



New York State Horse Council

Summer 2025 Newsletter



President's MESSAGE

PAULINE BURNES

July 21, 2025

The New York State Horse Council, Inc. started the New Year with a bold initiative, based on the addition to the Equine Policy section of the Empire State Council of Agricultural Organizations (CAO). The following was added to the 2025 CAO Policy Handbook:

Equine Policy Section #8. "Support for funding for the New York State Horse Council, Inc. an independent, nonprofit organization that advocates for all breeds of horses and all disciplines of equestrian pursuits, to expand their education programs, marketing, communication and promotion of equestrian events and trails on public lands in New York State. This is intended to foster the growth and sustainability for the preservation of a future of the horse industry in New York State."

Board members Fiona Farrell, Colleen Segarra, Christina Hansen, and I participated in the CAO Lobby Day in Albany, New York. I followed through with letters and emails to our State and Assembly representatives requesting funding for the New York State Horse Council. The request was for \$100,000 to expand our programs as noted in the policy statement. The funding request was not approved for the NY State budget this year. However, we have been encouraged to apply for next year's funding cycle. Watch more information on this effort in November 2025. We will need more NYS Horse Council members to be involved with this effort. The New York State Farm Bureau is advocating for the passage of

Assembly Bill A7342 and the Senate S7218 to form the New York State Horse Industry Board. This bill is sponsored by NYS Assembly person Woerner, Chair of the Committee on Racing and Wagering, and NYS Senator Hinchey, Chair of the Senate Agriculture Committee. The bill was not signed into law this year but

will be reintroduced in the next legislative session. For more information on this bill go to:

<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2025/A7342/amendment/B>. Or see the bill on Pages 5,6 and 7 of this newsletter.

In March I participated as a judge in the 100th anniversary of the New York State Future Farmers of America, held at the New York State Fairgrounds. The NYS Horse Council had a booth at the convention, with an excellent opportunity to meet and greet our young agricultural leaders and organizers of the event. I attended the groundbreaking ceremony for a new FFA building, and witnessed the progress being made on a new 4H horse barn and sheep barn at the NYS Fairgrounds.

The New York State Horse Council sponsored a very successful Mounted Patrol Clinic on June 7th at the Hemlock Fairgrounds. The basics of riding in formation and learning how to ride "boot to boot" and change smoothly from a column into various formations was great for my horse Little Joe, as he is not accustomed to riding with other horses in arena settings. The obstacle training was methodical with the day ending with a mock Search and Rescue exercise on the fairgrounds, where we searched for the manikin "Rosie the Rodeo Queen".

President's **MESSAGE, CONT.**

A very special thanks goes to our very experienced Instructors, Charlie Horst, owner of Centerpointe Stables in Penfield, New York and retired Monroe County Sheriff's Mounted Unit, his brother Michael Horst, Monroe County Sheriff's Department Mounted Unit. Michael Murphy from the Monroe County Rochester Police Department Mounted Unit joined us on horseback with his magnificent steed Roscoe. Both Charlie and Michael are successful competitors in Mounted Patrol Competitions. Special thanks to the Hemlock Lake Agricultural Society for donating the use of the fairgrounds and horse stalls, contributing to the success of this event.

Little Joe and I then participated in the two-day Mounted Patrol clinic held at MK Quarter Horses in Wilson, New York to benefit the MK Rodeo Girls. The Instructor, Bill Richie from Alabama spent lecture time explaining the anatomy of the horse's eye, and how they perceive the world differently than the rider/handler. Although the weather was extremely hot, participants were able to learn mounted skills in formation riding. More advanced techniques, such as riding through smoke, going through and past very low fire lines, and riding near a car with lights and sirens active were included in the outdoor mounted instruction. Following more experienced horses, such as the great Ranch horse Frog, and other "steady Eddie's" used leadership herd behavior in our favor.

In early July Little Joe, my husband Brian, and I took a camping trip to the very popular Otter Creek Horse Trails. We enjoyed staying at Otter Creek Stables, where Joe had a large paddock with comfortable shed, and plenty of room to roll after a long day ride. I was able to ride with friends from the **Grafton Trail Riders** and received a tour of the Cabins at Otter Creek from Liz Hirschey. I also had an opportunity to meet other hard-working trail maintainers from the **Friends of Otter Creek Horse Trails** and learn more about the trail grooming equipment that they use. The New York State Horse Council works closely with the Friends of Otter Creek and supports the work they do to improve and maintain the trails at this premier destination trail system in New York State. Mark your calendars for their annual fall ride on September 6, 2025.

On Saturday July 19 I met Linda Fey at Sugar Hill State Forest to explore trails and camping areas near Watkins Glen, New York. I had the pleasure of meeting members of **the New York Plantation Walking Horse Club**. Linda, Terry, Little Joe, Nate and Chance had a 14-mile trail ride from the main camping area to the Evergreen camping area. It was a fantastic opportunity to review the trail conditions and discuss the need for an active water source for the horses and campers. As with many of our trails on public lands, the area is suffering from the use of ATVs on non-motorized trails, needing more active enforcement and ways to keep the trails safe for equestrians and hikers.

I am seeking volunteers to help at the booth at the New York State Fair this year. Please contact me if you are available on August 28, 29 or 30.

President's **MESSAGE, CONT.**

The popular **NYS Horse Council Annual Fall Pleasure Ride** is taking place at the **Madison County Fairgrounds October 9 through 13, 2025**. The opportunity to register will be posted on the NYS Horse Council website soon. If you would like to volunteer to assist at the Fall Ride, please contact me at pauline.burnes@nyshc.org. Many hands make lighter work!

The NYS Horse Council, Inc. Annual General Membership Meeting (AGM) will be held at the State University of New York Morrisville, New York on Saturday, November 1, 2025. We will be touring the equine facilities at Morrisville, including special speakers. Mark your calendars, we would like to have a great turnout this year!

Pauline Burnes, President

NYS Horse Council, Inc.



Facing left to right are Mike Murphy and Roscoe from the Rochester PD Mounted Unit, Instructor Michael Horst, myself on Little Joe, and Charlie Horst



Pauline Burnes with husband Brian at Otter Creek Stables



Pauline and Little Joe

STATE OF NEW YORK

7218--B

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

April 4, 2025

Introduced by Sens. HINCHEY, BORRELLO, FAHY, GALLIVAN, OBERACKER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Agriculture -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the agriculture and markets law, in relation to establishing the New York state equine industry board
The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assem-

bly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The agriculture and markets law is amended by adding a new
2 section 387 to read as follows:

3 *§ 387. New York state equine industry board. 1. There shall be estab-*
4 *lished within the department the New York state equine industry board,*
5 *to advise and make recommendations to the state agencies on state*
6 *government plans, policies and programs affecting all aspects of equine*
7 *industry, as outlined below, and in such areas as its experience and*
8 *studies may indicate to be appropriate. The department shall provide*
9 *necessary secretarial and support services to the board.*

10 *2. The equine industry board shall consist of eighteen members*
11 *appointed by the governor, selected for their experience and expertise*
12 *related to areas of board responsibility. Members shall include the*
13 *commissioner or their designee who shall act as chairperson of the*
14 *board, and representatives of the following stakeholder groups: Cornell*
15 *university college of agriculture and life sciences; Cornell university*
16 *college of veterinary medicine; a rescue organization or the humane*
17 *society; an organization involved in horse sanctuaries or race horse*
18 *aftercare; an organization involved in horse therapy; an equine veteri-*
19 *narian; a trail or recreational riding group; the equine support indus-*
20 *try; an organizer of horse shows, rodeos or competitions; horse boarders*
21 *or riding stables; an urban equestrian organization; the horse breeding*

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

LBD11101-10-5

industry;

farmers and ranchers; an academic researcher; the New York state horse council or a similar organization; the New York state Veterinary Medical Society or a similar organization; and a youth equine organization. Members shall be appointed for a term of three years and may serve until their successors are chosen provided, however, that of the members first appointed, six of the members shall serve for a term of one year, six shall serve for a term of two years, and six shall serve for a term of three years. Members shall serve without salary. ~~dufies (and the responsibilities of the equine advisory board shall include, but not be limited to, providing timely advice, comments and recommendations to the commissioner regarding:~~

- (i) equine-tourism;
- (ii) equine industry promotion;
- (iii) workforce development;
- (iv) educational and training initiatives;
- (v) humane treatment of horses; and
- (vi) other areas of interest identified by the board.

(b) The commissioner may delegate to the board such additional duties and responsibilities as are deemed necessary.

4. The duties and responsibilities of the equine industry board shall include, but not be limited to, providing timely advice, comments and recommendations to the commissioner and other state agency heads regarding all aspects of the equine industry in the state. Concerned state agencies shall be encouraged to establish a working relationship with the board and shall fully cooperate with the board in any requests it shall make.

5. The equine industry board may ask other individuals to attend its meetings or work with it on an occasional or regular basis. The board shall set the time and place of its meetings and shall hold at least one meeting per year. The board may establish committees and regional working groups as necessary.

6. The equine industry board shall produce an annual report to the governor and the legislature on or before the end of each calendar year concerning its activities during the previous year and its program expectations for the succeeding year.

7. (a) The equine industry board shall advise the commissioner in establishing procedures for making annual awards and grants, within the limits of appropriations made therefor, recognizing New York equine businesses, individuals, and institutions that are successful in innovating, marketing, and/or promoting New York equine industries. The commissioner shall coordinate with the commissioner of economic development to determine which department shall make awards and grants in various categories identified by the equine industry board. These awards and grants shall be given in recognition of exceptional performance, innovation and support for New York equine industries by persons, firms and organizations that are principally located within the state of New York and engaged in the operation of New York equine farms, businesses and institutions.

(b) The board may annually nominate and forward such nominations for awards and grants to the commissioner for consideration in the following categories:

- (i) veterinary practice and horse welfare;
- (ii) equine-tourism;
- (iii) workforce development;
- (iv) public education;
- (v) youth equine activities; and

such

1 *(vi) other awards and grants as the equine advisory board shall*
2 *recommend. shall have the discretion to designate award and*
3 ~~*(c) grant to the nominees*~~ *are not eligible as* ~~*and*~~
4 ~~*nominees*~~ *winners from these nominees. Current members of the board*
5 _____

6 § 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
7 have become a law.

Register now for the NYSHC Fall Pleasure Ride

RSVPBook ready for registration:
Register Now At
[https://www.rsvpbook.com
/NYSHCFallRide25](https://www.rsvpbook.com/NYSHCFallRide25)



The 56th NYSHC Fall Pleasure Ride at Madison County Fairgrounds in Brookfield, NY will be held October 10 through 13 at the Madison County Fairgrounds, 2025.

Fall Pleasure Ride Committee Chairperson is Cathy Floetke (352) 207-9501, FallRide@nyshc.org. 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.

NOTE: When stalls are sold out you can still bring your own paddocks and the wait list will be open. If this is the case, please email fallride@nyhc.org to get on stall wait list or select wait list in the stall section of online registration.

Activities may include: Social Happy Hours (drinks included), Poker Run, Weigh In Your Horse, Jar Wars, 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.

Register Now At <https://www.rsvpbook.com/NYSHCFallRide25>

Online Registration closes 9/19/2025

NYSHC is seeking donations for auction and Jar Wars Baskets. Donations to benefit NYSHC programs. See letter on next page.



New York State Horse Council

Our Mission: “To create a strong unified voice for all interests towards the preservation of a future for horses in New York State.”

We are excited to announce the **56th Annual Fall Pleasure Ride**, hosted by the **New York State Horse Council (NYSHC)**, and we invite you to become a proud sponsor of this beloved equestrian tradition. The ride is held at the Madison County Fairgrounds from October 10th-13th.

Taking place this fall, the Pleasure Ride brings together horse lovers and families for a fun-filled weekend of trail riding, camaraderie, and community celebration. After facing challenges during COVID, our ride is steadily gaining momentum again, with **over 50 horses and riders plus their families** attending in recent years. Events include a **Poker Run, Hunter Pace, a Saturday night auction, "Jar Wars" basket drawings**, and even **Cowboy Church on Sunday morning**.

Your sponsorship will directly support the success of this event and help us continue to grow equine opportunities across New York State. In appreciation of your generosity, we offer the following sponsorship levels:

Sponsorship Opportunities:

Platinum Sponsor – \$1,000

- Large business name and logo on banner
- **Full-page ad** in the NYSHC Newsletter
- Prime listing in the Ride Program

Gold Sponsor – \$500

- Medium-sized name and logo on banner
- **1/2-page ad** in the NYSHC Newsletter
- Featured listing in the Ride Program

Silver Sponsor – \$250

- Smaller name and logo on banner
- **1/4-page ad** in the NYSHC Newsletter
- Standard listing in the Ride Program

Bronze Sponsor – \$100

- Business name listed on banner with logo
- **Business card-sized ad** in the Newsletter
- Listing in the Ride Program

Your support not only helps us make the Fall Pleasure Ride a memorable experience, but also showcases your business to a loyal, statewide equestrian audience. Our members are passionate, dedicated horse owners who appreciate those who support their lifestyle and values.

Additional Ways to Support:

- **Donate goods, gift baskets, or services** for our auction or "Jar Wars" – great for showcasing your business!
- **Sponsor a meal or activity** during the weekend for added recognition
- **Offer discounts or coupons** for our participants in the event packets

We would be honored to have you as a sponsor. Enclosed is a sponsorship form with more details. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Pauline Burnes at 607-765-8543 or Pauline.Burnes@nyshc.org

Thank you for considering this opportunity to support the NYSHC and our equestrian community. We look forward to riding together this fall with your business as one of our valued sponsors.

Warm regards,



Pauline Burnes, President

New York State Horse Council, Inc.

www.nyshc.org

**Deadline for sponsorship money is Sept 29, 2025.
Auction items and jar wars baskets can be brought
to the Madison County Fairgrounds October 9 and
10, 2025.**

The Western Equestrian Team at Alfred State College is seeking sponsorships

Needed: monetary donations show clothing western tack horse supplies
We are only partially funded and appreciate your consideration.

Our Philosophy

Keep it simple, care for the horse

Our Goals

- U Perform in harmony with the horse to bring forth the best in each of us with quiet, clear communication
 - U Work hard with tenacity, grit and integrity
 - U Strive to continually learn and improve
 - U Celebrate and be good stewards of the horse
- When we accomplish these, the rest is easy.

So glad to see you treat your horses with respect and gentle care. They get better at their jobs with kindness, not abusive use of spurs and hands. Harry Hurd, AQHA judge 50 yrs

Accomplishments

Top 10 placings at IHSA Nationals
Multiple AQHA/Back on Track Hi-Point Riders
Region Hi-Point and Reserve Hi-Point Riders
Numerous Hi-Point Team and Reserve Awards



In an industry where our horses are too often used as equipment and disposable: Rose Stayer-Ruffner is a wonderful role model for young equestrians - instilling horsemanship AND sportsmanship in her team. The horses always come first and the riders consistently find ways to better themselves. Samantha Musante, NRHA Professional and Judge

Community



Love the horse first and the sport second. The goal isn't to "train" a horse to listen to you. The goal is to teach the horse that it can trust you. We do not see this sportsmanship enough and it is wildly refreshing to know that the real lessons in life are being taught by Rose. The Alfred State team develops so many more things than class winners. It develops a lifetime of integrity and compassion. Everyone leaves ASC a champion. Virginia Beaton, Professional Horsewoman

Commitment



It's refreshing to go to a barn where students are taught compassionate horsemanship both on and off the horse. Horse care and horse health, physical and emotional are paramount in this program. Amy Mount, DVM

We appreciate our sponsors and will show our appreciation in return



Thank you for reading about our team, the highlights and what our supporters say. If you have a product or funds to donate, please contact Coach Rose Stayer-Ruffner at stayerrm@alfredstate.edu or 716-307-5276 or utilize the QR code.

Meet THE BOARD



In this volume of the 2025 Newsletter, we will start to meet the faces of the NYSHC. We wanted to start with our newest face, Administrative Assistant, Lindsay Lindke.

Lindsay has been a professional member of the USEF since 2001 when she opened her farm, Hunters Ridge, Inc. Lindsay also coaches both an IEA Team, based out of Hunters Ridge Inc, and IHSA Team. Her IHSA Team is from Canisus College. Lindsay is also an active 4H leader and serves on both the Public Presentation Committee and Achievement Night Committee for the Niagara County 4H program. She is active in both Equine and Working Goat Programs. Lindsay is married to Brandon who owns a tree service and has a son Blake, who loves to play football. They also have 2 black labs, Kimber and Tika.



Brookfield **BONANZA**

The Brookfield Bonanza Competitive Trail Ride was a huge success, thanks to the continued generosity of the New York Horse Council! For the second year in a row the Brookfield Bonanza was held in the Charles E. Baker State Forest in New Berlin NY on June 21 and 22. . On Saturday there were 24 riders who headed out on the well marked trail to complete either the 15 mile or 30 mile distance. This year there were also two drivers from Virginia who headed out to cover 15 miles of trail!

Unfortunately participants woke up Sunday to the threat of severe weather and so for the safety of all our equines and humans, the event had to be

cancelled. The Brookfield Bonanza is a competitive trail ride (CTR) offering 15 mile ride or drive, as well as a 30 mile ride each day plus a two day 60 mile ride. The trail is marked with ribbons and arrows for competitors to follow. Participants have a window of time to complete their respective distance. The winner is decided by both a veterinarian and a lay judge who score each equine to determine which has finished in the best condition. It is only through the support of the New York Horse Council that this ride is offered and enjoyed by so many equestrians!

If you are interested in learning more about the sport of Competitive Trail Riding and Driving, please visit the ECTRA web page at www.ectra.org or on Facebook: "Eastern Competitive Trail Ride Association" (ECTRA) for more information on this extraordinary and challenging equine sport!



Photo Credits: Karen Poltynski and Patricia Clark
Used with permission

NEW YORK STATE HORSE COUNCIL RIDE & DRIVE PROGRAM

Would you like to receive recognition for the hours you spent in the saddle or in the box seat of the carriage? Well, you can and you can even win some cool prizes and earn badges. It's called the Ride & Drive Program and it's open to all paid members of all ages. It is a great way to keep track of exactly how much time you spend out riding or driving with your equine buddy plus it can be a motivator to get out there and ride or drive. To participate, member dues must be paid for the current year. Keep track of your hours ridden or driven on the log sheet that can be downloaded (or you can keep track on your computer) from the NYSHC webpage, nyshc.org, Awards, Ride & Drive. You can even set up your own spreadsheet if that's what suits you best. There are also a number of free cell phone apps that are available to help keep track of time. Here are just a few: MapMyRun, MapMyRide (I used both of these), Sports Tracker, Maprika, Geo tracker, just to name a few. There is an initial \$15 registration fee for the first year. After the first year, there is a \$5 registration fee.

For the 2024 year, Donna Brown, received the Most Hours Ridden for 2024 award. She will be receiving \$30 gift certificate from Amazon. Donna will also be receiving 750 and 1000 hour patches for riding. Other members receiving acknowledgements in the form of award patches are Pauline Burnes, 1000 hours patch; Sarah Craig, 500 hour patch; Sharon Dziekonski, 100 and 200 hour patches; Lisa Teichert, 100 hour patch, and Tom Frechette, 100 hour patch for carriage driving. So, visit nyshc.org and sign up for the Ride & Drive program now! See you on the trails!!!!





FUNDRAISER

HELP SUPPORT SARAH AND ONYX



Please Support Sarah Reitz and her goal of competing for the US at the
2025 FEI Driving World Championships for Combined Ponies
in Le Pin au Haras, France
September 17-21, 2025



WHY FUNDRAISE ?

US Equestrian Federation
selects the US Team, but does
not provide direct athlete
funding to attend the
competition

All donations will be used to
cover the trip, training and
other competition only
expenses

PLEASE INDICATE
SARAH REITZ
IN MEMO LINE
WHEN DONATING

HOW TO DONATE

CHECKS :
High Hopes Farm
9096 County Rd 14
Honeoye Falls NY 14472

VENMO :



PayPal:
highhopesfarm43@gmail.com

Lorenzo Driving Competition 2025

It all came off without a hitch - actually with many hitches! The 2025 Lorenzo Driving Competition held July 18-20 on the lawns of the elegant Lorenzo State Historic Site in Cazenovia, NY, was one for the books. Mother Nature provided an almost rain-free and comfortably warm weekend for drivers and their equine partners to partake in three days of friendly carriage driving competition.

A field of 41 entries came from across the northeast and Canada and tested their skills in Friday's Combined Test (driven dressage and a cones course) and/or Saturday's and Sunday's Pleasure Show. Non-divisional classes such as the Carriage Dog Class, Drive and Ride and the Groom's Class provided additional entertainment for the hundreds of spectators that attended the show during the three days. Educational showcase presentations included a Hunting Horn demonstration, Equine Spinal Manipulation and Modern Equine Dentistry.

Numerous opportunities were offered to the youth that attended the show. The Kids' Korral featured two life-size stationary horses, Dexter and Charlie, that helped teach youngsters the feel for driving and for learning anatomical parts of the horse. Three very friendly miniature donkeys, provided by the nearby Haven at Skanda, a local animal rescue and sanctuary, gave youngsters the chance to meet a different type of equid. Miss Mattie Buckland, the dedicated teacher from Lorenzo's one room schoolhouse, provided the chance for youth to learn how children played and learned over a century ago.

The Lorenzo Driving Competition could not happen without its loyal sponsors and the NYS Horse Council is among its most generous. For the past several years, the NYS Horse Council, a Marquee show sponsor, has supported the show's signature poster (this changes each year) and the Oakman Carriage and Sleigh Collection. This abundant group of carriages and sleighs, originally from the Cazenovia area, were donated to the Lorenzo site by Miss Anna Oakman, great, great niece of John Lincklaen, the founder of Cazenovia.

The show organizers are looking forward to July 17-19, 2026, when celebrate 50 Years of Lorenzo. We hope the NYS Horse Council will join us for this commemorative event.



The lineup for the Antique Vehicle Turnout class with Cazenovia Lake in the background; photo by Dean Media Group

Lorenzo PICTURES



Pair Reinsmanship class entry JoAnn Murr, Lorenzo mansion in the background, photo by Dean Media Group



Carriage Dog Class entry
“Millie”, owned by Michael
Roets, Historic Site Regional
Manager; Debra North, driver;
photo by Dean Media Group



Kids’ Korral activities, photo by LDC



1. 2025 Lorenzo Signature Poster, sponsored by NYS Horse Council and Janis Barth, LDC board treasurer, photo by LDC

THIS YEARS THEME - **COSTUME PARTY !!!**

OTTER CREEK FUN RIDE

SEPTEMBER 6, 2025



OTTER CREEK HORSE TRAILS ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

ONLINE REGISTRATION **AUG 1ST - SEPT 1ST.**

WWW.FRIENDSOFOOTTERCREEKHORSETRAILS.COM

\$35 ADULT / \$10 YOUTH / \$15 LUNCH ONLY.

(PARTIAL REFUND AVAIL.)

ONLINE REGISTRATION **SEPT 2ND - 4TH**

\$45 ADULT / \$10 YOUTH / \$15 LUNCH ONLY

(NO REFUNDS)

DAY OF RIDE REGISTRATION

\$45 ADULT / \$10 YOUTH / \$15 LUNCH ONLY

(LUNCH ONLY MAY NOT BE AVAIL.)

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO JOIN IN ON OUR

"COSTUME PARTY" THEME. SPECIAL PRIZES
FOR THE TOP 3 COSTUMES!

HOT LUNCH SERVED 12:30-2:30.

HATS...SHIRTS...1/4 ZIP FLEECE AVAILABLE.

ALL DONATIONS USED TO MAINTAIN THE
TRAIL SYSTEM.

9AM ROLLING START BEGINS.

11AM LAST OUT.

(ARRIVE EARLY IF YOU ARE REGISTERING DAY OF RIDE.)

**7 MILE COURSE WITH FUN OBSTACLES ON
COURSE.**

COOL GIVEAWAY DRAWING AT 2:00

RIDERS UNDER 18 MUST WEAR A HELMET
ACCORDING TO NYS LAW AND ALL RIDERS
ENCOURAGED TO WEAR A HELMET.

NO DOGS ALLOWED ON RIDE.

FRIENDS OF OTTER CREEK HORSE TRAILS.COM

South Scholarship **WINNER**

Lauren Krongold

A newly minted high school graduate, Lauren has set her sights on becoming a veterinarian and will begin her undergraduate studies at Cornell University this fall.

“Advocating for farming, thoughtful land management, and caring for all animals naturally led me to veterinary science as my chosen profession. Moving to a community deeply rooted in the 4-H program and surrounded by animals, I've appreciated the intricate balance between nature, animal welfare, and responsible farming. My hands-on experiences with livestock, observations of ecosystem interconnectivity, and studies in sustainable agriculture have enriched my excitement for veterinary science. Veterinary medicine is a pathway that provides care for animals and contributes towards creating a world that is more compassionate and sustainable. This perspective on animal care motivates me to become a veterinarian. Animal science will allow me to influence lives of animals meaningfully and the communities reliant on them. I am very thankful for the generous scholarship from the New York State Horse Council that is helping me make my dreams come true.”



Beyond the Barn: Explore a Career in New York's Horse Industry

By Lindsay LaBella

When most people think of horse jobs, they picture mucking stalls or teaching weekend lessons. But that barely scratches the surface.

The truth is, **the horse industry is a powerhouse at 7 Billion dollars.** Working with horses is a dream for many and you don't have to leave New York to chase it. From the rolling hills of horse country to the racetracks, vet hospitals, research labs, breeding farms, fashion studios, and showgrounds, **New York is one of the best places in the nation to build an equestrian future.**

It's home to:

- World-class equine colleges and universities
- Renowned vet hospitals and specialty clinics
- Prestigious competitions and events
- Expansive riding trail networks

A strong network of professionals, farms, and businesses

Advocacy and support through organizations like the NYS Horse Council

Where Do You Fit In?

The horse industry isn't just a narrow herd path line. Whether you want to work in the arena or the lab, at events or in a therapy center, in a saddle or behind a camera—there's a career path for you. What follows is a look at **seven key sectors** that drive New York's \$7 billion equine economy. Each one is packed with real opportunities, right here in our state, for young people ready to turn their passion for horses into a profession.

1. Riding & Training

At the heart of the industry are the professionals who teach, train, and ride. But even this familiar category is more diverse than most realize. From colt starters to international competitors, equitation coaches to mounted patrol officers, riders can build careers in countless directions. Whether you're drawn to the show ring, the backcountry, or the racetrack, training horses and coaching people is a career path rooted in hands-on skill, trust, and discipline.

Careers in Riding & Training:

- Discipline-specific Trainer (Dressage, Reining, Show Jumping, etc.)
- Riding Instructor / Lesson Program Manager
- Eventing or Combined Driving Coach
- Race Jockey or Exercise Rider
- Mounted Police Officer
- Kids Lesson Instructor
- Trail Riding Guide
- Polo Player or Coach
- Young Horse Developer / Colt Starter
- Vaulting or Trick Riding Instructor

2. Healthcare & Wellness

Behind every healthy horse is a network of professionals dedicated to its care. The equine wellness field spans traditional veterinary medicine and alternative therapies, offering a mix of science, compassion, and physical work. From diagnostics and surgery to massage and rehab, this path attracts those with a deep love for biology and healing. And with top veterinary hospitals and educational programs in-state, New York is a leader in equine health.

Careers in Healthcare & Wellness:

- Equine Veterinarian or Veterinary Specialist
- Veterinary Technician or Assistant
- Farrier or Barefoot Trimmer
- Equine Dentist
- Chiropractor or Acupuncturist
- Equine Massage or Laser Therapist
- Equine Nutritionist
- Rehab and Conditioning Specialist
- Reproductive Specialist
- Equine Behaviorist

Innovation in the horse industry isn't just about high-tech gadgets—though there's plenty of that too. Designers, engineers, and product developers are behind everything horses and riders use daily—from smart blankets and wearable tech to custom saddles and sustainable feed formulas. In fact, New York is home to multiple companies leading the charge in equestrian product development. If you're creative, tech-savvy, or business-minded, this could be your gateway into the industry.

Careers in Products & Innovation:

- Equestrian Fashion Designer (competition apparel, barnwear)
- Saddle Fitter or Tack Designer
- Chemical Product Developer (fly sprays, hoof care, grooming)
- Feed or Supplement Formulator
- Equine Tech Developer (wearables, monitoring apps, GPS tracking)
- Product Marketing or Brand Manager
- Leatherworker / Custom Tack Maker
- Equine Safety Gear Designer
- Research Chemist for Equine Products
- Packaging & Label Compliance Specialist

4. Events & Competition

Every show, rodeo, or clinic you've attended relies on a hidden army of professionals to make it happen. Event and competition careers are for those who thrive under pressure, love planning, and know how to make an experience run seamlessly. Whether you're behind the microphone, the clipboard, or the course design software, you're part of what makes the equestrian world exciting and visible.

Careers in Events & Competition:

- Horse Show Judge (discipline/breed specific)
- Course Designer (Jumping, Driving, Cross-Country)
- Show Secretary or Steward
- Event Planner or Competition Coordinator
- Rodeo Producer or Crew Member
- Timekeeper or Ring Steward
- Scorer / Scribe
- Announcer or Broadcaster
- Facility Operations Crew
- Hospitality or Sponsorship Manager

5. Media, Marketing & Communications

Someone has to tell the stories, capture the moments, and promote the magic of the horse world—and that someone could be you. With the rise of social media, equine podcasts, and digital marketing, the demand for skilled communicators and creatives is growing. If you have a passion for writing, photography, design, or digital content, there's space for you in the saddle—behind a keyboard or a camera.

Careers in Media, Marketing & Communications:

- Equine Journalist or Blogger
- Social Media Manager for a Farm or Brand
- Equine Photographer or Videographer
- Podcast Host or Producer
- Website Designer or SEO Specialist for Equine Businesses
- Graphic Designer for Events or Merch
- Book Author (fiction or nonfiction)
- PR Specialist for Equestrian Athletes or Organizations
- Livestream Broadcaster or Commentator
- Equine Influencer or Content Creator

6. Therapy & Outreach

The horse is one of the most powerful therapeutic tools available. In this field, professionals use horses to serve people facing physical, emotional, or cognitive challenges. This is a career track built on empathy, patience, and connection—and New York has many leading therapeutic riding centers offering internships, certifications, and career pathways.

Careers in Therapy & Outreach:

- Therapeutic Riding Instructor (PATH Intl. Certified)
- Hippotherapy Practitioner (Physical/Occupational Therapist)
- Equine-Assisted Mental Health Facilitator
- Adaptive Riding Coach
- Program Director for Equine Therapy Nonprofit
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Grant Writer or Fundraiser
- Equine Specialist in Mental Health and Learning (ESMHL)
- Grief Support Facilitator using Horses
- Community Outreach or Youth Program Leader

7. Property & Facility Management

It's one thing to own a horse—it's another to manage an entire equestrian property. This field is perfect for hands-on problem-solvers, planners, and those with a head for logistics. From maintaining pastures to managing staff, every working farm or riding center needs a team to keep it safe, efficient, and horse-friendly. In a state like New York, where zoning, insurance, and infrastructure are key—these roles are more valuable than ever.

Careers in Property & Facility Management:

- Barn Manager or Stable Operations Supervisor
- Boarding Facility Owner / Operator
- Equestrian Transport
- Arena Construction/Maintenance Specialist
- Farm Equipment Operator or Technician
- Trail Maintenance & Land Steward
- Zoning & Compliance Consultant
- Insurance Agent for Equine Properties
- Agricultural Extension Officer
- Real Estate Agent Specializing in Equine Properties
- Event Facility Coordinator

This is only a glimpse into what's possible for those with a passion for horses and a drive to build a meaningful career. The truth is, the equine industry needs more than riders. It needs marketers, managers, accountants, creatives, and entrepreneurs. Not sure which path is right for you? Start simple. Many successful careers begin at a local community college, with a foundation in **business, marketing, or accounting**. Why? Because in the horse world, especially as a small business owner, you'll often wear every hat—trainer, bookkeeper, scheduler, and marketer all in one. Pair your horse passion with business savvy degree, and you're already ahead of the herd.

So check out what New York has to offer, because careers with horses aren't just possible, they're neigh-cessary.

SAVE THE DATES

Hickorys Ridge & Bridgman Stables
2025 Obstacle Challenge Buckle Series

June 22 - 1st Event

July 20 - 2nd Event

Aug 3 - 3rd Event

Aug 17 - Play Date

Sept 14 - 4th Event

Oct TBD - Fun Show

KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR FACEBOOK
EVENTS AND DATE CONFIRMATIONS



Begin Again Horse Rescue

Charity Challenge

Obstacle Competition

September 6th, 2025

Hemlock Fairgrounds

.....

**ALL LEVELS
ALL DISCIPLINES
ALL AGES
SPECIAL AWARDS
GREAT PRIZES
FUN FOR ALL!**

BEGINAGAINRESCUE.ORG/EVENTS

Lorenzo Driving Competition 2025

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

Near the shore of Cazenovia Lake, on three beautiful summer days in July, on the lawn of the historic Lorenzo Mansion State Park, horsemen and women from six states (New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio) and Canada gathered with carriages, horses and harness. From Friday morning until the following Sunday afternoon, they competed in obstacle, dressage, ride & drive, reinsmanship, and pleasure driving classes, with antique and contemporary wheeled vehicles. They also enjoyed themselves at a reception for competitors, sponsors and patrons, toured the mansion and carriage collections, shared pizza and ice cream in the Formal Garden. The Syracuse Orchestra String Quartet made an open air appearance to add ambiance to the Friday evening "Hats Off welcome party", playing horse-themed pieces of music. Acquaintances were renewed, and new friends were made among horse people of many breeds. Horse breeds ranged from VSE (very small equine, or "minis") to Dutch Harness horse, and several in-between). The rain mostly held off this year, threatening and sprinkling for a few moments, but not enough to dampen anyone's spirits.

The New York State Horse Council once again held a prime spot among the many vendors for the information booth, and was able to offer brochures and information to many visitors. Horse Council was also credited with hosting the large storage barn of local vehicles bequeathed to the site many years ago. This collection is seldom seen by the public, but interpretive personnel were made available to talk about many of the more rare and unique vehicles. They ranged from a rare circa 1790 "Chaise" or Chair (a two wheeled vehicle typically used in the days when roads were simply dirt trails through frontier forests) to an 1890's Moyer surrey from the very famous Moyer Carriage Factory in Syracuse. Most are unrestored, but the "Chaise" would make an excellent Community BiCentennial project to commemorate the American Revolution.

The schedule of events could be found on lorenzodriving.com, but each day had a variety of obstacles and ring classes that engaged competitors and those who came merely to watch and to learn. Even a walk through the stabling area was a chance to talk to horse people from all parts of New York and the Northeast. While every horse person is eager to talk about their horse or their vehicles, the show program was thorough enough to list each competitor by home town, horse's name and breed, and vehicle type. Even the definition of gaits judged in the ring (per the American Driving Society Rulebook) was listed, so that even novice onlookers could appreciate how each entry was rated by the judge. Add to this the "Spectator's Guide to the Pleasure Show", and every parent had a ready answer to a child's, "What's going on out there?". The program, thanks to Janice Barth and the crew at "NY Horse" magazine, is a reference to save for future carriage events. Special mention should be made of the Cherry Valley Carriage Association, a driving club that has members throughout New York State and beyond, and has been instrumental in founding and supporting this

show for nearly 50 years. Credit also goes to Show Manager Hannah Polson, the Lorenzo Driving Competition Board of Directors headed by Carol Buckout, and the many volunteers who made this show such a success!

There are photos attached that I take credit for, with the caveat that I cannot name the people and horses in each photo. For anyone who sees themselves, without proper identification, I do sincerely apologize. While I went as a certified representative of the New York State Horse Council, I found it hard to not get caught up enjoying the chance to step back in history and get lost in the moment.
The NYSHC booth



Sharon Slate at the NYSHC booth





All sizes welcome



A very old and very rare circa 1790 Chaise, two wheeled cart and earliest type of frontier conveyance



The rarely open door to the Oatman Carriage Collection



Ruth Whiting of Gananoque, Ontario with her Welsh pony "Lily Lane Carousel Suprize" put to a Meadowbrook cart



The judge making the decision



JoAnn Murr with a pair of VSE, put to a Cut-under Back-to-Back trap



Kim Smith with a Haflinger “Wave Warrior Kasa” put to a Meadowbrook cart



Returning to the stabling area

OUR HERITAGE LIVES ON
Thanks to the foundation Morgan Breeders

Heritage Jim T
(Jim Tarron x Heritage Fame)
Great-grandson of Heritage
Thank you Michelle for crossing
Jim on your mares.



Heritage
(Lippitt Jeep x Lippitt Tilly)
Foaled 1957
Pictured at 25 years old

Acrosstime Jaunty Jim
(Heritage Jim T x Acrosstime Princessophie)
Now two year old stallion
Owned by Heritage Morgans



Acrosstime Ridgway
(Heritage Jim T x Elm Ranch Daisy)
Foaled 2020 DR Stallion
Bred by Michelle Duden - Hanes
Owned by Double R Stables
Belleville, PA



Donna & Bill Fox Lyndonville, NY 14098

Adult Scholarship **WINNER**

The Alfred State College Western Equestrian Team with Coach Rose Stayer-Ruffner is honored to have received a scholarship from the NYSHC. Our philosophy: Keep is simple, care for the horse. We strive to have quiet, clear communication with the horse, to continually learn and improve and to be good stewards of the horse. Our record is impressive. However, I believe what stays with the students is a foundation in horsemanship that is based on good solid practices, not the latest fad.

The team is only partially funded and the generous scholarship has allowed the team to secure a participant spot and help with auditing costs for students to attend the Buck Brannaman Clinic this fall. Mr. Brannaman uses techniques based on the California Vaquero tradition; working with the horse's nature, using an understanding of how horses think and communicate to train the horse to accept humans and work confidently and responsively with them. We look forward to learning more on these techniques.



ADVERTISE WITH THE



New York State
Horse Council

**DEADLINE FOR FALL NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 6TH 2025**

BUSINESS CARD SIZE

\$30 MEMBER
\$40 NON MEMBER

**CLICK HERE
TO SECURE
YOUR SPOT**

QUARTER PAGE

\$50 MEMBER
\$75 NON MEMBER

HALF PAGE

\$75 MEMBER
\$100 NON MEMBER

FULL PAGE

\$100 MEMBER
\$125 NON MEMBER



Summer Newsletter 2025



New York State Horse Council, Inc Memberships are for the calendar year Jan. 1-Dec. 31

All fields required which apply!

First Name

Last Name

Email:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

County:

Phone:

Business/Club/Organization Additional Information

Name:

Website:

Category:

Options: Horse & Rider Services - Adoption / Boarding / Breeders / Camps / Carriage / Clinics / Clinicians / Dentistry / Education / Farrier / Horsemanship / Humane Welfares / Lessons / Rescue / Showing / Training / Transportation / Therapeutic / Veterinarian. Organizations & Clubs - Driving / Horse Organization / Horse Club / Social / Trail / Youth (4H, Pony Club, College teams, etc.). Trail Services - Lodging / Camping. Business Services - Insurance / Legal / Marketing / Promotional / Publications. Sales & Products - Barns/Buildings / Feed/Supplements / Tack / Trailer/Truck / Shop & Apparel

Description (short):

NYSHC Chapter ☐ Cattaraugus/Chautauqua ☐ Eastern Hudson Valley ☐ Orange ☐ Sullivan ☐ Ulster ☐ Western

Membership Type ☐ Individual With Insurance (\$66) ☐ Individual No Insurance (\$40) ☐ Family With Insurance (\$92) ☐ Family No Insurance (\$60) ☐ Life Membership With First Year Insurance (\$556) ☐ Life Member Insurance Only (\$31) ☐ Youth No Insurance (\$15) ☐ Commercial/Business/Association/Club/Farm (\$80)

NYSHC Newsletter via: ☐ E-Mail (No Extra Cost) ☐ Postal Mail (Add \$10)

***Make checks payable to NYSHC**

Mail paper applications with check to:

NYSHC Membership/SB

PO Box 236

Marlboro NY 12542

OFFICIAL BUSINESS ONLY

Date Received:

Check Number:

Amount Paid:

Membership # for Renewals:

Save The DATES:

September 6th- Friends of Otter Creek Horse Trails annual fundraising ride.
<https://friendsofottercreekhorsetrails.com/index.php>

September 18th - 7 pm Virtual Board of Directors meetings.
Zoom link is in Member and Board areas

October 9th -11th The 56th Annual Fall Pleasure Ride at the Madison County Fairgrounds (Brookfield Trail System). Registration to be posted soon.

November 1st- Annual General Membership Meeting
Location: State University of New York - Morrisville
Tour of Equine Facilities and results of Nominations for the Board of Directors.
Silent Auction to benefit the Equine Emergency Fund. Awards: Lifetime Achievement Award, Horse Person of the Year Award

December 11- 7 pm Virtual Board of Directors meetings, Planning for 2026.
Zoom link is in Member and Board areas