



The Bugle



November 2024

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Mt. Jefferson Pleasure Ride sponsored by Mill Valley Veterinary Clinic & Savers Bank

The Mount Jefferson Ride was held on October 6th. The weather was perfect, not too warm and not too cool for the 8-mile ride that wound through the Mt. Jefferson Conservation Area and the Hubbardston/Templeton State Forest. As done in past years, trails were marked by easy-to-follow white arrows spray painted on the ground. My silly pony thought it was fun to spook at them! I think this may be his favorite ride because of that.



The footing was varied with cart roads, wooded trails, areas to move, out and a beautiful field. With this year's dry weather, there was hardly any wet areas. This conservation area is well maintained and there are plenty of perma-

nent signs with trail names and maps showing where you are.

Fall colors were starting to show. On one of the trails, we spotted two ground birds, but were not sure what they were. On our return, Becky was able to look at our photos and identify them as partridges. I don't recall ever seeing one before.

Returning riders were served sandwiches, salads, and of course, delicious homemade desserts.

As with all rides, a huge thank you to all the volunteers who made the ride possible.

This would be the girls from Burnshirt Hills Barn that marked the trails that had us doing a section of the trail in the other direction. That took me a few minutes to realize that, funny how the

(Continued on page 2)



trail looks so different when going from the other direction!



Of course Bob Hatch and Stephanie Frend, Burnshirt Hills owners for doing the set up and working like crazy to try and finish up a re-route section of trail with a new bridge. They didn't quite finish it for the ride, but we did see where the work was. Good news is that I hear it is now done. So we will get to enjoy that next year.

BSTRA contributed \$1,500 towards this trail improvement.

Our registration and helpers were Sharron Cochran and Sheila King. *Anna Maria Paul*



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Patti Finn of New York City was the winning name drawn on Oct. 20th. When she was told that she won, she was quite excited to say the least!



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It's still a great deal, so we hope that you take advantage of this for you and your horse.



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Trail Work Days on BSTRA Property sponsored by Yered Trailers

Oct. 18th: Phil Rutledge and myself spent a total of 5 hours clearing up downed and hung up trees mostly on the Peerless Relic Path and installing one sign post. The hanger tree took some time to get down safely!



Oct. 28th: I spent 2.42 hours spreading the rest of the gravel on the ramp of the 16' bridge along with placing rocks on the sides to hold the gravel in place. Thank you Alex for letting me use your Kubota again!

Oct. 30th: 50 minutes setting up, measuring, and cutting the geotextile material. Then Phil Rutledge and myself installed the geotextile material with the angle pieces holding it. Of course we had to blow off the accumulated leaves, so very glad Phil brought his back

pack blower. That took us 3.84 hours.



Oct. 31st: Phil Rutledge and myself installed the geotextile material with the angle pieces holding it.

This one went much quicker now that we knew what we were really doing!

Nov. 1st: It took me 50 minutes to fill up 20 buckets with pea stone and get them in the truck.

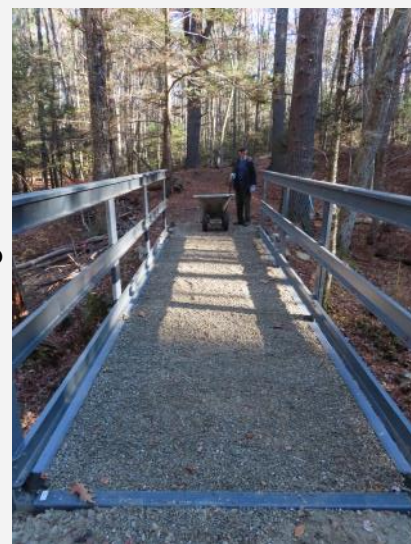
Nov. 2nd: The final big work day. The goal was to

get the pea stone spread on both the bridges, install the trail signage, and install the two point of interest car signs. And Phil added to the list blowing the leaves off the trail so that it was defined.

Pea stone brigade was Ed Nobrega, Ray Hill and Becky Kalagher. Using two wheelbarrows, we hauled the pea stone to the furthest bridge first which was the 20' one, then we finished up the 16' one.

While we were doing that, Phil & Jane Rutledge along with Gloria Duhaime headed out to install the trail signage.

Once our crew was done we started installing the two car signs with Gloria staying with us to help and Phil headed out to define the trail and Jane did some trimming.



All totaled we put in 19.98 hours on this day. I was feeling humbled and proud at the same time. To see a vision turn into reality was quite impactful.

What's left? We are just waiting for official approval for the new trail form that I submitted to DCR that will connect the SNETT to this property which is all of 30'. I know, but it will make if officially part of the trail system so you do what needs to be done.

We do want to have some type of ribbon cutting ceremony along with a walk on the new connector trail.

Though there is some trail work that needs to be done on the town owned property as I noticed a tree down and I know the height clearance



needs to be addressed for horseback riders. All in good time.

Within the next two issues I will have a breakdown of everything that went into this project.

Thank you all that worked on this project and to all our sponsors for giving us the funds to make this possible. **BK**



Lea MacInnis Pleasure Ride sponsored by Yered Trailers

The Lea Macinnis Versatility and Pleasure Ride, sponsored by Yered Trailers, was held on October 20th at Red Rail Farm in Lincoln MA. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Versatility was cancelled, but it was a beautiful day for a ride through the woods.

New trails are always an adventure, and no one was disappointed. The route took us near Walden Pond, through forest and fields laden with hues of yellow, gold, orange, and red. The footing was spectacular.

The adventure part happened when our ride

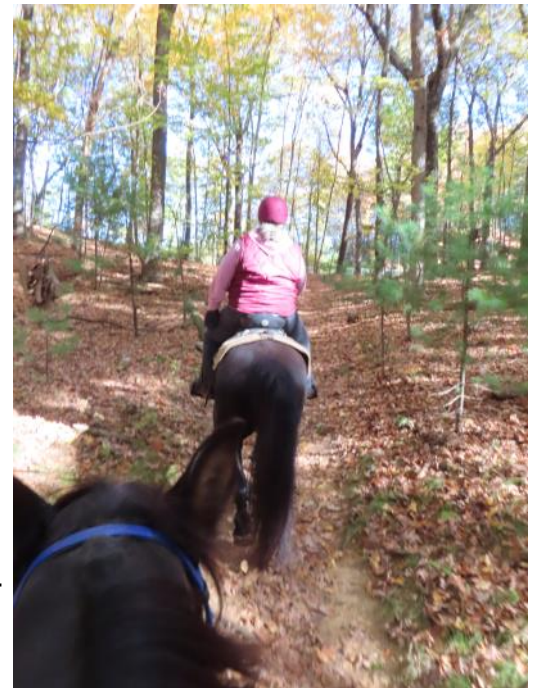
was interrupted because someone had removed big chunks of the markers at a key intersection. Stranded several miles out, many of us waited for rescue. We used the time to chat and learn more about each other. Huge thank you to Stephanie Juriansz for the rescue and leading us back.

It's disheartening that someone would sabotage our ride.



There is no reason walkers, hikers, and bicyclists, cannot share with equestrians. We should work together to preserve nature, not exclude others.

Sandwiches, salads, and scrumptious desserts were served for lunch. Thank you to all the many volunteers who made this ride possible. Those dedicated people were Mary Wood, Suzanne Nicholas, Joyce Sandvik, Rose Zariczny, and Deb Deschenes. I hope to get back to ride there again. *Anna Maria Paul*





The Thompson Raceway Ride

The ride is mostly on private property which has parts of the former Thompson Raceway, located near, but not related in any way to the Speedway.

November 17, 2024

Check in opens at 9 am Ride out at 9:30

Length: 5 to 7 miles, repeat for double miles. Rest assured, the route planned for this ride avoids deep mud!
NEHT Affiliated Hot lunch served after the ride.

Location: A field on Baker Road, Thompson CT. From route 193S (coming from Massachusetts), take the sharp, hairpin left downhill onto East Thompson road, heading toward the Speedway.

After about 1/2 mile, take the first paved right onto Alm Road. If you pass the Speedway, you've gone too far. Follow Alm Road to the end. Take a left onto Baker Road. There will be a BSTR A sign to direct you to the left turn into the field. For GPS use: 165 Baker Road Thompson, CT. That will get you close. Watch for signs!

If you're coming from the Douglas end of East Thompson Road, please swing wide when you are taking that left onto Alm Road so you don't have any issues with your trailer.

Registration fees: \$20 for BSTR A members, \$25 for non-members, Juniors (17 and under) ride free. Lunch included free is pre-registered.

Registration deadline for lunch Nov. 13th.

For more information please contact Valerie at 508-864-8432 or Valerie.clark@snet.net

Make checks payable to BSTR A and mail to Becky Kalagher, 24 Glen Street, Douglas, MA 01516



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Raceway Ride	Rider #1	Rider #2
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Horse's Name		
Rider's Year of Birth		
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Pumpkin Ride October 27, 2024

Sponsored by Swerling, Milton, Winnick Ins. Adjusters & UHY Advisors Northeast

Finally, we had a beautiful fall day, although a somewhat chilly early morning, for our annual pumpkin ride – no rain and no heat wave as in previous years.



Thirty-three riders headed out across Westboro Road to the Rabbit Run trail and then back over to the main forest for a six or eight mile loop. Parking 22 trailers in a limited amount of space is always a challenge, but Rose knows the drill and everyone had plenty of room to tie their horses and mount up for the ride.

This year, Diana Roche, a professional photographer and artist (www.dianarocheartistry.com) came and took pictures as the riders went out and made them available for the riders to purchase with a portion of the sales donated to BSTRA. Check out the gallery of pictures at <https://www.dianarocheartistry.com/Big-Pumpkin-Ride/n-F7Ws2w>. The gallery will be available until the end of November.



Riders and horses were dressed in scary, funny and creative costumes including pumpkins, skeletons, witches and other imaginative characters. Norma Fay and her wizard costume won the scariest award, Becky Kalagher and Karen Parlin tied for their Dr. Seuss Thing 1 and Thing 2 (complete with red tutus) and Kathy Rich won for the most creative as Gumby and her horse Pokey. We needed to expand the number of winners this year with a runner up award as it was difficult to choose among all the clever costumes. Ed Norbega won the runner-up award as a Ghost Buster – you could hardly tell the difference between Ed and Dan Aykroyd LOL.



Lunch was enjoyed by all basking in the sun with lasagna, salad, corn casserole and French bread generously donated by the Framingham Baking Company. And of course, the desserts that riders brought were to die for with pumpkin spice cake, apple crisp, cupcakes, and pumpkin cheesecake to name a few.

I'm happy to report there were no rider or horse incidents. Despite a slight misunderstanding about the ride route by me and Suzanne and a good eye by our road crosser Sharron, no one got lost thanks to the expert trail marking by Annamaria Paul and Kathy Rich.

Thanks to Sharron Cochran, Deb Deschene, Sue Quirk, and Rose Zariczny who completed our volunteer team. Last, but not least, thanks to Suzanne Nicholas, my partner in crime, for co-hosting this ride with me every year. Joyce Sandvik



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).

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Golf Cart for sale: 4 passenger plus bed seat folds down. Gas motor, windshield, lights, aluminum frame. Asking \$3,500. Call Paul at 508-662-3301.

Wintex Isabella Dressage Saddle: Black, 17" seat, has interchangeable gullets (comes with medium and wide). Girth, irons, working diamond wool pad, and saddle cleaner. \$550. Email bstra@charter.net.

Saddle for Sale: Western 15" Imus Saddle, made for gaited horses. 800.00 or BO Text Aurore@ 401-527-1950 for info and pictures.

Saddle for Sale: Custom Circle Y. Older, but in great shape. The fully hand tooled saddle leather is a mahogany color. It is accented with a rope edge with silver lacing. The horn is braided rawhide with silver lacing. The gullet is 6-3/4" wide which is considered semi- quarter horse bars. Set up for double rigging. The sheepskin is really good. 15" seat. Floral engraved conchos and matching pieces on saddle. One of a kind saddle. \$1,000. Pictures available. Email bstra@charter.net

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“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 to purchase a book, \$5.00 each plus shipping. You can also order the book on-line from Amazon at \$7.99.

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.



Life Data
LABS, INC.

Date (raindate)	Event/Location/Sponsor	Contact	Phone #	email address
Nov. 17*	Thompson Raceway Ride, Thompson CT <i>Ride sponsored by EquidDoc Veterinary Services</i>	Becky	508-476-3960	bstra@charter.net
Feb. 16	AGM & Awards Banquet			

***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
9. PayPal payments for rides will no longer be transferred to another ride. Refunds will be made.

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In 2025, we're seeking passionate individuals to help us steer this organization forward. Every contribution, no matter the size, makes a difference. For more information, reach out to any Board member.

Bay State Trail Riders Association, Inc.

24 Glen Street
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NOVEMBER 2024

We are on the web!

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

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Questions? rzariczny@verizon.net or 401-487-3190

Thank you for your support. Happy Trails!