at 2289 Beallsville Rd., Marianna, PA 15345. You can also e-mail them to meaghan.hettinger@gmail.com.



Members in attendance at the April meeting were Patty Walker, David Kirchner, Elaine Clemens Mowl, Marge McCormick, Roger Shumaker, Marci Kirchner, Kellie DiBattista, Jeanie Taylor, Dennis Prpich, Michelle Frye, Diana Hughes, Tammy Schweitzer, Chuck Dye, Bob Kane, and Suzanne Weimer. Members in attendance at the May meeting were Meaghan Hettinger, Lauren Hettinger, Marci Kirchner, Chuck Dye, Marge McCormick, Jeanie Taylor, Elaine Clemens Mowl, Kellie DiBattista, David Kirchner, Diana Hughes, Michelle Frye, Roger Shumaker, Tammy Schweitzer and Patty Walker. The March meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.

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

It was reported at the April meeting that Dennis Prpich lost his older mare. He had had her for over 30 years. It was reported at the May meeting that longtime club member, Claire Peteya, recently had a heart attack. Claire is recovering well. Please keep these members in your thoughts and prayers.



We have lots of birthdays to cover due to the cancelled meeting and combined May/June Newsletter! For the month of April we have Maddox Blakiston, Brent Blazier, Sestie Hildreth, Roy Irey, David Kirchner, Karen Patterson, and William Vance. For the month of May we have Jeannie Carr, Anthony DiBattista, Bacca Maxin, Jonelle Price, Gloria Smitsky, Riley Stowinski, and Duane Taylor. For June we have Kayla Reynolds, Paul Baker, Micky Irey, and Vince Peteya. We hope everyone had a great day!

Another long-standing event that is looking to be revamped is the Annual Banquet. There have been suggestions of possible holding it in the summer or fall or not having one at all. Please contact Elaine with any ideas or comments you may have.

Patty Walker continues to be our hero when it comes to the trails at Hillman. She reports that she, Barb Gregg and Barb's sister Corey recently rode and cleaned the Rouse trail at Hillman. Trails designated for equestrian use at Hillman will be marked in red and the marking of trails nearly complete. Please contact Patty if you have any time at all to volunteer at Hillman. Riders at Mingo may have noticed that the Parks department recently put in a bathroom at the big lot! It really is the little things in life that get people excited!

Trail Ride Report: Patty Walker and Tammy Schweitzer reported that the first ride of the year at Hillman State Park went very well. There were 18 riders and no incidents. All the horses behaved themselves for the first ride of the year! This was also a food ride and everything was delicious as usual.

There will be a **Members Only Fun Show** on September 16th at the Washington County Fairgrounds. We will again be doing food in a potluck style with an open kitchen. If you are planning on attending the show please bring a dish to share. The food has been delicious in the past and I doubt this year will be any different! Please let Meaghan Hettinger know if there are any new classes that you would like to try or if you have a particular favorite that you would like to see included.

The End of Life Planning seminar hosted by Tammy Schweitzer at Ivan's Way farm was a success. There was a good turn out for a subject that is difficult for many to consider. Presenter's included Dr. Leah Mitchell, the North Strabane large animal emergency response team, and a deceased horse hauler. Another seminar on end of life planning may be held in the future.

The theme for this years Judged Trail Challenge on October 7 is The Great Outdoors. **We need any and every kind of help especially Judges!** Please let Tammy or Jeanie know if you are able to volunteer in any capacity to pull this event together. We take pride in hosting a well-run, safe, and fun event for the local equestrian community. If we find we do not have the staff to put on the kind of event that we have in the past, we will be forced to cancel the JTC.



The March meeting of the Mountain Valley Trail Riders was cancelled due to a late spring snow storm. No newsletter was issued for that meeting.



Young club member Lauren Hettinger recently achieved the 200-hour mark for the Appaloosa Horse Club Saddle Log Program. Lauren has been logging her hours spent riding Rosie (Wishins Red Rose) for quite some time now and hit this milestone in February. Way to go Lauren!

Longtime club member Gabrielle DiBattista, daughter of Mario and Kellie DiBattista, graduated in May from Penn State with a degree in Chemical Engineering and will start working for Exxon Mobile in Houston, Texas. Congratulations and best wishes Gabi!



Summer is the perfect time to spend a few hours with a good book. We have compiled a list of books that are perfect for our horse loving membership.

Horse Heaven by Jane Smiley

Lord of Misrule by Jaimy Gordon

Horse People: Scenes From the Riding Life by Michael Korda

Riding Lessons: A Novel by Sara Gruen

Seabiscuit by Laura Hillendbrand

The Horse Whisperer by Nicholas Evans

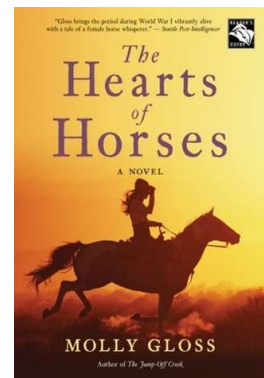
Dead Cert by Dick Francis (or any Dick Francis novel)

Cowgirl Dreams by Heidi M. Thomas

All the Pretty Horses by Cormac McCarthy

The Hearts of Horses by Molly Gloss

Reining in Murder (A Carson Stables Mystery) by Leigh Hearon



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 _____

Renewal Member _____

TYPES OF YEARLY MEMBERSHIPS

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

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: _____

Officers and Committee Chairpersons

President *until 2020*

Tammy Schweitzer
(412) 303-3761
Mvtr.email@gmail.com

Treasurer *until 2019*

Diana Hughes
(412) 580-7658

Directors

until 2019 Jeanie Taylor
Elaine Clemens Mowl

2020 Roger Shumaker
Patty Walker
Marci Kirchner

Vice President *until 2020*

Dave Kirchner
(412) 551-9795

Quarter Master *until 2019*

Suzanne Weimer &
Barbara Gregg
(724) 263-8054

Rec. Secretary *until 2020*

Patricia Walker
(724) 926-9380

Parade Captain *until 2019*

Jeanie Taylor
(724) 255-2764

Corres. Sec. *until 2019*

Meaghan Hettinger
(724) 514-7781

Scrapbook Caitlin Taylor (724)350-7059 **Adopt-A-Highway** Kellie DiBattista (412)337-2031
Banquet Elaine Clemens Mowl (724)255-7932 **Trail Tails.....**Meaghan Hettinger (724)514-7781
Trail Scheduler Tammy Schweitzer(412)303-3761

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