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## The Bugle



December 2023

**Celebrating  
50 Years**

## 50 Years - Pieces from the Past

*From Aug. 1999 Bugle by BK*

### BSTRA Helps Trail Systems in Australia

Awhile back I had gotten an email request seeking information on guidelines for establishing safe horse trails. I sent back what information I had to Ed and wished him luck.

Just recently I received a reply back from Ed and that's when I found out he was from Australia. The following is Ed's reply:

Dear Becky,

Sorry to take so long to reply to you. I have been away overseas working and then in every capital city in Australia so life's been hectic.

I used your advice as part of a submission I made to our local council regarding horse trails and I was, in a way, arguing against the establishment of a trail! Don't panic, I'm not anti-trail, in fact we own horses and have a property adjoining the proposed trail.

The local trail group arranged for the Council to simply signpost a trail down past our property (and several others) without doing a site survey! The track they chose is incredibly steep and requires a creek crossing and is only suitable for the most experienced.

We put pressure on the Council to implement trail guidelines and to cut a long story short, the outcome is terrific. A bridge has been built over the creek and our area

is being used as a model for horse trails as it has a very effective management plan regarding maintenance, usage, upgrades etc. in draft form at the moment.

The trail organizers have reacted very negatively in that they can no longer pick a trail off a map and apply to put up a sign! They figure trail establishment will now be expensive and require planning and maintenance. I reckon they don't realize the era we now live in regarding litigation etc.

Personally I think they were crazy to signpost a trail that was only 1 meter wide in places, very steep, and edged with barbed wire fence.

Still we had to go through a series of meetings and attend the local Council.

Thank you very much for your comment as they have contributed to better and safer horse trails here in South Australia.

Best regards, Ed.



### *Looking forward to our 51st year.*

With all that we have accomplished and grown over the past 50 years, we still have our wish list to continue growing and making ourselves more efficient and effective. This means committees to take over some of the work that the Board currently does.

These are the areas that we could use help with.

**Events Calendar:** Rounding up volunteers to help run our rides and trail work days. Scoping out new places to hold rides. Different themes or types of rides.

**Fundraising:** To support the work that we do on trails, fundraising is vital to pay for some of these projects. Are you a people person- good with talking to others? Are you good at writing letters? Do you believe in what we are doing and are willing to help accomplish those goals?

**Newsletter:** Do you have a creative flair and like to write? We would like to get contributions to our newsletter. Did you attend one of our rides and would like to do the write up about it? Come across something related to horses & trails that we all should know about - please write it up and send it along. Networking and information is vital.

**Website:** Do you have some technical skills - Word Press - that can be put to use in helping keep our website up to date?

If you have the skills for any of these, please consider volunteering. Many hands helps spread the work out and we could accomplish so much more - but only with your help. Give us a call or drop us an email - we would be happy to chat with you about what you would like to do and how we can help each other out. Contact any Board member. Get involved and be part of the solution and make a difference! **BK**

Ryan Rudy  
Owner

*Whitehorse*



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## ***Volunteer Hours - Submit Online***

We have set up a volunteer form on our website to submit your volunteer hours.

On the top menu bar, click on membership, then volunteer and you will see in that drop down menu, submit volunteer hours. Click on that to pull up the form.

You have room to submit up to three volunteer events at one time.

We are trying to set this up so we can gather all the data into spreadsheets with the capability of pulling out the information that we might need.

Please try to make us of this, it would be greatly appreciated. **BK**

## ***Welcome New Members***

Emma Milford, Natick MA  
Leanne Joeckel, East Brookfield MA



BSTRA board meetings are usually on the first Thursday of the month. If you wish to attend one of our meetings, drop us an email and we will send you the meeting link.

## **Healey-Driscoll Administration Names Director of Massachusetts Office of Outdoor Recreation**

Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) Secretary Rebecca Tepper today announced the appointment of Paul Jahnige as the first Director of the Massachusetts Office of Outdoor Recreation (MOOR). The EEA established the Office in December 2022 to elevate and enhance outdoor recreational opportunities throughout Massachusetts and the associated benefits to our economy, health, environment, and quality of life. Jahnige will work alongside state agencies, including the Department of Fish and Game (DFG), the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), the Massachusetts Marketing Partnership (MMP), and the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism (MOTT). He starts on September 25th.

“Massachusetts has exceptional beaches, trails, and parks, and it’s critical they’re accessible and available to all residents. Paul Jahnige will be instrumental in ad-

vancing transformative outdoor recreational opportunities across the state, with a focus on equity,” said EEA Secretary Rebecca Tepper. “His experience demonstrates his commitment to merging recreation with stewardship and conservation, which will shape our environmental landscape for generations.”

“I’m honored and excited to step into this new role as the Healey-Driscoll Administration continues to take meaningful action in preserving and protecting our natural resources for all residents to enjoy all year long,” added Jahnige. “Outdoor recreation is not only critical for our physical, mental, and social health but also for Massachusetts’ economic health. I look forward to working alongside other state agencies, private and non-profit partners to get people outside to play in Massachusetts.”

About Paul Jahnige

Paul Jahnige comes from the DCR, where he recently served as the Greenways and Trails Program Director.

## ***Big Pumpkin Ride sponsored by Unibank***

Mother nature was promising rain starting about 2 PM, so we breathed a sigh of relief that the ride would be finished before it started. Alas, mother nature had other ideas and the rain started shortly after 10 AM just as the riders headed out.

Despite the rain, 32 riders mounted up and rode out for the 9.6 miles in Upton State Forest. Dressed as pirates, witches, cowboys, pumpkins, and Disney characters to name a few, the costumes didn't disappoint. They seem to get better every year and I always marvel at how tolerant the horses are in their costumes.

As the rain continued to pour, several riders shortened their ride, but many stuck it out – and boy did they come back wet. The BSTRA riders are a tough bunch.

Bill Taylor, the President of the Friends of Upton State Forest (FUSF), joined us to present a certificate in honor of BSTRA's 50th anniversary and their partnership with FUSF. BSTRA and FUSF have teamed up over the years to improve many of the trails in Upton State Forest for which we are grateful.

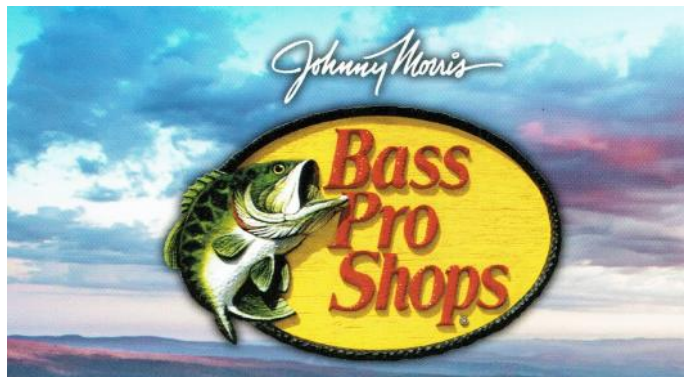


After our traditional lunch of lasagna from the Upton Country Club Sooper and all the desserts from the riders, it was time to hand out the prizes for the best costumes. This becomes more difficult every year, but our volunteers collaborated and chose the winners.

Norma Fay won for the scariest costume as a skeleton grim reaper, Kathy Rich won for the funniest costume with her "butt witch", a witch that hung on to the back of her horse's rump, Lida Roman won for creativity dressed as an elf with her horse as a present, and last but not least, Bobbi Enman won for her costume as Winnie the Pooh and her horse Eeyore.

Thanks to Annamaria Paul and Kathy Rich's trail marking and Deb Fitzgerald who let us ride through her property and helped with a one of our road crossings.

Sharron Cochran, Deb Deschene, Sue Quirk, and Rose Zariczny rounded out our volunteers -- we couldn't put on the ride without them. Thanks to all for your help. Time to start thinking about next year's costume – see you next year. *Joyce Sandvik*





**TIME: 12 Noon to 4 PM**

**12:15 Election of Officers &  
Cash Bar Opens  
12:30 Lunch**

**Following lunch will be the  
Presentation of year end  
Awards and BSTRA raffle**

**LUNCHEON BUFFET:**

Tossed Garden Salad, Seasonal  
Fresh Fruit Salad, Warm Rolls & But-  
ter, Penne Pasta with Marinara,  
Chicken Marsala, Sliced Sirloin,  
Chef's Medley of Vegetables, Herb  
Roasted Red Bliss Potatoes, Assort-  
ed Dessert Display, Freshly Brewed  
Coffee and Tea

**COST: Adults: \$32  
Age 12 & Under: \$15**

**DEADLINE: Paid reservations  
must be received by Feb. 8th  
at the latest.**

**Members, please bring your friends and family — you don't  
need to be a member to come to this afternoon of fun, good  
food, awards, election of Officers and huge raffle!**

Feb 18 AGM & Awards Banquet		Adult or Junior	Amount
Name			
Name			
Name			
Street Address			
Town, State, Zip			
Will Bring Something for the Raffle Table			

If registering by mail, send Registration Form and check payable to BSTRA, Inc. to:  
Becky Kalagher, 24 Glen Street, Douglas MA 01516

## ***2023 Turkey Trot sponsored by New England Drywall & From The Horses Mouth***

Once again we scheduled the Annual Turkey Trot for the first Sunday of November when our clocks are turned back to Standard Time. Nice to seemingly have that extra hour to get ready in the morning! This ride for me never seems to get old even after so many years. I still use a mug from sponsor Rita Ballou dated November 4, 2012! And she attended again this year. What a beautiful day we had—more like early October. Everyone seemed to enjoy the ride and sitting around after lunch to talk. I enjoy seeing returning riders as well as some first timers to this event. I love introducing these beautifully unique trails.

A couple of safety warnings. Becky, I guess the only one, rode down to the water spot and ended up hitting quick sinking mud which her seasoned trail horse managed to struggle out of without injury but with mud on her pretty face. Although we haven't had problems there before, maybe the extreme rain has changed the footing. Beware! Secondly, a reminder that before removing your saddle girth, be sure your breast collar is unhooked. I won't mention a name because it's a mistake that any could have made and probably have. But the horse took off at a canter, bucking and in a panic with the saddle twisting, hanging, and bumping chest, side, legs and causing much concern for the duration of his run around the parking area. Water bottle went flying, cell phone too (which should never be carried on your horse, but on your person), and saddle pad. Luckily no vehicles or horses were impacted, but I'm sure the horse had bruises and soreness.

Riders with maps had the choice of 5, 10, or 15 mile permanently marked loops. The mounted turkey hunt took place shortly after 1pm. Always fun, but too well hidden for some. What the heck, it was a nice day to prolong the hunt a little. The first "turkey" was found by **Meaghan Wood** (riding Justice). The second and third turkeys proved to be quite elusive resulting in the search field being narrowed down a few times. Kudos to those horses that were able to work in close quarters.

The second one was found by **Becky Kalagher** (on Shaylee) and the third by **Julie Grant** (riding Jazzy). As it's been years since we awarded actual frozen turkeys, each of the winners went home with a Stop & Shop \$25 gift card. Congrats!



Thank you to volunteers Mary Wood, Sue Quirk, and Deb Deschenes for helping with trail marking, set up, parking, registrations, lunch, and cleanup. Thank you to our ride sponsors New England Drywall Company and From the Horse's Mouth and to all who participated and continue to support B.S.T.R.A. Check out Massachusetts DCR's website for the history and many interesting facts about Myles Standish State Forest. We also should thank Forest staff for their work in the forest. Newly appointed Supervisor Jackie Sousa promised that the regrading of the access road to the equestrian parking area is at the top of his priority list. *Rose Zariczny*



## *Thompson Raceway Ride sponsored by Yered Trailers*

The last ride of the season ended on a great note. With some clearing, an old trail was opened up that provided a nice view of Five Mile River and some of us explored the roughed out trail across East Thompson Road. Many thanks to Kelly Berthiaume, Denise Leonard, Valerie & Dave Clark, and Becky Kalagher..

The hot “crock pot meals” that people brought were greatly appreciated. A warm lunch along with a variety of superb dishes. Thanks to everyone that made food for the ride. We did learn this year that we are going to change a couple of things. There is going to be a “crock pot” crew that will put names on all covers and what the dish is. And why you ask? Valerie ended up with Janeen's cover, Janeen has Karen Harvey's cover and Karen had Valerie's cover. This was a classic who's on first episode.

We hope that everyone had a chance to check out the new trailer that our sponsor brought to the ride - Yered Trailers. It's always nice to dream about a new trailer!

We were all very much appreciative of the nice weather that we had on this ride. When it gets later in the year it can be a crap shoot.

A great thanks to all the volunteers that helped on the day of the ride. These are the people that make our ride possible. Sharron Cochran, Deb & Kerianne Foley, Rose Zariczny, Janeen Rose, Valerie & Dave Clark, Deb Deschenes, Angela Authier, and Cheryl Young. Until we meet again on the trails next year! **BK**



## News from the Outdoor Recreation Roundtable

Today the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), an agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce, released national and state economic data showcasing the incredible year the outdoor recreation economy had in 2022. This analysis demonstrates outdoor recreation's powerful and positive economic impact on the U.S. economy and jobs as the nation continued to rebound from the COVID-19 pandemic and Americans continued to prioritize time outside.

These new government data show outdoor recreation generated \$1.1 trillion in economic output, comprised 2.2% of U.S. GDP, and supported 5 million jobs — 3.2% of all employees in the country.

"If there's one thing to take away from today's BEA presentation it's this: the state of the outdoor recreation economy is strong, and sustained investment in outdoor recreation and our shared public lands and waters pays dividends for our local and national economies and quality of life," said Jessica Turner, president of the Outdoor Recreation Roundtable (ORR). "Our industry continues to provide benefits to communities across the country — big, small, urban, and rural alike. To ensure that this success is sustainable and that our public lands and waters will continue to be accessible to all Americans for generations to come, we will continue to work together with leaders on the passage of America's Outdoor Recreation Act by the end of this year. We are thrilled to once again see the data reflect what we hear every day, that outdoor recreation is not a nice to

have — but a necessity for healthy people, places, and economies."

Here is the Economic Impact by Industry (interesting enough equestrian use fell in the middle). These numbers are billions.

70.8 RVing; 47.3 Boating; 18.8 Hunting, Shooting & Trapping; 18.5 Motorcycling & ATVing; 12.5 Fishing; 10.2 (tie) Equestrian & Climbing; 7 Skiing & Snowboarding; 6.2 Snowmobiling & other snow activities; 4.3 Biking; 1.1 Canoeing & Kayaking.

Equestrian is not one of the top industries in MA, but it is one of the top in Texas (that was the only one I checked).

If you are interesting in looking at this information in depth please go to <https://recreationroundtable.org/resources/national-recreation-data/>

**BK**




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### POULIN GRAIN PROGRAM

When you buy Poulin grain for your animals, make sure to tell the clerk that you are a BSTRA member. That's all you have to do! We get .25 for each bag you buy. The collected bag amounts are remitted to Poulin and they send us a check. Participating dealers: Mane Place (Uxbridge).

### EXCESS PERSONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE

A \$1 million Excess Personal Liability Insurance policy is an optional member benefit. Become an individual or family member of BSTRA and choose this valuable protection. Insurance Agent is Equisure. For details, please visit our website at [www.bstra.org](http://www.bstra.org) or email [rzariczny@verizon.net](mailto:rzariczny@verizon.net)

### VOLUNTEER AWARD PROGRAM

In addition to BSTRA's Volunteerism Program, record your volunteer hours for BSTRA within 7 days at <https://rewardsvolunteer.coop> for chances to win rewards in cash or prizes for your volunteer contributions. Or you can use the direct link on our website to enter your volunteer hours. This secondary volunteer reward program is offered by Cabot Creamery.

### BSTRA CLOTHING

Please use this QR code to access our site to purchase BSTRA clothing. Or go to our website, click on the Support tab in the top header, then click on Merchandise Sales. There will be a link on that page that takes you to the "store".



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## Classifieds

Free ads are for members and their items only. Please contact the editor for advertising rates for non-member classified ads. Please submit your ad in writing (mail or e-mail) to the editor. Ads will only appear once unless you notify us to run it again. Ads must be received by the 15th of the month preceding publication.

**Horses/Trailer for Sale-Help Wanted:** Reg. Quarter horse gelding, 10 yr, 15'2" - safe sane, no vices, great trail horse UTD, Summer Indian Dream \$7,500.00 - english, western, jumps

Standardbred, gorgeous grey, 11 yr, 17'2" is being ridden dressage, but has done hunter pace and trails, walk trot canter - great all around big boy. Gentle no vices UTD \$8,500.00 Contact Deb Adams 774-361-5464

2005 Jamco - three horse slant goose - good condition - \$15,000.00

Looking for farm help Sundays a.m. p.m - Friday turn in. Horse knowledge helpful. [deborah.adams100@gmail.com](mailto:deborah.adams100@gmail.com)

**Truck for Sale:** 2001 Ford F-250 XLT Super Duty V-10, 6.5 bed, Extended cab, 118k miles, 10 cylinders! Mint condition, Always garaged, Runs like new, No rust, No squeaks or rattles, 5th wheel towing package, Recently detailed, Well maintained. Price reflects the mint condition this truck is in. It gets 15 miles per gallon. Reduced price: \$13,500 or best offer. email - [jalifevantage@gmail.com](mailto:jalifevantage@gmail.com)

**Horse Barn for Rent:** Paddocks, pasture, round pen, ring, trails with no roads, tack room, stall, water & electricity, hay rooms. Short or long term available. Located on quiet country road in Windham CT. Training & lessons available. Low prices to the right person. Text 860-208-8734

**Trailer for Sale:** 2008 Super Sport Series 2 horse bumper pull trailer. Warmblood/Thoroughbred model with large dressing room with 2 saddle racks. It's 7'6" high, 77" wide and almost 16 feet long with two large escape doors. Spring - assisted ramp. Extra windows in rear doors, rubber lined with two pop-up vents for extra ventilation. Very good condition and serviced every year. One owner, title in hand. \$12,000. Hitch and sway bars included. Call Suzanne @ 508-380-2124 with questions.

**"The Adventures of BB, the Wonder Pony"** is an illustrated, first chapter children's book that will be enjoyed by readers of all ages. My Connemara Pony "BB" tells his life story in his own pony voice. BB talks about life as a foal, learning to be ridden, going to a variety of shows and having adventures with his big brother Cody. The illustrations are by a 12-year-old artist - really cute, on every few pages. You can contact me at [sue.perry@charter.net](mailto:sue.perry@charter.net) to purchase a book, \$5.00 each plus shipping. You can also order the book on-line from Amazon at \$7.99.

## Business Classifieds

**Short Term/Vacation Boarding:** Walking High Farm has two run in sheds with separate fencing available for your short term needs. Going on vacation? We can take care of your horse, or both if you have two of them. Please call Becky for details at 508-476-3960 or [bstra@charter.net](mailto:bstra@charter.net)

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**Merry  
Christmas  
& HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Date (raindate)	Event/Location/Sponsor	Contact	Phone #	email address
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Feb. 18	AGM & Awards Banquet, Sutton MA			
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**\*NEHT affiliated rides**

1. Unless otherwise noted, all rides start at 10 am and trail work days at 9 am
2. In case of questionable weather, call before leaving home. You will NOT be called if the event is cancelled.
3. Most rides require advance registration and payment to receive lunch.
4. Riders 17 years old and under, accompanied by a guardian, ride **free** (includes lunch if pre-registered). (May be exceptions on some rides)
5. Alcohol is prohibited on State property. No smoking allowed while riding.
6. A current Coggins within a year of the ride date is required.
7. Please leave the trails and parking areas better than you found them and be considerate of others! Clean up your hay & manure at all rides!
8. Year end awards require a member in good standing to have a minimum of 4 hours of volunteer time completed.  
Divisions: Pleasure, Competitive, Accumulative. Age as of January 1st: Junior (17 and under), Adult (18-64), Senior (65 or older).  
For more Information, visit our website at [www.bstra.org](http://www.bstra.org)
9. PayPal payments for rides will no longer be transferred to another ride. Refunds will be made.



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# Bay State Trail Riders Association, Inc.

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DECEMBER 2023

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## Bay State Trail Riders Association, Inc. Membership Application (expires December 31st)

Mail this form with check payable to **BSTRA, Inc.** to: Rose Zariczny, 216 Grand Street, Woonsocket, RI 02895

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ phone: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

Do NOT release my name for discounts or coupons to benefit BSTRA [ ]

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_  
(# & street) (town/city) (state/zip)

Please check all that apply:

Single \$25 [ ] \$1m excess liability insurance (single), additional \$20 [ ] Individual Lifetime Membership \$400 [ ]

Family \$35 [ ] \$1m excess liability insurance (family), additional \$40 [ ]

Additional Barn Membership \$35 [ ] Barn Name \_\_\_\_\_

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- by hosting/running a trail ride [ ]
- with other projects that might be needed [ ]
- by serving on the Board of Directors [ ] committee [ ]
- with \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? [rzariczny@verizon.net](mailto:rzariczny@verizon.net) or 401-487-3190

**Thank you for your support. Happy Trails!**