



The Bugle



December 2024

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Turkey Trot Ride sponsored by EquidDoc Veterinary Services

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 have that extra hour to get ready in the morning! We had a sunny but cold day, but everyone enjoyed sitting in the sun during lunch and catching up. The only downside was the awful condition of the equestrian parking area (field) which was torn up by motorized revelers with ruts, bumps, and rocks. The paved lot has a huge pile of mulch/wood chips which takes up a third of that area and seems to not have been used for a couple of years. Luckily, or unluckily, we didn't have as many participants as in the past, so we managed to get everyone parked without incident. Will have to follow up with the powers that be to fix this problem. 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 Karen Parlin (riding Junior). 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 Julie Grant (riding Jazzy) and the third by Becky Kalagher (on Shaylee). Both Julie & Becky were repeat winners from last year! Each of the successful hunters went home with a Stop & Shop \$25 gift card. Congrats! Lunch was sandwiches, homemade cranberry sauce, chips, desserts, hot apple cider and cold drinks. Thank you to volunteers Mary Wood, Bill Zariczny, and Deb Deschenes (great dessert!) for helping with trail marking, set up, park-

(Continued on page 2)



ing, registrations, lunch, and cleanup. Thank you 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. *Rose Zariczny*




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Thompson Raceway Ride sponsored by EquidDoc Veterinary Services

Our last ride of the season was nothing short of spectacular, and we couldn't have asked for a more perfect day. With 77 riders—the largest turnout of the season—and absolutely pristine weather on November 17th, it was a magical end to our riding adventures. The day was made even better with a delicious hot meal featuring mac & cheese, orange chicken with rice, beef with gravy, chicken pasta Alfredo, mashed potatoes, and green



bean almondine. Special thanks to Fort Hill Farms for the generous donation of Cabot Cheese and to Valerie for adding crackers to the spread. The meal was topped off with a variety of desserts courtesy of our volunteers, creating the perfect setting for everyone to gather and enjoy a truly memorable time together.

We welcomed riders from Maine, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island, creating a diverse and vibrant group. Thanks to Valerie's incredible connections, we had the Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association (ECARA) and four of the Town of Thompson's volunteer constables assisting us with 10 volunteers. The constables expertly managed the double road crossing on East Thompson Road, while the radio volunteers were strategically placed to maintain constant communication and updates. The main radio "tower" trailer set up in the parking field as the "command center" was a key hub for coordination.

One of the highlights for me was the amusing descriptions of horse and rider from the radio volun-



teers. They did a fantastic job keeping track of the last riders and informing the road crews when they could head back to home base. We had a 'horse with a green hat and matching boots' (fly bonnet with bell boots) and another 'horse with a rider alongside a riderless horse'—Denise riding one and ponying the other. Everyone was focused on the "two blue riders" and their progress, as these were the team originally identified as the last riders out. ECARA's colorful descriptions made it easy for us to keep track of everyone and brought smiles to our faces!

A big thank you to the constables, HAM radio volunteers, and our dedicated BSTRA volunteer crew who handled registration, parking, trail maintenance, marking and unmarking the trails, on trail guidance, food preparation, and cleanup. Without your efforts, this event wouldn't have been the glorious success that it was. Special thanks to our crew: Valerie & David Clark, Suzanne Nicholas, Cheryl Fitzpatrick, Angela Authier, Deb Deschenes, Janeen Rose, Rose Zariczny, Sharron Cochran, Ed Nobrega, Dallas Keeney, Becky Kalagher, Linda Horanzy, and Joyce Sandvik.

BK



Items for your TO DO LIST

- ◆ Renew your membership for 2025
- ◆ Give a gift of a BSTRA membership to a friend
- ◆ Submit your volunteer hours by Jan. 4th. Go to our website (bstra.org). Click on membership on the top row, in the drop down menu you will see volunteer. Hover over that and you will see volunteer hours record form. That is a form you can download and fill in then mail it in. Or you can click on submit volunteer hours and just fill in the form online (this one is much easier!).
- ◆ ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS WITH YOUR FAMILIES AND FOUR LEGGED FRIENDS!



Amateur Radio Licensing Class

We are in the early stages of scheduling an amateur radio licensing class in Putnam CT in February.

If anyone is interested in being licensed to operate and/ or wants to learn more about our hobby, this free course is a great entry point.

If you are interested please let Paul know and he will forward your contact info to the class coordinator.

Paul Rollinson, KE1LI
 Eastern Connecticut ARA
 860-928-5147
 860-208-8814 Cell/Text
 Paulrollinson@sbcglobal.net


Important Membership Information: Insurance

For those of you purchasing the liability insurance along with your membership we have been informed that the price will increase for 2025.

To add the 1 million dollar liability insurance to your single membership will now be an additional \$25 and the price along with the family membership is now \$50.

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





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The Lord is my light and my salvation; Whom should I fear? Psalms 27:1



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Fundraising Coordinator Needed

Imagine the boundless potential of Bay State Trail Riders Association (BSTRA) with a dedicated Fundraising Coordinator at the helm. This pivotal role is more than just a title—it's the heart and soul of our community efforts to preserve and enhance the trails we all cherish.



Firstly, a Fundraising Coordinator would bring a focused and strategic approach to our financial initiatives, ensuring we have the resources needed to maintain and expand our trail network. They would foster relationships with donors, sponsors, and grant-giving bodies, turning goodwill into tangible support.

Moreover, this role is crucial for organizing events and campaigns that not only raise funds but also build community spirit. By connecting passionate trail riders, local businesses, and supporters, the Coordinator would create memorable experiences that inspire ongoing engagement and contribution.

Lastly, the impact of a Fundraising Coordinator extends beyond the monetary aspect. Their efforts would amplify our mission, spreading awareness about the importance of trail conservation and outdoor recreation. This would attract new members and volunteers, enriching our association and ensuring the longevity of our trails for future generations.

In essence, a Fundraising Coordinator is the linchpin that holds together the vision of a thriving and sustainable BSTRA, making our shared dreams a reality. If you are this person, we need you. Please contact us at bstra@charter.net



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BITS & PIECES

BUGLE: We will be looking at what to do with our newsletter for the coming year.

For starters we have to find a new printer as the company that did our printing is retired and from what I have been finding so far it's going to be a longer time frame for the printing plus the quotes coming in are higher.

One of the ideas that we have come up with is if a member wants to get the newsletter mailed to them, they will have to pay extra as part of their membership to receive it. Otherwise it will be sent out via email. The other factor in this is postage has also gotten quite high. For newsletters 12 pages and under it's currently .73 cents to mail, over 12 pages (which most of them are) the cost is \$1.01 for each newsletter.

We welcome your feed back on this, please send any comments to any of the board members.

2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Are you passionate about preserving our beautiful trails and promoting outdoor recreation? Bay State Trail Riders Association (BSTRA) is seeking dedicated individuals to join our Board of Directors for 2025!

Joining our Board of Directors offers you a unique opportunity to make a meaningful impact on our community. You'll play a pivotal role in shaping the future of our trails, helping to conserve and enhance the natural beauty that we all cherish. Your leadership and vision will help guide our organization, ensuring that we continue to provide excellent recreational opportunities for riders and outdoor enthusiasts alike.

By becoming a Board member, you'll also have the chance to collaborate with a dynamic and passionate team, all dedicated to our mission. Together, we can create memorable experiences, forge lasting connections, and inspire others to join us in our efforts. Your involvement will not only benefit the trails and our community but also provide you with invaluable experience and a sense of fulfillment.

If you're ready to make a difference and contribute to the legacy of BSTRA, we need you on our Board of Directors. Join us in 2025 and be part of something truly special. For more information or to express your interest, please contact any of our current board members. Let's ride forward together!

2025 TRAIL RIDES: Would you be interested in hosting a ride for Bay State Trail Riders Association in 2025? Hosting a ride allows you to share your favorite trails with others and helps support our community. If you're interested, please let us know. Thank you.

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. This service is provided by Equisure, Inc. in cooperation with BSTRA. This program is not a source of revenue for BSTRA. Association Resource Group Purchasing Group (the Mater Policy holder) has arranged coverage with Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's London using Equisure Inc. as the agent. For details, please visit our website at www.bstra.org or email rzariczny@verizon.net

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". **NEW ITEMS ADDED**



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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.

Horse items for sale: Amigo Blanket-Fits 14.2 to 14.3 clean and waterproofed, medium to heavyweight Black - \$50.00 Roma - 2 Wick/easy-dry-cool all purpose saddle pads-1 plain quilted pad. All in good condition. \$5.00 each 1 Cotton string girth- 36" -\$15.00 1-Shedding Blade - \$1.00 Call Marty @ 508-561 8089

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

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.

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

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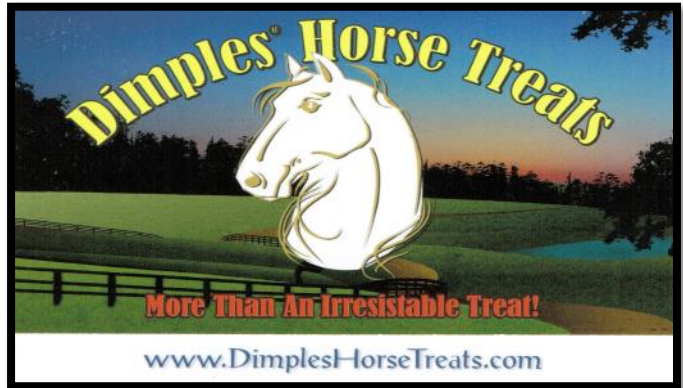
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Feb. 16	AGM & Awards Banquet Sutton MA <i>Event sponsored by Mass Framing Corp</i>			
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<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unless otherwise noted, all rides start at 10 am and trail work days at 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 <u>while riding</u>. 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. 				



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
Douglas MA 01516



DECEMBER 2024

We are on the web!

www.bstra.org

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

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- by serving on the Board of Directors [] Committee []
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Questions? rzariczny@verizon.net or 401-487-3190

Thank you for your support. Happy Trails!