

**WOOD COUNTY HORSE RIDING CLUB, INC.**  
**113 Miller Ridge Road**  
**Davisville, WV 26142**

**June 2008 newsletter**

Hello Everyone,

WOW, what a GREAT turn-out for our last meeting, we had 38 members/guests attend it on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Golden Corral in Parkersburg. I guess when there's food involved it brings a lot of us out. ♀ We got 6 of our newest members at this meeting. I'm thrilled with the interest in our club and our horse camp project. It's only going to get better and better.

There were 13 members who attended the Wood County Parks & Recreation meeting on Monday May 19<sup>th</sup> at Mountwood Park. President of the board, Jack Mathers presented Robert Orndorf of Dominion with a nice plaque recognizing his and Dominion's efforts in supporting the park and our horse camp by allowing hunting, horseback riding and hiking on their properties. Thank you for participating in that presentation. I would like to ask for your support again at their next meeting which will be at **6:30pm on Monday June 16<sup>th</sup> in the Administration building at Mountwood Park**. They plan to have someone at this meeting who represents the O'Brien property, which is the additional property they are leasing for more equestrian and hiking trails. **PLEASE TRY TO ATTEND THIS.**

We had an experience of a lifetime at the horse camp over the Memorial Day weekend. We (22 club members and families) enjoyed the company of the Civil War Calvary; eight of them camped with us on Friday evening while the other 14 camped in North Bend State park, to do an event that evening for a Boy Scout troop. Saturday morning eleven of our members and the eight Calvary troops left camp at 8:30am (for the 17 mile round trip) to meet the ones coming in from North Bend on the rail trail. They seen us before we seen them, we heard the sound of their bugle as they came charging toward us with guns drawn and ask if we were friend or foe. It was scary and exciting at the same time, our horses were dancing as they circled us. They were really into their parts and it felt like we were back in Civil War time. They put our group in the middle of their formation and had us ride like that back to the horse camp. When we'd come upon regular bicycle riders on the rail trail they'd have a funny look on their face, so we told them we were their prisoners.....it was great. We got them back to camp just in time to go to battle. I'm proud to say that they encountered no casualties, camped with us a second night and returned to battle again on Sunday, again with no casualties. They were very impressed with our horse camp and thought it was great that they didn't have to park or camp in a muddy field. They said it was "like staying in a Hilton Hotel to them" and are excited to plan a return trip for next year. There is even talk that they might try to have their National Event in the area in 2010 which could have as many as 300 Calvary horses.

**Mountwood Park Committee** reported the eight covered stalls were completed a week before the Memorial Day weekend. Brent & I donated most of the materials to build the stalls with the exception of the roof which the club paid for, the gravel which was donated last year by Martin of Marietta, and lots of nails from Dave Settle. We'd like to say a ***BIG THANK YOU TO DAVE SETTLE, MIKE SNIDER AND BILL BEYMER*** who helped Brent build the stalls. Brent took a weeks vacation to build them and wouldn't have completed them in time for the ride without their help. It rained much of that week but it didn't slow them down. Bill Beymer also donated the material and labor to build some very nice steps going up to the water hookup with help from his buddy Jeff Riel. What a wonderful bunch of teamwork. We may have a sponsor for another stall barn with the exception of the roof, nails and gravel. I'll update you on this as soon as I learn more.

We're planning a "work & ride" day this Sat. June 14<sup>th</sup> and next Sun. June 22<sup>nd</sup> (if we're not in the hay field, check with us before you drive out). We are planning on riding horses and everyone bringing their hand trimmers to cut branches as we ride and open new trails. We'll come back later with a chainsaw and four wheeler for the big stuff.

Rob Lowther is checking on a club insurance policy, for our club and his first quote was \$700.00-\$1,000.00 a year for a million dollar policy. He will get back with us on this. We need it before we can have rides on the O'Brien property.

Lois McAtee gave us a membership form for the OHC (Ohio Horse Council) whereas it makes individual insurance available to their members at an additional cost of a few dollars over their memberships, if anyone is interested in this you can get more info at; [www.ohiohorsecouncil.com](http://www.ohiohorsecouncil.com) .

The **Priority Committee for the horse camp** met at 7:30pm on May 19<sup>th</sup> at the Administration building in Mountwood Park. Chairman Paul Tallman discussed several ideas for the horse camp;

What will need to be done with the manure, ex; compost pile, maybe purchasing a manure spreader, etc?

Reservations for camp sites, Carla said for right now they have to be part of our group to be allowed to ride out there.

Need to make a list of camp rules and post them.

Need to make maps of the trails (after we get them opened).

Need to decide how we are going to mark the trails (no ribbons or paint allowed on the O'Brien property).

Trail level of difficulty, maybe use color schemes and name the trails.

Need to consider moving the main gate further in so trailers can get off the main road to open the gate (this is a big safety issue).

Improvements to facilities ex; installing showers, improve walkway to restrooms, etc. (Rob Lowther and Bill Beymer volunteered to take on the shower house project).

Build more stalls.

Open more trails ASAP (we can use paint or ribbons on the Dominion property)

Put in more electric hookups.

They presented all these ideas at our club meeting and discussed each one, but no decisions were made on any of these so the committee will get together again and decide how we will proceed. If anyone is interested in being on this committee contact; Paul Tallman at 740-423-5661 or you can send him an email with your ideas to; [tallman@ohio.edu](mailto:tallman@ohio.edu) .

I gave Steve Roundtree a disk with the pictures I've been taking at the horse camp so he could incorporate them into his presentation he's doing for the Equine Day on June 21<sup>st</sup> at Tractor Supply in South Parkersburg. He requested more pictures from other members. Sally Webb said she would send him some and she will call Collette Pauley of Tractor Supply to see about bringing some of her horses for the kids to pet and enjoy. Rent-A-Center is donating the use of a big screen monitor and computer for Steve to show the presentation on. This is a great event to come to and the kids and grandchildren really enjoy it.....yeah us big kids enjoy it too.

Brent Patterson made a motion for our club to become a non-profit organization, Paul Tallman second it. We had a discussion on this and the fact that other organizations like the Eagle's Club, V.F.W. and even Dominion could give us funds to help us if we were a non-profit organization, we could even apply for grant monies. After the discussion it passed by all members present. Carla Knapp and Tammi Collins, (both of Mountwood Park) said they will help us become non-profit.

*Welcome to our newest members; Tacie Carpenter, the Kevin, Angie, Tyler & Cody Siers family, Burl & Paula Cline, Lora Haynes, Israel & Traci Smith and Rick Perdue. We are growing in strength and numbers; this makes a total of 107 members. 9*

*Congratulations to Melody Crawford on winning \$30.00 in our 50/50 drawing at our meeting.*

Before I close I want to express our deepest sympathy to Betty Adams and her family in the loss of her daughter Debbie Snodgrass, and to the Bev Habeb family in the loss of her nephew David Roberts, our thoughts and prayers are with them. I also want to thank the club for sending a planter to me & Brent, in the loss of his mother, Helen Patterson. We especially appreciated all your support and prayers at this difficult time in our lives.

We wish Sharon Shamblin a speedy recovery with her broken wrist; hope your back in the saddle soon.

**Next meeting will be on July 5, 2008, Sat. evening after dinner at Rob & Sally's ride in Glenville, WV.**

*HAPPY RIDING,*

*TARA PATTERSON SEC/TRES*

HORSE FOR SALE; 12 yr. old double registered Tennessee Walker/Racking gelding. approx. 15 hands, loads, shoes, bathes, - good trail horse, but wouldn't consider him a beginners horse. \$2,500 contact Lisa Dwire, at 304-869-3743 evenings or weekends, or 481-7176.

HORSES FOR SALE; Check with Rob & Sally they have several horses for sale, 304-462-7272

### **UPCOMING RIDES and EVENTS**

**Sat. June 14<sup>th</sup> WORK & RIDE DAY at the horse camp in Mountwood Park, it will start at 10am;** bring any brush cutting tools you have that you can use while riding your horse. We'll work on opening trials and will return later with a four wheeler and chain saw for the bigger stuff. Call Brent for more information on cell 304-482-4833 or Tara 304-210-4894.

**CALL FIRST TO MAKE SURE WE'RE NOT IN THE HAY FIELD**

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**Sat. June 21<sup>st</sup> 10am-4pm, Equine day at Tractor Supply** in South Parkersburg (across from Wal-Mart) our club will be set up there showing a presentation about our club and the horse camp in Mountwood Park. We will be selling tee shirts and tank tops. **TRY TO ATTEND THIS IF YOU CAN..... IT WAS LOTS OF FUN LAST YEAR**

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**Sun. June 22nd WORK & RIDE DAY at the horse camp in Mountwood Park, it will start at 10am;** bring any brush cutting tools you have that you can use while riding your horse. We'll work on opening trials and will return later with a four wheeler and chain saw for the bigger stuff. Call Brent for more information on cell 304-482-4833 or Tara 304-210-4894.

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**July 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> Camp out and ride at Rob & Sally's house in Glenville, WV.** They will provide a spaghetti dinner on Sat. night and breakfast on Sunday morning, **everyone is welcome. Please RSVP** them so they'll know how much food to prepare. You can bring something to go with the spaghetti dinner if you want, ex; desserts, salad, etc. **Call them for directions: 304-462-7272** *In the event of rainy weather this ride will move to Mountwood Park, it will not be cancelled due to rain. ♪*

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**Aug. 15-16-17 Williams & Skinner camp out and ride in Glenville, WV everyone is welcome.** Bring a covered dish for the Sat. evening meal. For more info: **Call Ronnie & Susie Williams 304-462-8821 or Doug & Debbie Skinner 304-462-7591**

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**Aug. 29-Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> Labor Day Weekend Ride at Mountwood Park horse camp,** more details coming next month.....pencil us in for this one.