



# Hoof Prints



## Barre Riding and Driving Club

Nov - Dec 2023

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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

### Horse Show Highlights

On the beautiful fall day of Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup> Barre Riding and Driving Club sponsored its second show of the season at Felton Field in Barre MA. Dozens of riders and a few drivers enjoyed



warming sunshine and cooling breezes as they competed in more than 60 classes in 15

divisions, including driving and trail classes. As always, the Show Series offers friendly and



supportive competition to participants of all ages and disciplines.

Once again, we'd like to thank our sponsors for their support of our club.

Please see the sponsors page at the end of this newsletter and consider supporting them so



that they can continue to support us!

We owe much of the success of this show to our expert announcer, Rob Lynds, who kept track of the goings-on in two rings, cued entrants for upcoming classes, announced winners and efficiently kept everyone on schedule. Thanks also to our volunteers in the Secretary's booth, our ring masters and gate managers, and our awesome ribbon runners. Thanks to our Food Booth crew, who kept us all fed and hydrated for the day. Special thanks to Claire Barnes for donating the delicious Adams Farm (<https://adamsfarm.biz/>) hamburgers and hotdogs that quickly sold out.

If you participated in the show and are looking for your Year End Awards Points, please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/barreshowpoints>



## History Spotlight – BRDC Roots – 1950s

The 1950s were busy transition years for the Barre Riding and Driving Club. Paraphrasing from the “History of the Barre Riding and Driving Club” speech given before the club’s birthday buffet on August 7<sup>th</sup>, 1970, the Club grew the horse shows and added challenging trail rides. In 1950 a joint trail ride was held inviting Rutland to join us. In this same year permanent lighting was installed at the Field by the Commissioners. In 1951, the club added INC. to its title for the sum of \$75. The same year the party for the Barre Horse Show guests and workers was held at the Barre Hotel. The Night Before Party was held at the home of Helen Webber. In 1954 and 1955, the American Legion was granted the privilege of having a beer concession at the horse show in June. Apparently, the Club didn’t think this was a worthwhile venture because it was not done again after that.

### Riding Club Elects Officers

Charles G. Allen 4<sup>th</sup> was elected president of the Barre Riding and Driving Club at the annual meeting held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Allen, Jr.

The other officers are: Stanley Blaisdell, first vice president; James Keans, second vice president; Mrs. Charles G. Allen, Jr., corresponding secretary; Mrs. Charles G. Allen, 4<sup>th</sup>, recording secretary; Mrs. Donald Friend, assistant secretary; Mrs. Charles Connington, treasurer; and Mrs. Harold Dorsey, assistant treasurer.

On the board of directors are Charles Connington, chairman; Mrs. Stanley Blaisdell, Herbert Rice, Laurence Rice, Charles G. Allen, 4<sup>th</sup>, and Mrs. Charles G. Allen 4<sup>th</sup>, secretary.

New members elected were Mrs. Leander Herrick, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Goldsmith and Miss Louise Herrick, junior member.

The 23<sup>rd</sup> annual horse show will be held Sunday, June 19. On the horse show committee are Mrs. Stanley Blaisdell, Mrs. Charles G. Allen, Jr., and Charles Connington.

The program committee includes Mrs. Charles Connington, Herbert Rice and Charles G. Allen, Jr.

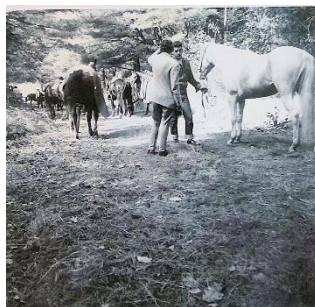
A standing committee to work liaison with Filton Field Commission was adopted. Members are first and second vice presidents, Stanley Blaisdell and James Keans. The next meeting will be February 27, at the Charles G. Allen 4<sup>th</sup>'s.

In the Spring of 1956 Margaret Cabell Self (a nationally renowned riding instructor from Virginia) delivered a lecture for the Barre Riding and Driving Club. This was one of the Club’s public relations activities which was well received. This same year the Barre Thieves and Rogues were activated and many of our Riding Club members joined. The Barre Thieves and Rogues was a revival of an older group of the same name:

“Originally organized sometime before 1804, the [Barre Thieves and Rogues] society caught horse thieves, rounded up cattle rustlers, chased chicken snatchers, snarled at ne’er-do-wells and generally served for nearly 150 years as the only police force in this central Massachusetts town.” (Judith Gaines, Boston Globe, June 1989). In the 1950s the committee acted as both a public watch group and a preservation of Barre's past.



**Won Ribbon** Miss Barbara Finan took second prize with Royal Commander in the 4-II Fitting and Grooming Class, at the Barre Horse Show.



Also, that year (1956) the “new Callahan Trophy” was offered, and in an article written that year for the upcoming show, it states that “the new challenge trophy gives many of the old-timers a feeling of reviving a bit of the old Barre Fair”. A fund, established by the late John A. Callahan, originally for the Barre



Half Way Point  
Trail Ride Oct 56

Fair for the purpose of promoting the interest in horses was turned over to the Riding Club. With this fund a sterling silver tray was purchased and suitably inscribed. This trophy was retained by Robert Bangs in 1958, and in turn he offered another similar trophy. Instead of Callahan the name was in honor of the horse that won the trophy. After that, the trophy was given to the winner of the 35-mile Competitive Trail Ride, which has

since been discontinued. The trophy was won two consecutive times and one other time by Rebecca Spinney and was given to her after the 35-mile trail ride event was dropped.

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**Riding And Driving Club Elects To Fix Up Felton Field Stalls**

Charles S. Conington, Sr. was re-elected president of the Barre Riding and Driving Club at the show. W. Rice, Arthur T. Winters, which also voted to spend \$500 to repair the stalls at Felton Field. The club will cooperate with the Felton Field Trustees.

The annual horse show will be held in June making the 1965 show the 14th for the club. It was also voted to hold the annual trail ride on the third Sunday of May and October.

Other officers elected were: Joseph W. Briston, first vice president; Ralph Robbins, second vice president; Gladys H. Allen, executive secretary; Della Robbins, recording secretary; Barbara Allen, treasurer; and secretary; Helen W. Conington, treasurer; Elizabeth W. Briston, assistant treasurer.

Directors include: Charles G. Allen, Jr., Herbert A. Rice, Lawrence W. Briston, and Frank W. Briston.

General show sponsors: Stuart Haskel, Gladys H. Allen, Charles Allen, Jr.

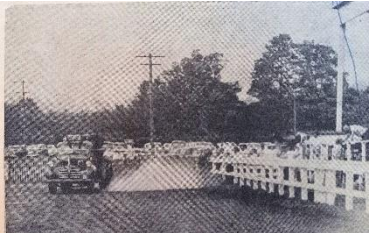
Program Committee: Jane Winters, Alex Kroger, Sr., Donald White.

Membership chairman: Richard G. Rice, Barbara Miller, Charles G. Allen, Jr.

Publicity Chairman: Wanda S. Haskel, Beth Robinson, and Jan Winters.

Trade Committee: Anne Winters, Anne Conington.

1957 saw action beginning on the stables at the field. In January \$350 was voted for this use, but it was not used for the investigating committee recommended otherwise. In May of the same year \$500 was voted for partial payment for the new stalls at the field. If anyone was there, he will well remember our old taskmaster, Harry Rice, supervising as Club members removed nails from old stall boards and also slapped paint on the new stalls before mother nature had the chance to bless it in any way. More members pounded thumbs and budding carpenters were the result of this venture. A true testimonial to Harry Rice.



**SPRAYING THE FIELD** One of the reasons the Barre Horse Show is such a draw is the spraying of the Felton Field is sprayed with a special solution to keep insects from bothering and bothering riders.

The Club was well known for its generosity. The fees in the New England Hack Classes went to the New England Horsemen's Council and for many years the proceeds from the Knock, Down and Out Class in the Show was sent to the U.S. Olympic Team. Also, in the year 1956 many Club members were first introduced to the Morgan Horse Magazine by Marion Zuretti. The Magazine, as a promotional venture, offered a Morgan weanling to the person selling the most subscriptions. She won the weanling which she showed for many years. In this year the Juniors were first introduced in Barre by the name the Galloping Hooves, a name that was fondly recalled by Margaret Marshall when Hoof Prints Newsletter editors, Dave and Kat Marsh, visited the Barre Historical Society earlier this year. In May of 1956 a bulletin from the Central Mass Horseman's Association said, "Ran into Mr. and Mrs. Chas. G. Allen (Alice Rhinehart) the other day and was graciously introduced to the grandparents to Charles G. Allen V". In that same bulletin it stated that a 4-H Horse Club had just been started in Barre by 21 boys and girls.

**20 HORSEMEN ON TRAIL RIDE**

Twenty riders braved the cold morning air last Sunday to participate in the Trail Ride sponsored by the Barre Riding and Driving Club. Guests were present from Worcester, Westboro, Boston, Petersham and Windham Center, Conn.

With the club president, Mr. Charles Conington in the lead, the group rode from Felton Field over country roads to the vicinity of the old prison camp in North Rutland. Here they were served hot coffee prepared by Mrs. Jane Winters. Doughnuts were also on the menu. At the conclusion of the ride, everyone enjoyed a box lunch on the return to Felton Field.

Among the guests were Dr. and Mrs. Nelson King with their daughters Judy and Nancy from Boston; David Penstein, David Waldstrom and Miss Laura Penstein from Worcester; Mrs. Robert Buxton and the Misses Janet Marion, and Madelyn Zuretti from Westboro; Miss Carol Robinson, from Windham, Center, Conn.; and Donald Knapp from Petersham.

Mr. Arthur Winters was chairman of the affairs committee, assisted by Mr. Conington, Mr. Lawrence Rice, and Mr. Ralph Robbins.

In 1958 the first Junior Horse Show was sponsored by the Riding Club, and as you can see from the fuzzy newspaper clipping to the right, 1200 folks attended the show that year! It was voted at this time to put \$600 in a Building Fund for another barn at Felton Field when and if such a project was warranted. Today, the Club continues to fundraise, provide funds to local schools, promote an interest in horses, and serve as part of the glue that holds the Barre community together.

**20th Annual Affair Oldest In The State**

The Barre Riding and Driving Club has the distinction of sponsoring the oldest annual horse show in Massachusetts, with the running of this year's show at Felton Field on Sunday.

The club officials have listed 33 events for the single-day meeting which will bring some of the finest horses of New England to Barre. There will be cash prizes of \$70, plus trophies which have an additional value of more than \$100.

Entries have already been received from more than 100 owners, assuring the club that last year's total of 135 entries will be exceeded with good weather conditions prevailing.

There will be unlimited free parking, covered grandstand, good refreshments and the officials have made no increase in the admission price.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Conington will hold their customary open house on the eve of the show.

The general show committee for the event is as follows:

Entries: Jennie Blaisdell.  
Numbers: Della Robbins.  
Treasurer: Helen Conington.  
Trophies and Ribbons: Edith Rice and Rachel Rice.  
Secretary: Jean Coffey.  
Ringmasters: Ralph Robbins, Clarence Hutchinson.  
Announcer: Leonard Almy.  
Farrier: E. Casavant.  
Veterinarian: Richard Kelton.  
Fire Dept: Harold Weeks.  
Police Dept: Joseph H. Higgins.  
First Aid: Esther Pessenden, P. A. System, J. Skolis.  
Gateman: Allen Knapp, Larry Duell, George Smith, Warner Smith.  
Programs: Carolyn Robinson, chairman. 4H members will sell programs.  
Recording Secretary: Irene Mitchell.

**19th Annual Barre Horse Show Attracts 1200 To Felton Field**

Another Barre horse show has passed into history with a glowing record of achievement and a happy feeling of accomplishment. Some 1200 spectators at Felton Field last Sunday enjoyed the 19th annual show of the Barre Riding and Driving Club, under perfect conditions.

With more than 100 entries from all sections of the state, the show featured a remarkable display of equine talent. In the Hack classes and Hack and Hack pony classes, riders from all over the state competed for the top prizes. The Hack and Hack pony classes were particularly popular, with many spectators watching the action from the grandstand.

The show was a great success, and the club is proud to have attracted such a large number of spectators. The club is planning to continue its tradition of sponsoring annual horse shows in the future.

The club is also planning to build a new barn at Felton Field, which will provide a better facility for the show and for the club's members. The club is currently fundraising to help pay for the construction of the new barn.

The club is also planning to sponsor a trail ride in the future, which will provide a great opportunity for members and spectators to enjoy the outdoors and the beauty of the Barre area.

The club is a great organization, and we are proud to be a part of it. We look forward to many more successful shows in the future.

## Fall Trail Ride Highlights



*Lynne Goodnow on Justice*

Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup> saw the Barre Riding and Driving Club do its best to pull off their annual Fall Trail Ride from Felton Field. Although the rainy Friday evening put a damper on the traditional potluck dinner, and the dreary (and inaccurate!) forecast for Saturday kept many riders and supporters uncertain, Sunday morning's tentative and misty dawn led to a bright, picturesque fall day perfect for a long or short ride through the exquisite New England trails in Barre.

The annual Fall Trail Ride began at Felton Field, 115 Old Coldbrook Road in lovely Barre Massachusetts, an area where the Barre Riding and Driving Club has operated for 85 years to carry on the traditions started by an original group of dedicated horse enthusiasts. BRDC offered 7-, 11-, 13- & 15-Mile Trail Routes consisting of gravel roads, rail bed, wooded trails and a small amount of pavement.

Although camping was available from Friday through Sunday, most riders drove their trailers and campers in on Sunday morning. Upon arrival, they were greeted with hearty cheers and treated to a complimentary breakfast of Egg McFeltons (fried egg, ham, and cheese on a toasted English muffin) along with freshly made home fries and accompanied by fresh coffee or tea. Thus fortified, the riders tacked up and prepared to ride out.



*Betsy Merritt*



*Diane Merritt on Breezy*

All trails for the day had been previously marked with colored ribbons to guide the riders along the various trails. Marianne Wojcicki provided riders with a single map page with detailed maps of the trails for additional guidance. Barre Riding and Driving Club had arranged and paid for a police officer to be available at a busy road crossing that was part of the longest trail.



*Michele Dunn and Margo Petracone*

On Sunday about 15 riders enjoyed the lovely day and returned in time to enjoy an array of hot lunch options at the Red Food Booth. Barre Riding and Driving Club provided meatballs & sausage in tomato sauce, tomato soup & grilled cheese, Asian-style beef and broccoli, potatoes au gratin, and salad. Most trail riders relaxed and swapped stories after lunch while the Club waited for the riders from the long trail



*Scott Decker and Karen Dunphy*

ride to return. After a relaxing afternoon, many riders, supporters, and friends of the Club stayed to enjoy a lovely turkey dinner at the Red Food Booth. That completed the day for many of our riders. A few hardy souls camped overnight at Felton Field since the following day was the Columbus/Indigenous Peoples' Day holiday.



*Edee McNamara and Gus taking down ribbons*

The Club is NEHT affiliated, allowing riders to earn miles toward their trail riding goals. Michele Dunn (pictured above, top left) achieved the milestone of her 500th mile! Congratulations, Michele!



*Olaf and Gus, tired ponies after taking down ribbons*

## Save the Date! Awards Banquet!

Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>

Barre Horse Show Series Banquet

QRSD Cafeteria, 872 South Street, Barre MA



Next parade opportunities:

Save the date for upcoming parades:

Barre Christmas

Parade December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2023  
Details coming soon!



Save the date September 21 2024 for Barre's 250<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary Grand Parade  
More details coming soon!



## Upcoming Calendar Events for 2023

Dec 1<sup>st</sup> Barre Horse Show Series Banquet  
Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> Barre Christmas Parade

### Preview of 2024 Calendar

Mar 2<sup>nd</sup> Cabin Fever  
May 11<sup>th</sup> Spring Trail Ride  
June 16<sup>th</sup> Horse Show  
July 7<sup>th</sup> NEECA Show  
Aug 4<sup>th</sup> CNEER Show  
Sept 15<sup>th</sup> Horse Show  
Oct 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> Fall Trail Ride  
Nov TBD Horse Show Banquet

## Interested in supporting the Barre Riding and Driving Club in a more **direct** way?



The Barre Riding and Driving Club has an opening on our Board of Directors. Join an easy-going but hard-working and dedicated group of folks whose top two cares are fund-raising for scholarships and fun-raising for members! Experience is not necessary; the current board members are willing to guide and mentor the interested person. In addition to meetings, board members work to brainstorm activities and organize events, do Spring clean-up on trails and at Felton Field and volunteer time for show Sundays and trail rides. Interested? Contact BRDC President, Lynne Goodnow [lgoodnow@yahoo.com](mailto:lgoodnow@yahoo.com)

## 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.

**June 30th, 2023, is the deadline for Equi-ship applications.** More info on

the Barre Riding and Driving Club website:

[barreridingdrivingclub.com/scholarships](http://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**  
2023 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 31<sup>st</sup>)

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](mailto:lgoodnow@yahoo.com)

VISIT US AT – [www.barreridingdrivingclub.com](http://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**