



Hoof Prints



Barre Riding and Driving Club

Mar - Apr 2024

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Website: barreridingdrivingclub.com

Barre Riding & Driving Club is a 501(c) 3 non-profit club run by volunteers. We provide academic assistance with annual scholarships, promote community events, and bring together the horse community with funds raised through trail rides, camping weekends, clinics and other events.

2023 Officers

Lynne Goodnow, President
Jane Lynds, Vice-president
Kat Marsh, Treasurer
Gail Lent, Membership Chair
Dave Marsh, Corresponding Secretary
Jill Poulin, Horse Show Series Chair

2023 Directors

Rob Lynds
Steve Theran
Marianne Wojcicki
Stacy Hayes

Cabin Fever Highlights

On the rainy Saturday night of March 2nd, a nice mix of members and non-members gathered at the American Legion Post #2 in Barre, MA for our Annual Meeting and Cabin Fever event. We started off with a potluck supper that included homemade sourdough bread & cheese, pasta salad, beef stew, King Ranch casserole, tuna noodle casserole, home-raised pulled pork, and many other savory dishes. Desserts were plentiful: cakes, cookies, and brownies. The cash bar at the American Legion Post #2 did a steady business as folks sought refreshments to relax with their food.





After giving folks a chance to eat and mingle, Jane Lynds took the reins for the club's annual meeting, calling the meeting to order so that we could elect our board members (including our newest board member, Stacy Hayes!). The meeting continued with a reference to this newsletter and a thanks to Dave and Kat Marsh for their work in putting together the newsletter to keep our membership informed and to reflect on the past history of the club. Jane mentioned several of the upcoming events which you can read about in this newsletter or check out on our website. Jane invited Kat Marsh, our treasurer, to give a brief report. Kat highlighted the club's work in bringing in monies from the horse shows, trail rides, and also from business donations, all to sustain the club and to provide the six \$600 scholarships that the club offers to local high school seniors, college students and adults. Although the club was slightly in the red for this past year, part of that was due to the investment in 1st String clothing and accessories, which the club hopes to recoup by offering the items for sale at events throughout the year. The club's investment account has rebounded by about \$8000 after dropping significantly during the pandemic years. Next, Jane invited Dave Marsh to speak about the club's ongoing work with DCR. Dave highlighted the improvement in relations with DCR via the Ware River Watershed Trails Sub-committee on which 4 BRDC Board Members sit. The subcommittee conducts major liaison work with DCR to promote the club's interest in trail rides, trail maintenance, and future trail access. Dave mentioned the ongoing work to replace the old Cemetery Bridge which would greatly increase trail access and reduce the need to cross public roads during trail rides. Jane wrapped up the meeting with a mention of our upcoming calendar of events and then Rob Lynds introduced the evening's speaker: Bettyann Cernese who spoke about equine first aid.



Bettyann's presentation was interactive and fun! She posed questions and tossed out chocolates to folks who responded. Her first bit of advice was to "know your horse". Noticing your horse's gait or carriage and how they carry their head could alert you to the first signs that they are in pain. Next, you will want to become familiar with your horse's vital signs. Even though most horses will have a heartbeat of 30-40 beats per minute and a body temperature of between 99.5 and 101.5 degrees F, and respirations between 12 – 20 breaths per minute, each horse is different. Bettyann gave some rules for emergency first aid such as holding a hand to your own forehead to calm yourself away from panic if you discover your horse in serious trouble. She recommended not only practicing taking your horse's vital signs, but also conditioning your horse for vet care. You should be able to touch your horse everywhere, clip or shave them, spray them, and apply bandages without causing the horse to fret. Bettyann also covered how to communicate with your vet most efficiently during an emergency. She announced an upcoming clinic on June 2nd where participants can learn more and practice these essential horsemanship skills. Many thanks to Bettyann for her informative and interactive presentation!



Following the presentation, our dynamic duo Rob Lynds and Steve Theran ran our annual raffle, giving out trivia questions to the delight of all

attendees. Dianne Merritt was the star of the evening, answering many trivia questions correctly and coaching others toward success. Thanks to all who came out on a chilly, rainy night to enjoy the warmth of good company, good food, and the camaraderie of fellow horse folks!

June 2nd Clinic!






We are excited to announce that on June 2nd, BRDC will be holding a clinic on Equine Health and Emergency First Aid with Bettyann Cernese. As a certified equine first aid instructor with Equi-First Aid USA, Bettyann teaches horse owners how to be your horse's first responder.



Stay Calm, Stay Prepared

Essential Equine First Aid Skills for Every Horse Owner



This is a hands-on 1 day course with horses covering:

-  What your vet needs to know when you call
-  Conditioning a horse to accept treatment
-  Taking proper vital signs
-  How to deal with lacerations, punctures, colic, choke, collapse, casting, shock, & hoof issues
-  Recognizing pain in the horse, sources of pain and alleviation, spinal health, injury prevention and much more!

What to expect

You'll learn through a combination of PowerPoint, video and hands-on practice with real-life scenarios, how to handle even the most extreme emergency with confidence and skill.

What you will receive:

-  Comprehensive Equine First Aid Manual
-  Certificate of Completion



Limited space available!
Held at Hardscrabble Stable in
Sterling, MA

To register, please visit: <https://bettyanncernese.cohere.live/contribution-view/65e0e0bf519e5e52345a2781/about>

History Spotlight – BRDC Roots – 1960s – Part 2

The 1960s witnessed much activity (new and old) with the Barre Riding and Driving Club. Leaning heavily on the "History of the Barre Riding and Driving Club" speech given before the club's birthday buffet on August 7th, 1970, and doing additional research through

Annual Barre Horse Show Sunday

The 25th annual Barre Horse Show will be held Sunday at Felton Field under the sponsorship of the Barre Riding and Driving Club.

The show rates a New England Horsemen's Council Class B, and Massachusetts Horsemen's Council Class A. Two rings will be used, and there will be 64 cash prizes, 17 trophies and 162 ribbons. The Lady Alice Challenge Trophy will be in competition for the sixth year. Last year's winner was Jubilee's Dark Temptation owned by Jimmy Fenton.

There will be more emphasis this year on the Western Division than there has been in the past. In addition to pole bending competition, there will be a stock horse reining class, western trail class, a New England Horsemen's Council open western pleasure class and a western pleasure horse stake class.

Twenty-eight classes in eight other divisions will also be held, including jumpers, Morgans, ponies and pleasure horses. There will be classes for the real young ones too, plus an event for Barre riders only.

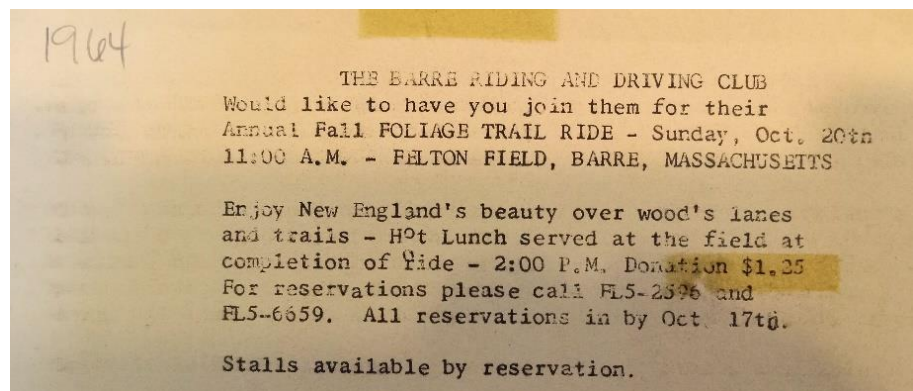
An innovation this year will be horse and pony rides for youngsters. Gentle horses in full western regalia and ponies with competent grooms will afford children a chance to ride western style.

A food stand will be in operation throughout the day.

newspapers.com, we learned that the Club continued to grow and change as new ideas materialized and older members moved on. Continuing from our Jan-Feb 2024 Hoof Prints newsletter, we learned that in 1962, the Club voted to present the "Morgan Horse" film with Mrs. Anna Ela as narrator and invite neighboring clubs. It's not clear what film is being referred to as the "Morgan Horse" film, but it is likely a non-fiction, documentary film describing the origins and qualities of the breed. The Disney movie "Justin Morgan Had a Horse", based on the Marguerite Henry novel of the same name did not come out until 1972. In 1965 another Morgan film was presented to the public (see below).

Also in 1962, \$800 was allocated to the Felton Field Commissioners for the erection of a new food stand was approved as was the appointment of an Historian to prepare and keep a Riding Club scrapbook. Rachel Rice was appointed to the position and you, dear readers, are the beneficiaries of her work since much of the documentation for these BRDC Roots articles came from her scrapbooks. Frank Patterson was the first recipient of the newly organized scholarship. He received the sum of \$150.

In 1963, several Club members attended a meeting in Townsend regarding a law relating to horses being reinstated into the Massachusetts Motor Vehicle Manual. This law, which still exists today, defines the safety protocols when animals such as horses are in the presence of automobiles. Indeed, just this past year (2023), Massachusetts added the term "vulnerable users" to help bicyclists, horse riders, pedestrians, and roadside workers by mandating that vehicles must be at least four feet away when passing "vulnerable users" of our public roads.



In 1964, the Club voted to consolidate the building and reserve funds into one, leaving the scholarship fund by itself. The Club also voted \$125 for use of the Felton Field Commission fences at the ends of the main ring. In December Stuart Holbrook was asked to speak to the Club regarding professionally managing a show with the cost to the club of not more than \$2000. This proposal apparently found favor as evidenced by the photo of the 1966 Horse Show brochure which displays Stuart Holbrook's name as running the show. However, that year also saw the Club vote to discontinue the nationally rated show due to excessive costs to the Club. The Fall Trail Ride was pushed up to a Sunday in October rather than later. The photo of the postcard invitation for the Fall Foliage Trail Ride on Sunday, October 20, 1964 indicates that the practice of serving a hot lunch post-ride has been a long-standing tradition. Just this past year, two of our fall trail riders who were new to the ride were shocked but delighted to discover our extensive lunch menu and its vast variety! It's also interesting to note that stalls were still

standing and available for use at Felton Field back in 1964.

Sadly, the Club lost two valuable charter members of the club in 1964: Jennie Blaisdell and Lawrence Rice. Each of these folks devoted themselves to promoting horses and horsemanship and their legacy lives on in the present-day Club as well as across the community they touched with their efforts and enthusiasm. The newspaper clipping from the Athol Daily Times dated March 23, 1965 suggests that the Club continued to do community outreach by offering films and other information about horses to the local community. Actor James Cagney was a top Morgan breeder in California for many years.


Horse Films Will Be Shown

The Barre Riding and Driving Club is sponsoring an evening of horse films April 2, at 8 o'clock at the Barre Town Hall. "The Morgan Horse" narrated by James Cagney and the "Horse and its Heritage in Tenn." will be shown.

VOL. 132, NO. 6 *July 9, 1964*

Horse World Leaders Throng Barre To Honor Mrs. Jennie Blaisdell

Barre's quiet common was thronged Monday afternoon, with scores of out of town cars carrying horsemen and women from distant points, here to pay their last respects to Mrs. Jennie Blaisdell, wife of Stanley Blaisdell of School street, and a leader in horse shows throughout the east.



Mrs. Blaisdell died July 3 in Holden District Hospital. She was 44. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. Robert S. Illingworth and burial was in old No. 4 Cemetery on Christian Hill.

Active Horsewoman
Born in Barre, the daughter of the late Robert C. Davis and Lillian Blaisdell Davis, she was brought up on Cherry Hill Farm in Barre Plains, where she learned early to know and love horses and all animals. She was a graduate of Barre High School and a devoted leader in 4-H work since her own girlhood. She was a charter member and past president of the Barre Riding and Driving Club and a guiding director in most of its horse shows, trail rides and all other activities.

Her work in that direction extended far beyond Barre and she managed and served as steward at horse shows throughout New England, New York and other eastern states. She was frequently an official at the Eastern States Exposition Horse Show and she was active in the promotion of the U. S. Olympic equestrian team.

Historical Society
Another local movement close to her heart was the Barre Historical Society and her activities in its behalf were many.

Mrs. Blaisdell, in addition to her husband and mother, leaves a son, S. Robert Blaisdell, a grandchild, a brother, Howard Davis of Dover, N.H., and a sister, Mrs. Dorothy Friend of Barre.

Mrs. Jennie Blaisdell

2024 Calendar

April TBD Members Trail Ride – weather permitting

May 11th (Sat) Spring Trail Ride at Felton Field – One day ride (camping for the weekend available)

May TBD Clinic – Parade Ready your horse. For members and non-members, price TBD

May 27th (Mon) Memorial Day Parade

June 2 Clinic – for members and non-members Equine First Aid with Bettyann Cernese

June 23rd (Sun) Horse Show Series (1) – BRDC

July 4th (Thur) Petersham July Fourth Parade

July 14th (Sun) Horse Show Series (2) - CNEER

July TBD Members Trail Ride

August 4th (Sun) Horse Show Series (3) - CNEER

September TBD Members Trail Ride – Trail ride

September 15th (Sun) Horse Show Series (4) - BRDC

September 21 (Sat) Barre 250th Anniversary Grand Parade 1pm

October 12th & 13th Fall Trail Ride Weekend at Felton Field (optional overnight Fri & Sat) Sat & Sun

October TBD (Sun) Northfield Mountain Foliage Ride with Hampshire County Riding Club

November TBD Trail Ride out of North Brookfield, more details soon!

December 7th (Sat) Christmas Parade in Barre

BRDC is Seeking Board Members

Interested in joining our Board of Directors? Contact
BRDC President, Lynne Goodnow
lgoodnow@yahoo.com

Parades 2024

Save the dates for upcoming parades:
Monday, May 27 Memorial Day Parade
Barre

Thursday July 4th Petersham

Saturday, September 21 2024 Barre's 250th

Saturday, December 7th Barre Christmas
Parade

Upcoming Calendar Events for 2024

- May 11th Spring Trail Ride
- June 2nd Equine First Aid Clinic
- June 16th Horse Show
- July 14th CNEER Show
- Aug 4th CNEER Show
- Sept 15th Horse Show
- Oct 12th & 13th Fall Trail Ride
- Nov TBD Trail Ride out of North Brookfield



Sponsors and Resources

Barre Riding and Driving Club would like to thank the following businesses for their support this year! All donations are tax-deductible and go directly toward the six \$600 scholarships we offer to local students pursuing higher education goals. In addition, EquidDoc Veterinarians sponsor five \$200 scholarships for children and adults who attend a camp or clinic, or who participate in intercollegiate or interscholastic programs (IEA, IHSA, Pony Club, 4H). For Equi-Ships you do not need to own your own horse or pony.

EquidDoc generously sponsors five \$200 scholarships for children and adults involved with horses. Get reimbursed for the cost of a camp or clinic. **August 31th, 2024, is the deadline for Equi-ship applications.** More info on the Barre

Riding and Driving Club website: barreridingdrivingclub.com/scholarships

EquidDoc Veterinarians in Worcester, MA is the premiere ambulatory veterinary practice treating horses, goats, alpacas, sheep and llamas throughout Worcester county, central Massachusetts and beyond. We provide you and your athlete or companion with comprehensive on-

the-farm care for peak health and performance. Our Vets in Worcester, MA provide that care in a collaborative setting, providing you with options from which you select what best meets your animal's unique needs. We are enthusiastic about education and make each visit informative, so you fully understand your animal's condition. Visit EquidDoc at <https://equiddocvet.com/>





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BARRE RIDING AND DRIVING CLUB
2024 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Street _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone/Cell Phone _____

E-mail address _____

**As most of our club notifications are sent by-email, please note here if you need notifications mailed to you.

Indicate Your Areas of Interest

Show _____ Trail _____ Dressage _____ Gymkhana _____ Driving _____ Other _____

DUES: _____ \$25.00 Individual _____ \$30.00 Family

_____ \$10.00 juniors (under 18)

New Member _____ Renewing Member _____

(Add a \$5 late fee if renewing after March 31st)

Please return completed form and check made payable to: Barre Riding & Driving Club (BRDC) to Lynne Goodnow, PO Box 25, Barre MA 01005

Questions regarding membership contact: Lynne Goodnow – lgoodnow@yahoo.com

VISIT US AT – www.barreridingdrivingclub.com

BRDC Membership Includes:

- **BRDC Newsletters**
- **Subscription to Community Horse**
- **Discounts on Club Clinics**
- **Free Member Trail Rides (excluding Spring and Fall Trail Rides)**
- **Discounts on Spring and Fall Trail Rides**
- **3% Discount Hardwick Farmer's Co-op**