

February 2009

"The Roundup" Orange County Horse Council



Volume 2, Issue 5

Horse Show & Expo Thank you to our sponsors and vendors:

Last fall the 1st Annual Orange County Horse Council Horse Show & Expo was a tremendous success -- and we want to say "THANK YOU" to all of our vendors, sponsors and volunteers. The day was absolutely perfect, thanks to all of your contributions. Blessed with a beautiful, warm Fall day, more than 60 riders enjoyed the English, Western, Gymkhana and Driving classes, with about a dozen brave riders taking on our Cowboy Versatility class as well. The parking lot was full all day, Channel 6 News was there, as Orange County Park was full all day with riders and spectators enjoying the sunshine and activity.

THANKS! Robin DeMaio, Chair OCHC Show & Expo

On Your Horse or In the Wagon

SPARC is sponsoring its 9th Annual Stewart State Forest Trail Ride on Sunday morning, May 3rd, 2008. Bring your horse and enjoy a great ride on marked trails on the 7,000- acre Stewart lands, that SPARC successfully saved as open space in November 2005.

Riders can choose between a long 3+ hour ride and a short, easier 1+ hour ride, after registering and parking at the north Ridge Rd. parking area. Start time is 9 AM, and last riders must be out by 12 noon. Your horse will enjoy fresh treat and there will be surprises for all.

The Wagon Ride

Linda and Dave Denman of Denman Farms are once again donating their wagon and mules for a wagon ride unmatched in the Valley: an old-fashioned leisurely two-hour ride on old roads throughout the Stewart lands offering delightful views of the woods, wetlands and fields, and far-off ridge, as well as frequent encounters with the horse riders and their colorful mounts. Let your cares drop away!

The trail ride donation is your choice of \$15, \$20 or \$30 dollars per rider, payable at the gate. The Wagon Ride is \$30 per person, space is limited and must be reserved prior to the day of the event. Start time for the ride is 11:00 AM promptly. (We advise a cushion to sit on.) Delicious bag lunches are available for all participants with a prepaid order of \$10. All proceeds go to help SPARC, now watch dogging the land for your benefit.

For more info and reservations contact Co-chair Debbie Schiraldi (former Chair Linda Meyer has moved south and we all miss her very much.) You can call Debbie at 845 496-6754 or email her at debbieschiraldi@hvc.rr.com or contact Co-chair Sandra Kissam at sparc@frontiernet.net, or by phone at 845 564-3018.

SPARC is thrilled to sponsor this event.

For info about SPARC or this press release contact SPARC at 845 564-3018.

For reservations for lunch or wagon ride, send check to *SPARC, Box 90, Blooming Grove, N.Y. 10914.*

Sandra Kissam President, SPARC
Stewart Park and Reserve Coalition
www.sparc.info



Orange County
Horse Council

Newsletter compiled and designed by: Debbie Schiraldi, OCHC Communications and Membership Chair and is for information and entertainment purposes only.

Learn What Works for You! Part 4 *By: Anthony Congelosi, Paul Congelosi Trailer Sales*

In the last three issues, we have discussed the different options to consider when purchasing a horse trailer. So, at this point, we have touched upon the differences when determining whether a straight load, slant load, stock trailer, or something custom would be best to fulfill your needs. Now, no matter what you have chosen, you need to make a conscious effort to have your trailer serviced once a year. Here at Paul Congelosi Trailer Sales, we have a “normal service” that we recommend our customers make use of during that once a year appointment.

The normal service starts with checking the wheels of the trailer. The wheels are pulled so that the bearings can be re-packed with grease. If left alone, the grease will begin to break down and will not provide proper lubrication for the bearings. The brakes must also be lubricated, so that the mechanisms in the electric brake will work properly and provide adequate stopping power. Tire tread wear and air pressure are essential to proper tracking. Worn out tires should be replaced, and pressure should always be slightly below the maximum pressure listed on the tire.

Next, we check door locks and door hinges to make sure that the hinges aren't seized and the locks are functional, and then lubricate both areas. If the horse trailer has a ramp, the hinges and springs must be checked as well. As for the electrical system of the trailer, all the lights and light plug are gone over. If the light plug is showing any signs of wear or corrosion, then it is replaced. In most cases, it is easier to replace the light plug once a year than have to constantly check the terminals for corrosion.

After these things are taken care of, there are three structural areas of the trailer that must be gone over very carefully. The coupler is checked to make sure the locking mechanism is working, and the inside of the coupler is checked for cracks. The floor of the trailer, whether it is wood or aluminum, is examined to make sure that the integrity is maintained. Either of these materials requires maintenance, meaning that the mats must be pulled out of the trailer and the floor cleaned on a regular basis. Finally, aluminum and steel frame trailers must be checked for wear and tear. Aluminum should be checked for cracks, and steel frames, especially here in the northeast, must be checked regularly to make sure that rust is not becoming a major issue. Regular maintenance, such as reapplying undercoating, will keep rust from being an issue.

Although these are not the only points to consider when having a yearly service on your trailer, this is a start. If you have any questions about this topic or others, feel free to e-mail me at Anthony@CongelosiTrailerSales.com. Additionally, we would love to know what other topics you would like us to cover, so contact us with that information as well. Happy Trailing!

The person who makes a success of living is the one who see his goal steadily and aims for it unswervingly. That is dedication.

Cecil B. DeMille
US movie producer (1881 - 1959)

G & M Riding Club Annual Awards Banquet for the 2008

The G&M Annual Awards Banquet for the 2008 season was held on January 17th, at the Mountainville Manor. Kathy Croak, Horse Show Co- Chair, hosted the evening and presented the Open Horse Show Championship Awards. Jae Samuels, Playday Chair, presented the Playday Championship Awards. Betsy Clark, the Vice-President awarded special Thank you gifts to volunteers, letting them know their contributions are appreciated. G&M events are run totally by an all-volunteer team of horsemen dedicated to fun and future horsemanship!

Junior members of the club organized a 50/50 raffle and a Chinese Auction for their fundraising activity. Door prize drawing, family photos, and a delicious buffet dinner with friends and family made for a memorable evening.

The 2008 Frances M. Capasso Memorial Trophy Saddle Award, donated by the Capasso family, went to Madison Hallas riding Diamonds R Rough. Madison also took home some special awards to assist her going off to college. She has been accepted to Findlay University in Ohio this fall. Congratulations Madison! G&M is proud to be a part of the educational future and continuing achievements of young people. Graham Skea, retired Orange County Park Commissioner, also added his comments at the dinner on the value of the G&M Riding Club, and the contribution it has given all in the community.

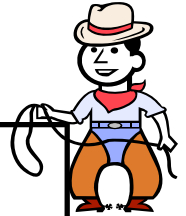
The G&M Riding Club continues to serve as a positive experience in the Hudson Valley horse community. The love of horses is obvious as parents and grandparents have passed down the passion of riding horses to their children. WOW! G&M is now working with the third generation of young riders in some families! Happy faces flourish through the decades of the G&M Riding Club events and this brings about our continued success.

The G&M Riding Club volunteers, families, and friends gathered to celebrate another triumphant year. All are welcome to join us for the 2009 season. For more information, please visit us at: www.gandmridingclub.com
By: Debbie Schiraldi. G&M Riding Club Publicity Chair

**OCHC Newsletter sponsorship ads
courtesy of the following businesses:**

Paul Congelosi Trailer Sales, Inc.
2201 Rt. 17K, Montgomery, NY
(845) 361-2246
Visit: www.congelositrailer-sales.com

Debbie Schiraldi, Associate Broker
Hudson Heritage Realty
(845) 781-3420
Visit: www.HorseFarmstoHouses.com



Just For Laughs! Join us...

Cowboy Wannabe

More than anything, Bob wanted to be a cowpoke. Taking pity on him, a rancher decided to hire the lad and give him a chance.

"This," he said, showing him a rope, "is a lariat. We use it to catch cows."

"I see," said Bob, trying to seem knowledgeable as he examined the lariat.

"And what do you use for bait?"

Attention Current Equine Businesses!

OCHC is embracing local equine businesses. During the year OCHC will promote our events, newsletters, and other flyers. So that we are fair to all our local industry. The ads listed above are \$15 an issue, and help to defray our costs. I will be seeking out future stories, jokes, and light articles of interest. So, please drop me a line. **Contact Debbie at: DebbieSchiraldi@hvc.rr.com**

General Membership & Executive Board Meetings **1st Tuesday of the Month- Private Room - *Join Us for Appetizers*** **The El Bandito Restaurant** **536 East Main Street** **Middletown, NY**

March 3rd - 6:30 PM Executive Board & Committee Chairs at 7:30 PM General Membership
April 7th - 6:30 PM Executive Board & Committee Chairs at 7:30 PM General Membership
May 5th - 6:30 PM Executive Board & Committee Chairs at 7:30 PM General Membership

Reminder! New York State Horse Council, Inc. 2009 Membership Forms find them at: www.nyshc.org Memberships are for the calendar year January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009.

This year's **2nd Annual Horse Show and Expo** will surely be another success, and we're looking forward to welcoming even more vendors and sponsors to our Orange County Horse Council family. So save the date: **Sunday Oct 25, 2009**. Announcing the 2nd Annual Orange County Horse Council Horse Show and Expo! We've got something for everyone: English, Western, Gymkhana, Driving, even Cowboy Versatility. And don't forget to come hungry, because we'll have delicious food, as well as many vendors lining the arena.

Our judges are lined up, and our volunteers are already working hard to make this year's show another big success. Please consider becoming a sponsor or a vendor (or both!) and plan on joining us at Orange County Park for the day. We look forward to welcoming all of our equine friends to the 2nd Annual Orange County Horse Show and Expo!

Visit: www.OrangeCountyHC.com for sponsorship forms and information.



Orange County
Horse Council, Inc.
P.O. Box 522
Goshen, NY 10924



We're on the web!
www.orangecountyhc.com

Floating Horse's Teeth

Some horses will develop sharp points on their teeth from uneven wearing or growing. A horse's upper and lower jaws may not align perfectly, leaving the overhanging sides of the teeth to grow out into sharp edges. The back molars can cut the horse's cheek or tongue if left untreated and make chewing and riding painful. For this reason, horses need to have their teeth floated periodically.

"Floating" is the process of gently filing sharp edges down with a long-handled dental rasp. The process is quick and painless and generally requires only minimal restraint. If a horse is head shy or has never been floated, it may act up and require sedation, but your equine dentist can make that decision.

Some vets prefer to sedate the horse and insert a full-mouth speculum (a device to hold the mouth open) so they can examine or better reach areas of the mouth.

A horse's teeth should be checked yearly and floated if necessary. Some horses will need to have their teeth floated more often than yearly, and others may be fine with floating only every several years. It depends on your individual horse, how its jaw is formed, and how fast its teeth grow.

If your horse begins to dribble grain from its mouth, pass whole grains in its manure, chew slowly, or fight the bit it may be because the teeth need to be floated. Pain may also be caused by other problems, such as injuries to the mouth, broken teeth, or a bit that fits incorrectly.

You can check your horse's teeth by reaching in where the bars are and pulling the tongue aside and examining the teeth. Be careful when you do this-- if the edges of the teeth are sharp, they can easily tear your skin. Your horse can, of course, also bite you if you don't handle his mouth properly! Never stick your fingers or hand into the horse's mouth unless you really know what you are doing.