



New York State Horse Council

VOL 3

2024

NEWSLETTER



President’s Message from Pauline Burnes

May started with my participation in the “Game of Logging”, a chain saw operator certification course required by NYS Department of Environmental Conservation when using a chain saw on DEC managed State land. Two other Volunteers from IMPACT: Friends Improving Allegany County Trails, Inc. took the class, President Glenn Gebhard and Treasurer Nicole Munkwitz. This certification will help us maintain the trails on the West Almond Trail System, a great destination for horse camping and trail riding with approximately 30 miles of trails in Allegany County, New York.

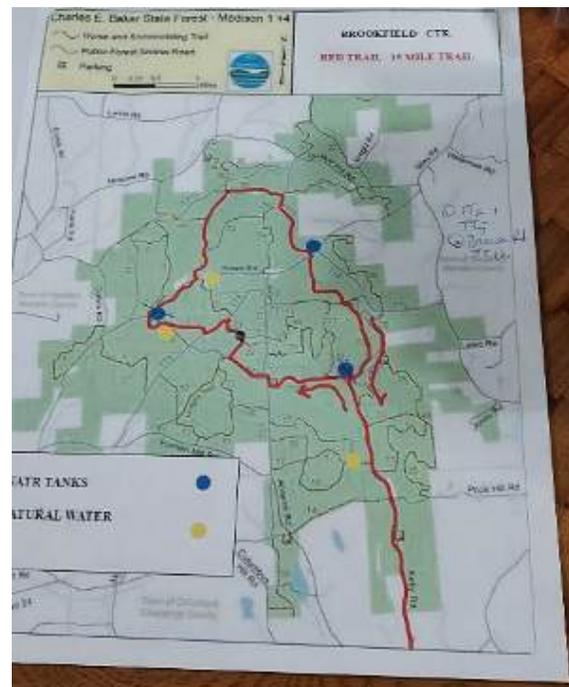


Later in May I was invited to attend the “Spring Tune Up” at the Hemlock Fairground for Mounted Patrol Officers instructed by Gary Cicoria (Retired Sgt. Livingston County Mounted Patrol) and Charlie Horst (Retired Sgt. Monroe County Mounted Patrol). It is always interesting to observe the techniques used to train officers and their horses in unusual circumstances, such as following a squad car with lights and sirens on.

Horses get a refreshing drink from their Unicorn friend at Mounted Patrol Spring Training Hemlock, NY

In June I had the pleasure of participating in the Equine Trail Sports Competition held at the Lou Eibl Corral on the Boutwell Hill Trail System on June 15. This is an opportunity to be judged at multiple obstacles along an 8-mile length of trail. The entire route is ridden at a walk, and there is a judge at each obstacle for scoring. It is a fantastic opportunity to assess your skill with beautiful landscapes, a well-maintained trail, and a safe atmosphere. Little Joe did an excellent job and received the high point ribbon for Newcomer with the most points. There were three divisions, Novice, Intermediate and Advanced. There are more competitions in Western New York throughout the summer, for more information go to: <https://www.equinetrailsports.com/>

Later in June, despite having vehicle difficulties I participated in the Brookfield Bonanza Competitive Trail Ride with Little Joe. Held at Pure Country Campgrounds, I found the accommodation to be pleasant, the food excellent, and all the judges and competitors to be congenial. Little Joe did ok, but when he was getting his pulse checked another horse was snorting in alarm, very loudly like a deer snort. Since Little Joe was looking around for the danger to run from, his pulse rate was up to 50, not the ideal 44 beats per minute. We still scored ok in the 15-mile division.



From Brookfield I hauled Little Joe to Otter Creek Stables, to ride with my friend Cathy Floetke for 5 days. Cathy has a wonderful buckskin Tennessee Walker named Rooster Cogburn. He and Little Joe are very well matched in stride, and like each other's company, too. I had an enjoyable camping trip and covered a LOT of trails at Otter Creek, probably over 50 miles total. If you have never been there, I highly recommend putting that on your must do list. A special thanks to Luke at Otter Creek Stables, as my truck battery died while there. He helped by recharging the battery so I could drive to Lowville, buy a new truck battery and Luke installed it for me. This great adventure took place just a few days before the huge storm hit New York on July 10 with tornado warnings and flooded roads in nearby Lowville. Thankfully, we were back home.



Pauline Burnes on Little Joe and Cathy Floetke on Rooster Cogburn
at the Otter Creek Horse Trails Assembly Area



Cathy and Rooster at the Otter Creek Watering Area

Cathy Floetke is this year's Manager of the annual NYS Horse Council Fall Pleasure ride held at the Madison County Fairgrounds October 11 through 14. In addition to riding the trails, there are activities such as a tack auction on Saturday night, "Jar Wars" on Sunday night, where beautiful baskets of donated items are available by purchasing tickets. Last year a Hunter Pace and Poker Run also took place. For a great weekend, registration is now in place, go to the NYSHC website. For more information contact FallRide@nyshc.org.

Issues concerning shared trails with other users are increasing. Also, vandalism of a new hitching rack (my husband helped build it) at Palmer's Pond (West Almond Trails) and non-horsemen camping in areas that are clearly designed and designated for horses. I am reaching out to the Manager of the Finger Lakes National Forest at Hector and making inquiries at Brookfield.

On the DEC managed West Almond Trails, the camping area clearly designed for horses with covered straight stalls, handicapped mounting ramp, and loop road is not solely designated for horses by DEC. Other campers share the space but have not become so numerous the horsemen have no place to camp. If you have complaints regarding not having enough camp sites for horses, contact the DEC Supervising Forester or Ranger for your area.

Please remember, if there is an emergency, call 911. If you are camping on DEC Forest lands or Wildlife Management Areas, contact the DEC Ranger also. Their dispatch number is 1-833-697-7264. If you are horse camping at the Finger Lakes National Forest, Hector Ranger District, contact the District Ranger, Jodie Vanselow, 607-546-4470 Extension 3314 or 262-844-6114 during the week. If you have an emergency during the weekend at FL National Forest, contact the Schuyler County Sheriff's Office 607-535-8222.

The New York State Horse Council has been asked to sponsor various events, including the Mounted Patrol Competition at the Hemlock Fair held on July 17 (see the article in this newsletter), the Lorenzo Driving Competition, the Ranch Horse Show August 23 at the New York State Fair, and others. New this year is the sponsorship of qualifying 4H members to attend the National Northeast Horse Bowl Championships. Please encourage your friends to join the NYSHC, as sponsorships are provided through memberships and donations to the NYSHC. Please encourage your friends to join, and if you have fundraising experience, we could use your help!

This is an election year, not only for our Nation's President, but for Officers and Board of Directors of the New York State Horse Council, Inc. Nominations are now being accepted until August 15 by Lisette Ruotolo (LMRuotolo@yahoo.com) for this year's slate of officers and Board of Directors whose term is expiring in 2024. If nominated for a position, please send a brief bio into Lisette by September 1. Lisette would like to publish ballots by September 7. A process to vote online will be available, and paper ballots will be accepted up until the Annual General Membership meeting on November 9, when the total votes will be tallied.

Please send nominations for the Lifetime Achievement Award, Horse Person of the Year Award and Special Achievement Award to Pauline Burnes. A selection committee will be established, and announcements made at the Annual General Membership Meeting. The perpetual trophy for the Lifetime Achievement Award is currently located in the trophy case at the Houghton University Equestrian Center.

Save the Date!

The Annual General Membership meeting will be held at Cornell University's Equine Park Saturday, November 9th .

Online Registration will be available by the end of September. The AGM will be catered with a light breakfast and lunch. We plan to have another "Silent Auction" to benefit the Equine Emergency Fund of the NYS Horse Council, Inc. Please contact me if you have quality items to donate for the silent auction. Tours of the new Equine Park and Animal Health Diagnostic Center at Cornell University during the AGM are in the planning process. Last year we toured the Veterinary College and had excellent speakers. The new Equine Park was chosen as new buildings and facilities will be completed by that date.



NYSHC Tour of the Animal Anatomy Lab at
Cornell University's College of Veterinary Medicine
2023 Annual General Membership Meeting

The ribbon cutting ceremony for the Equine Park at Cornell University's College of Veterinary Medicine will be held on November 13th. Please contact Pauline Burnes if you would like to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony as a representative of the New York State Horse Council.

2024 ASPCA Cornell Maddie's Shelter Medicine Conference

Cornell University in Ithaca NY hosted the 2024 ASPCA Cornell Maddie's Shelter Medicine Conference. This three day educational program was held on July 12th through 14th. Of interest was a full day of equine education, the first year horses have been featured!

Classes covered a wide range of topics, which included responding to equine cruelty and disaster, keeping horses safe in their own homes, improving equine adoptability, and the most difficult topic of euthanasia and how to make it more accessible. It was an exciting opportunity to learn, share ideas and network with equine advocates, veterinarians and shelter professionals from across the United States and Canada.

Information was shared on a Vet Direct Safety Net Program, which enables equine veterinarians to locate and provide care to at-risk horses in their service area to help increase retention of owned horses. This program is administered by the American Association of Equine Practitioners and is available to their member veterinarians. Veterinarians who are not currently enrolled are encouraged to do so.



Pictured are (left to right) Christie Schulte Kappert, Senior Director, Equine Welfare, ASPCA, Caitlin Caldwell, Program Director, ASPCA Right Horse, Colleen Segarra, President, Equine Rescue Resource/ Regional VP and Humane Chair, NYSHC, Joanna Dychton, Farm Director, Lollypop Farm Humane Society, Stacie Haynes, Executive Director, Susquehanna SPCA and Lori Redmond, Executive Director, Kentucky Humane Society



RIDE AND TIE JOINS HECTOR HALF HUNDRED IN 2024!

Come ride 16, 30 or 50 miles in the beautiful Finger Lakes National Forest OR run and ride. What a hoot, 1 horse and 2 riders! OR combine running and riding in an equathon, ride one loop and run the other, OR you ride and a friend runs!!

The event is **September 14th**.

Vet in on **September 13th**, 3pm-6pm OR 7am on the 13th if a 16miler and you don't want to camp over.

HOWEVER: All riders and runners must attend pre-ride briefing (and get a great chicken dinner!) at 6PM Friday the 13th.

All the details can be found at AERC webpage. <https://aerc.org/> Look under Calendar, North East region...Hector Half Hundred OR: <https://www.rideandtie.org/> under events.

For more information or any questions contact, Pam Karner.
607-280-2282 or drpamkarner@gmail.com

Lorenzo Driving Competition 2024

by
Gary Slate, Vice President
of
Central Region, New York State Horse Council

The Lorenzo Driving Competition on July 19-21 this year offered a very mixed series of experiences. There were three days of classes for ring, obstacle, dressage and cross country driving. In addition, there were several exhibits, horse-related presentations, and vendors on the grounds. Competitors came from several states, including Delaware, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Canada, and of course New York State. As an interesting side note, the second pleasure judge, Dede Bushneck, from Southern Pines, NC, grew up in Cazenovia and the Lorenzo Driving Competition launched her driving career. Lots of local people came to watch, but for those of you who weren't able to be there, this quick overview should help you savor some of the the atmosphere of the day.

The winners and placings of each class are available at lorenzodriving.org, and from the menu, "Competitors", "Results". If you know some of these competitors, you can see their class standings and even their horse's name. The variety of classes should demonstrate how entertaining it was to see the different types of of things you can do with a harnessed horse.

During the Saturday lunch break, Dr. David Remley (of Honeoye Falls, NY) gave a demonstration of the coach horn. He had a number of original and new coach horns, and played several of the traditional coach calls, explaining what the call was telling other coaches or ground crew, such as a new team is needed for an incoming coach, or the coach intended to pass traffic on the left or the right. Like the bugle, the horn is limited to six notes, so great skill is required to play a variety of of calls. Answering questions from the crowd, David explained how his livery clothing was accurate and serviceable in material and style, including his shirt, trousers and even boots. This was not a costume but an accurate representation of a coachman.



Following this, some members of the Limestone Hunt Club gave a talk on the purpose, tradition, and use of hounds of their hunt. Ms. Barbara Lindberg, Joint Master, Limestone Creek Hunt, talked about the English traditions that recognized hunts such as Limestone follow, how they coach new members, and how the hounds are selected and cared for. Questions from the crowd brought many interesting and amusing stories from the speakers, and showed how the hunt, sometimes seen as snobbish, can actually be quite accessible to the general public.



On this same Saturday, The Oakman Carriage and Sleigh Collection was open to the public for the day, thanks to the patronage of the New York State Horse Council. This barn, rarely open to the public, houses a variety of carriages and sleighs that once were owned by individuals in and around Cazenovia. They were collected by Anna Oakman in the 1920's and '30's to preserve what people were discarding in favor of automobiles. While the vehicles are largely unrestored (unlike the beautiful collection in the main Carriage House), many are very early examples of pioneer transportation and may someday be restored, conserved, or better displayed.



During the Sunday lunchtime demonstration, “Gael Orr, certified instructor with the American Sidesaddle Association, and her co-members of the Equestrian Heritage Society, demonstrated the art and elegance of riding sidesaddle and how it’s used by modern-day riders from parades to cross-country”. While I personally did not arrive in time to listen to this, there were still a couple of horses and ponies with sidesaddles that were being admired by spectators. That’s one more thing that I don’t see very often.

As my personal sponsorship to the show, I donated a copy of the 1898 novel David Harum; A Story of American Life by Edward Noyes Westcott, to be added to the “local driver award”, for competitors who came from within a 50 mile radius of Cazenovia.

This book is a favorite of mine, having been written by a banker from Syracuse, with the story set in Homer, New York, and centering around a small town banker with a passion for buying and selling horses. At one point in the book, David Harum says that he deals in all types of horses, but his preference is a driving horse. For all those reasons, I felt this was appropriate for the class, and it would give one more local horseman a chance to read this often forgotten treasure.

While I did watch some classes, a fair amount of time was spent at the New York State Horse Council booth talking with the public, as well as with people at other booths and vendors. I also walked over to the stabling area to see the horses at rest, talk with owners, watch horses being harnessed and “put to” vehicles, and to note license plates from several states. Years ago when my wife Sharon and I were showing, I noticed that once a show was over, I had been too busy to see very much of it. What I would like to emphasize here is that next year when Lorenzo rolls around, or even when there is a driving show in your part of the state, you really should plan on seeing what carriage driving is all about. Carol Buckhout, LDC board president, informs us that the dates for the 2025 Lorenzo Driving Competition are July 18-20, 2025.



Backbone Horse Camp

Backbone Horse Camp was contacted, as a policy they don't respond to facebook, but were kind enough to give me some background. The response from Jodie at the forest office was:

"Backbone Horsecamp at one point in time was a Horse Use Only Campground, however we watched over the years that the use was not there and with that fees charged to help keep up the campground were also not coming in. I made the decision a few years back to allow non horse users at the site, however sites #4-8 are for horse use only from Memorial Day to Columbus Days. I do not have the staff on the Forest to patrol on the weekends and ensure that users are abiding by the signs - let alone reading them. And I truly understand how frustrating that is.

We suggest folks give the Schyuler County Sheriff a call as we have an agreement with them for law enforcement."





DUE SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

SEND TO LISETTE RUOTOLLO, NOMINATIONS CHAIR

LMRuotolo@yahoo.com

TIMELINE: Bios due **September 14, 2024**

Ballots available by **September 21, 2024**, online and paper

E-ballot and mail in deadline **November 1, 2024**

Final tally and report at the Annual General Membership Meeting

November 9, 2024, Cornell University Equine Park

POSITIONS EXPIRING IN 2024

PRESIDENT

VICE PRESIDENT

TREASURER

DIRECTOR AT LARGE

CENTRAL REGION 5

Vice President

POSITIONS EXPIRING IN 2024 CONTINUED

FINGER LAKES REGION 7

Region Vice President

MID-HUDSON REGION 2

Region Director

NORTHERN REGION 4

Director

SOUTHEAST REGION 1

2 Directors

SOUTHERN TIER REGION 6

Region Vice President

WESTERN REGION 8

Region Vice President

Director

VACANT POSITIONS

CAPITAL REGION 3

Regional Vice President

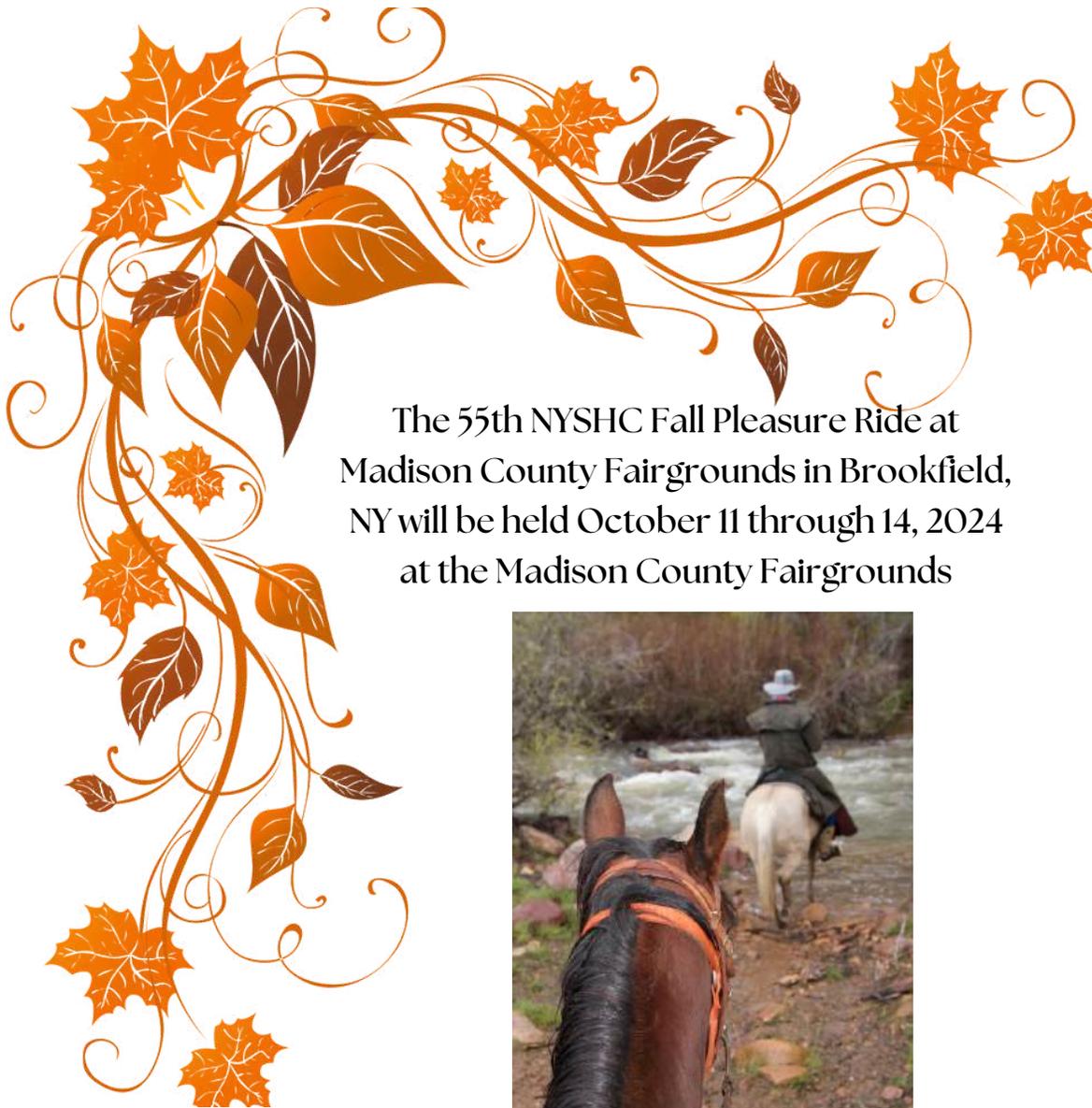
2 Directors

NORTHERN REGION 4

Director

WESTERN REGION 8

Director



The 55th NYSHC Fall Pleasure Ride at Madison County Fairgrounds in Brookfield, NY will be held October 11 through 14, 2024 at the Madison County Fairgrounds



Register Now

At <https://www.rsvpbook.com/NYSHCFallRide24>

For more information contact:
Fall Pleasure Ride Committee Chairperson
Cathy Floetke (352) 207-9501, FallRide@nyshc.org

Activities include:

Social Happy Hours (drinks included), PokerRun, Weigh In Your Horse, Jar Wars, NYSHC Benefit Auction, Door Prizes, Bon Fires, and plenty of riding or carriage driving at your leisure on the beautiful and picturesque Horse or Truck Trails.

- Registration via Online (preferred) or Postal Mail
 - NYSHC Member Registration Discount
 - Order Breakfast and/or Dinner
- Free camping with bathrooms with hot showers
- Electric hookups and sewage/dumping available for additional fee
 - Put up your own paddock included.
- Limited stalls in barns for an additional fee.
 - Riding arena

You must be registered to attend and participate at this event.

The highly acclaimed Brookfield Trail System has over 130 miles of horse trails set throughout three state forests (Charles Baker State Forest, Brookfield Railroad State Forest, and Beaver Creek State Forest). These three forests collectively provide 13,750 acres of public reforestation lands for multiple recreation purposes. Madison County Fairgrounds provide Campsites with full hookups, bathrooms, showers, 3 horse barns with box stalls, outdoor arena, dining hall and more.



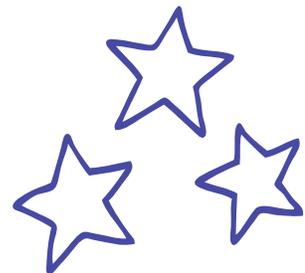
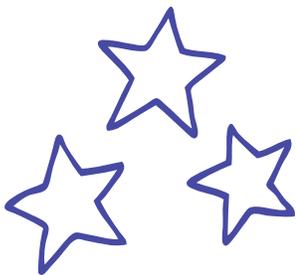


NYSHC 2024 Scholarship Winners



It was a competitive field of qualified applicants; the committee was pleased to see such promise in the future of our state’s equestrian community, and it made the job a welcome difficult task to choose only two. Each applicant considered was a NYSHC current member, wrote compelling letters as to what they hope to accomplish in the equine industry, and provided support references.

Alysa Guidici, a student currently enrolled in Cornell University’s College of Veterinary Medicine, is already well on her way to becoming an equine veterinarian. Her life long love of horses included 4H which taught her so much and fostered her love of sharing that knowledge too. Highly regarded by her professors and mentors in Cornell’s theriogenology department, the future Dr. Alysa plans to specialize her equine practice in equine reproduction.



Following Cazenovia College's closing, Madeline Sauro found her next collegiate home at Alfred University to continue her degree in Equine Business Management. Maddie has been passionate about horses since a very young girl and that hasn't wavered. Service to the industry through the form of volunteering at a variety of equine venues including camps, equine assisted therapies and the NYS Fair Horse Show, she's been exposed to many facets of the horse world. While she hasn't totally settled on a career path, Maddie's positive outlook will make a mark wherever she lands.



The NYSHC Scholarship Committee would like to make mention of the very close runners up this year as well. Abigail Pitts of Randolph, NY is a pre-vet major at Houghton College and is dedicated to horse care and education as shown by her commitment to 4H. SUNY Cobleskill is where Casey Van Nostrand is enrolled also pursuing a pre-veterinary degree; in her free time she helps to re-train horses at her home farm in Schenectady so that they might find good homes. Helping horses physically recover from injuries is what Watkins Glen resident, Kiera Sulkey, plans to do with her vet tech degree she's pursuing at Alfred State. Following that, she plans to round out her experience at SUNY Morrisville's equine rehabilitation program.

Karen Lassell, NYSHC Northern Region VP and Scholarship Chair

Boots, is there really anything new out there?

Lately, it seems we have less time and energy after a day of accomplishing our chores or tasks.

For that reason, some of us search for ways to ease or shorten our daily chores. This will allow us to spend more quality time with family or on hobbies.

Something practical for us, that can make our daily routines easier, could be an upgrade in our footwear.

Introducing myself, my name is David, my wife Betty and I have been selling footwear since the early 1990s. We are in the Southern Tier of New York, Apalachin, just west of Binghamton and just east of Owego.

As the title asks, “is there anything new out there?”, I would like to say yes, even as manufacturers have mastered waterproof and insulation, there are new innovations that have happened over the past several years, that some folks may not be aware of.

Betty and I are pretty proud to tell our customers about Dryshod Waterproof Footwear, how they have been developing new technology for Ranchers, Farmers and Equine Enthusiasts since 2018. Not to mention, Dryshod is a business located in Conklin, New York

If I could, I would like to highlight three major breakthroughs in technology that have sent Dryshod to one of the top brands of waterproof footwear. Which is why we only offer Dryshod footwear.

First is Densoprene®, used for the core or foundation of Dryshod Footwear, known as the Bootie. Densoprene® foam is a super dense neoprene material that keeps the cold/wet out. This waterproof and insulating material is naturally lightweight, buoyant and very comfortable. This will insure your foot and lower leg stay warm and protected in cold/wet conditions. In fact, they are constructed with the same material as deep-water dry suits.

Second is Hydrokote® water repellent. Hydrokote® is a PFAS Free nano-scale hydrophobic coating applied to the textile cover on the entire bootie. This hydrophobic coating repels water and other barnyard contaminants on contact. This keeps the exterior surface of the boot from icing up in freezing temps, and retaining water in wet conditions. Because the boots do not retain as much water, they do not increase in weight as the day progresses. Hosing off your boots when you are done with chores is a breeze & helps reduce spreading barnyard debris, and increase the life of your boots.

The third and most significant is Dureva®. This new outsole compound is extremely light weight and durable, and is exclusive to Dryshod. Boots with the Dureva outsoles can weigh nearly a pound lighter than boots with conventional outsoles. Imagine this, if you were to do even a couple thousand steps while doing your chores, wearing a set of boots with Dureva outsoles your legs and lower back just lifted nearly 2000 pounds less doing the same work. Most of us take many thousands of steps per day.

While we watch technology change everyday, and in many ways, there are some ways that it can benefit us directly. LOL, our adult children would get a laugh out of hearing me speak those words, as one who sometimes doesn't welcome change with open arms.

Betty and I hope this little article was pleasant for you to read and even a little bit informative.

We have a lot more information on our website and you can always drop us an email or
call us @ (607) 427-9112

All the best,
Betty and David DiLello
www.nyoutftr.com

Livingston County Mounted Patrol History and Mounted Patrol Competition at the Hemlock Fair, July 17, 2024

**Author: Livingston County Deputy Andrew Chanler, Commander,
Livingston County Mounted Patrol**

The Livingston County Mounted Patrol got underway in 1991 under Sheriff John M. York. Several members of the National Warplane Museum approached him on how the Sheriff's Office could assist them with security and more law enforcement presence. At the time, the event was handled entirely by the New York State Police.

Sheriff York had recently seen Judge Ron Cicoria and his brother Gary in a parade in Caledonia on horses and wondered if that would fit the request from the Warplane folks. The Sheriff went to the Judge and got in contact with Gary. In the matter of a week, Gary approached me (Andrew Chanler) and did a short interview and directed me to the Sheriff's Office with an application. Within two weeks we were underway with a unit!

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Our unit commanders since inception:

Sgt. Gary Cicoria 1991-2017

Deputy John Morgan 2017-2022

Deputy Andrew Chanler 2022-present

While Gary was the commander, they set the standard on our operations and promoted the unit so that we were incorporated into the law enforcement community. He started an all-day training session known as the "Spring Tune-up" for all area mounted units. We still conduct this training each year. Gary's accomplishments are too many to mention. When he retired, he had over 45 years of Mounted leadership under his belt.

Under Deputy John Morgan's leadership, the unit moved to six people from four. Training was enhanced with the unit including hosting a New York State Mounted Certification Class. Additional equipment was also acquired and put in service for unit members including a 4-horse gooseneck trailer. Deputy Morgan put in place our training arena at the Sheriff's Office Training Center on Rt. 408 in Mt. Morris.

When Sheriff Thomas Dougherty was elected Sheriff of Livingston County, he got very interested in our unit. He pursued getting Certified as a unit member and has proven to be an excellent rider and horseman. His support for our unit has been terrific and we are thankful for his unwavering support.

Gary came up with a plan to host a competition. We ran the first competition in 1995 at the Caledonia Fair. We moved to Hemlock in 1997. There have been as many as 20 people competing and our lowest field this year of 6. Our goal of the competition is to showcase some of the things we do to train our horses and show the public the wide range of horse breeds used for Mounted work.

Our competition for this year included riders from the following units:

- Monroe County Sheriff's Office
- Niagara County Sheriff's Office
- Albany Police Department
- Wyoming County Sheriff's Office Posse

Best appearing horse/rider, Western Deputy Chris Gerwitz riding Louise, Niagara County.

Best appearing horse/rider, English Deputy Merle Nozzi riding Monte, Monroe County

2nd Place - Obstacle Course, Officer Kurt Johnson riding Blackjack, Albany Police Dept.

1st Place - Obstacle Course, Trooper Jackie Copeland riding Handsome, Wyoming County Sheriff's Posse

Trooper Jackie Copeland was the recipient of the very special horsemanship award, in honor of John Chanler and Judge Ron Cicoria. This award was the idea from the Hemlock Fair leadership who recognized how important my Father and Ron were to the equestrian community. Both John and Ron were true sportsmen which included foxhunting, racing, trail riding and good all-around promotion of horse activities. Both judged horse shows and events in their lifetime and knew how to make owning a horse truly fun! John and Ron were instrumental in the initial equipment, horses, and promotion of the Mounted Unit.



Awards for Jackie Copeland , Wyoming County Mounted Patrol and Handsome





Second Place Winner Officer Kurt Johnson from Albany Mounted Police Unit and Blackjack



The audience greets the Competitors and their Horses

2023 Grand Champion Kentucky Colloquium Captain Jacquilyn Copeland

Article by Joann Long

On September 12th through the 15th Captain Jacquelyn (Jackie) Copeland competed at the 2023 38th annual Kentucky Horse Park Colloquium in Lexington, Kentucky. With 164 participants, Jackie won Grand Champion Combined Overall Score, 1st place in Obstacles, and 8th place in Equitation on her horse, Handsome, a 19-year-old Quarter horse she raised and trained herself.

Fifty-four law enforcement agencies from across the United States and Canada competed, including the farthest from California, Texas, Massachusetts, and Minnesota, as well as internationally from Toronto, Ontario, Canada with a total of 149 mounted competitors. The Obstacle Class tested the skill, courage, discipline, and partnership of the horse and rider through multiple sensory and complex obstacles. The Equitation Class tested the horsemanship skill and art of riding to perform specific functions and precision in a predefined course. The Combined Overall Score produced the Grand Champion of the event with Obstacle and Equitation scores totaled. Participation included paid and volunteer units competing, as well as networking and training opportunities to enhance job skills.

Captain Jacquelyn Copeland has been a member of the Wyoming county Sheriff's Mounted Unit since 1984 (over 39 years!) and has been successfully competing over the years at Mounted Police competition events like the Kentucky Colloquium, New York State Police Olympics, North American Police Equestrian Championships, and the Washington Police Week Memorial since 2004. Her 2023 Kentucky Colloquium Grand Champion title is representative of her dedication and leadership as the current Captain of the Wyoming County Sheriff's Mounted Unit, an all-volunteer not-for-profit rendering assistance to the Sheriff's Office or other public entities.

Note: Captain Copeland plans to compete at the Kentucky Horse Park National Mounted Police Colloquium in September, 10 – 14, 2024. For more information go to:

<https://kyhorsepark.com/park-information/groups-education-programs/mounted-police-colloquium/>



