MHTA NEWSLETTER

Monadnock Happy Trails Association

June 2010

Monadnock Happy Trails Association
Meets: First Monday of each Month at the Swanzey Congregational Church, Swanzey Center, NH
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June 2010
Meeting Highlights

• A meeting of the Monadnock Happy Trails Association was held Monday, June 7, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at the Congregational Church in Swanzey. **President** Sharon Thomsen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m

Treasurer Anne McGrath reported the bank balance as $1080.90 as of 5/31/10. She will be sending out one final e-mail for those who have not renewed their memberships.

Secretary Laura Susman reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting

Old Business ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

• Evie Winter reported the brochure committee has met and Sharon is working on typing a draft.

• Sharon has not contacted Mike Blair yet regarding the August meeting but will do so before the end of school.

• Beth will email directions to the Wagon Wheel Campgrounds to those who are going; we can arrive any time after 1 p.m. on Friday, June 18. E-mail or phone Beth with any questions at Hkm1950@yahoo.com or 352-6970.

• Our first ride of the season went well, everyone had fun; food was great - many thanks to chefs Phil and Steve! Phil has not uploaded the pictures yet.

• Denise Hood is happy with the success of her project. She collected many of the items on her list for the Monadnock Humane Society.

• Maureen has rescheduled her ride to Saturday, June 26, in the saddle at 10 a.m. Please RSVP by Wednesday and plan on bringing a dish to share

MHTA Board

President: Sharon Thomsen: animalover00xx@yahoo.com
Vice Pres: Evie Winter: ewinterfineart@aol.com
Treasurer: Anne McGrath: annyoakleaf@yahoo.com
Secretary: Laura Susmann: laura@susmann.com
Newsletter/Website: Krys Swan: ksd_zine@yahoo.com

New Business ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

• Discussion was held regarding renewing our Friends of Pisgah membership. John Whitney is opposed to the membership as he feels no progress has been made regarding opening the Reservoir trail as we proposed. Laura reported that progress is indeed slow but believes the problem is at the State level, not with the Friends and hopes we will have an answer, perhaps as soon as the next steering committee meeting June 29th. It was decided to join for one more year pending the approval of our proposal the State.

On a broader level Nancie Jarvis felt equestrians are not heard by the State. ACTHA was denied access to Bear Brook State Park recently.

• Becky's Gift Equine Relief sent a thank you and receipt for our recent donations. Approximately $1300 was raised by their auction and our club was a major contributor.

• Terri brought up that our non-profit status is becoming increasingly expensive to maintain. We are required to file a return every five years and it costs $500 if we submit on paper. The IRS is in the process of converting to an on-line filing for $200. Annie will look into our insurance coverage if we choose to drop the non-profit status.

• A young woman who will turn 18 in July wishes to join our club however bylaws require members to be 21 unless a family membership is in place. It was suggested we amend the bylaws to drop the age to 18. However changing the bylaws requires notifying membership two weeks in advance of the meeting we intend to vote on the issue as well as re-filing with the State - for a fee. It was decided not to change the bylaws now and suggest the young woman and her mother purchase a family membership.

• Mary Page sent an e-mail detailing the recent success of the Monadnock High Equestrian Team at their District 3 shows and asked that we tell any Keene or Monadnock students in 9th through 12th grade to consider joining the team.

• Keeping track of riding hours for the award program will run October 1 through September 30 each year with awards being given at the banquet in November. Hours will be recorded in 15 minute intervals. Prize levels will be 50 hours - a patch; Sharon will look into those. The award for 100 hours will be a water bottle with logo; 250 hours will be glassware painted by Evie Winter (she will stay within our price range of $20). The 500 hour award will be a fleece vest with logo and hours embroidered. Laura will finalize the forms and submit to Krys for inclusion on the web site.

• Terri explained the upcoming ACTHA events - 6/13 trail rides are being held in each state to benefit horse rescues. The Kokal family is hosting two events in Greenfield this year with a clinic to practice selected obstacles.

• John reminded us of the mustang adoption scheduled for this weekend at Cheshire Fairgrounds and admonished us not to adopt unless you are truly prepared to deal with a wild animal.

• Bill Carson explained the Old Home Days parade will go from Talbot Hill Road to Mt. Caesar School. Sharon will check on a parking spot for trailers.

Calendar ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

6/18-19-20 Camping at the Wagonwheel in Warwick, MA Beth Phippard for info 352-6970.

6/26/10 At Maureen Blackledge's house - Colony Hill Rd., Richmond 239-6289.
Rt. 32 to Richmond Four Corners, right on Rt. 119. When the speed limit changes to 55 take the next left - follow to end, bearing right.
Rt. 10 to Winchester, left at the light; when the speed limit changes to 40 road is on the right. RSVP by 6/23 and plan to bring a dish to share; Maureen will provide burgers and dogs as well as lemonade and iced tea.

7/05/10 Northfield, MA recreation area. In the saddle at 9:30 a.m.

7/17/10 Old Home Day in Swanzey - ride as a group in the parade? Sharon will get more info on parking trailers.

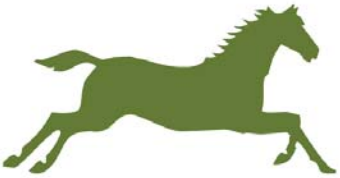
8/15/10 Mead Brook in Jaffrey 9:30 a.m. in the saddle. John and Jan will drive the minis and prepare lunch. (Plan on four hour ride)

8/22/10 Springfield Humane Society Ride sponsored by CHAPS club. Nancie Jarvis has more details

9/12/10 Reservoir in Springfield, VT. Ted will coordinate - in the saddle at 10 a.m.

10/10/10 NH-VT Ride for the Cure at GMHA - 10 miles, $250 entry fee - seek donations.

Sharon will check availability of the church for Monday, July 12 and advise by e-mail.



Happy Trails!