

Maine Trail Riders Association, Inc.

June 2011

www.mainetrailriders.com

Volume 17.06



Officers:

Trudy Bickford, President
Audrey Colfer, Vice-President
Donna LeBlond, Secretary
Cathy Small, Treasurer

Board of Directors:

Brenda Lary – 2013
Dana Lary – 2013
Nora MacDonald – 2013
Melissa Bourgoïn – 2013 (ex-
efficio)

Donna Tripp – 2012
Julie Anderson - 2012
Cathy Small – 2012
Sandy Craig – 2012 (ex-efficio)

Nancy Weeks – 2011
Vicky Dixon – 2011

HOOFBEATS

Official Newsletter of The M T R A

THE NEXT MEETING IS
JUNE 10, 2011

President's Stall

Thank you to everyone that pitched in and helped get the club house and grounds ready for the first horse show of the season! Thanks also to everyone that came to Spring Show and helped out. We had a good turn out and it looked like the participants had a lot of fun.

The first rides of 2011 got off to a bad start when we found out just a day before the rides that trails were closed for repairs. A good group of members pitched in to make phone calls and notify you all of the change of location for the Saturday ride, and the cancelling of the Sunday ride. Thank you to all that helped in the notifications and finding a new place to ride!

So, for the first ride of 2011 we headed to Canton instead of Jay. The trail was nice for riding. After lunch, we got caught in a nasty storm with lots of thunder, lightening, pouring rain, and hail. Unfortunately, there was also an accident during that storm on the trail (poor Cosmo, may you rest in peace). Even with all that, it was still great to be out riding.

For the second ride of the season, six of us dressed in our rain gear and headed out. We saw the sun for a little bit, and then Mother Nature decided it was time to wet us down again. We still had a wonderful time and the company was great!

Finally, we had a "dry" ride on our third try on Sunday, May 22nd. The sky was gray and it was chilly, but at least there was no water pouring down on us. My hopes are high that the next ride will be sunny and dry!

I hope to see you at the upcoming rides and events!

Trudy

**Our Next Meeting is FRIDAY,
June 10, 2011 at 7:30PM**

Notice to Members



**The June meeting will be on Friday
instead of the usual Saturday!**



**A Board of Directors meeting will be held on
June 3, 7PM at the MTRA clubhouse**



Fundraising – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Please note on your calendar that we need help at the Maine Equine Super Showdeo on July 8 to 10. We need people to help out at the food booth on all three of those days. We need volunteers to judge the Trail Trials obstacles on July 10. If you can help out, please let any officer or committee member know. We will pass around sign-up sheets at the next club meeting for the Showdeo and for the Topsham show.

General Information

Website

<http://mainetrailriders.com>

If you have info to submit to the website, please contact Marsha Polley: mpolley@fts-ne.com.

Hospitality

Please help Audrey by keeping her informed on anything where the club should send out a card or more. She can be contacted via email at:

fullhahn@fairpoint.net.

Publicity

Please contact Rachel Jalbert-Palian if you have publicity suggestions:

Email: texas.rachel@earthlink.net

Phone: 207-713-1008.

Blazin' A Trail For A Cure

We are hosting a ride to raise money to find a cure for cancer. This year's ride will be associated with the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life events.

You can collect donations of money for team MTRA on the ACS Androscoggin site or you can send a check to ACS stating specifically that is to the MTRA team. The address is American Cancer Society, One Bowdoin Mill Island, Suite 300, Topsham, ME 04086.

More information has been posted on our website, including a registration form, rules, and agenda for the day. Or for more information, contact:

Sandy Craig 207-353-8242, 207-212-4737,
codycraig@myfairpoint.net

Cathy Small cathy@mainetrailriders.com

Plea for Ponies and Horses!

Please keep in mind that ponies are needed for the Moxie festival pony rides on July 10. Contact Sally at 933-9163 if you will be able to lend a pony!

We also need 10 horses (or ponies!) for the parade!

Upcoming Events

Please note: the event calendar will be posted at the clubhouse prior to all meetings. The calendar will not be read at the meetings.

Club meetings are at 7:30 P.M. unless posted otherwise.

June 2 - Showdeo (M.E.S.S.) meeting at the Topsham Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall (7PM)

June 3 – Board of Directors meeting, 7PM at the MTRA club house

June 4 - **Bingham ride, sponsored by Audrey Colfer and Valerie Fullerton

June 5 - **Turner ride, sponsored by Missy Bourgoin and Taylor Weeks

June 10 - Club Meeting, at the MTRA club house
 June 11-12 - **Spring Ride from the MTRA club house
 June 18-19 - **Blanchard RR Bed ride sponsored by Brenda and Dana Lary
 July 8-10 - Food booth at the Maine Equine Super Showdeo, Topsham Fairgrounds
July 9 - Moxie Day Parade and pony rides
 July 10 - MTRA Trail Trials at the Maine Equine Super Showdeo, Topsham Fairgrounds
 Aug 6 - Club meeting, at the MTRA club house
Aug 7 - Topsham Fair Horseshow
 Aug 13 - **Blazin' A Trail for A Cure sponsored by Lynn Aube, to be held in Lisbon Falls
 Aug 14 - **Lisbon Falls ride sponsored by Lynn Aube (rain date for Blazin' A Trail for A Cure)
 Aug 26-28 - **Roseberry Patch ride in Richmond sponsored by Ginny Roseberry
 Sept 3-5 - **Harris Knowlton Memorial ride in Albion sponsored by Marianne Cogswell
Sept 9-11 Litchfield Fair Food Booth
 Sept 10 - Club meeting, at the MTRA club house
 Sept 17-18 - **Fall Ride at the MTRA club house
 Sept 24 - **Albion ride sponsored by Elaine Bolen
 Sept 25 - **China Narrow Gauge RR Bed ride sponsored by Tess Carter
 Oct 1 - **Mt Pisgah ride in Monmouth sponsored by Sally Labree
 Oct 2 - **West Gardiner ride sponsored by Cathy Small
 Oct 8-10 - **Mt. Vernon ride sponsored by Walt Williams and Sandy Zack
 Oct 15-16 - **Parkman ride sponsored by Donna Tripp and Ashley Weeks (also MeQHA affiliated)
 Oct 23 - **Lisbon Falls ride sponsored by Sandy Craig
 Oct 30 - ** Popham Beach ride sponsored by Karen Brown
 Nov 5 - Club meeting, at the MTRA club house
 Nov 6 - ** Wales ride sponsored by Trudy Bickford
 Dec 10 - Club meeting, at the MTRA club house

Jan 14 – Yearly awards banquet

Ride Information

The calendar is already filling up fast with dates for 2011! If you would like to sponsor a ride, please contact the trail secretary, Cathy Small.

Email: Cathy@MaineTrailRiders.com

Phone: 582-2093

June ride information

Bingham RR bed ride June 4th sponsored by Audrey Colfer and Valerie Fullerton:

Ride starts at 10 am.

Directions from Augusta: head north on I-95. Take exit 133. Follow route 201 north through Skowhegan & Solon. As you come down the hill after the 'welcome to Bingham' sign, parking is on the right. Watch for MTRA signs. Please clean up any hay or manure before leaving parking lot at the end of the day.

We will ride 2 hours to the boat landing on the old railroad bed where we will break for lunch. After lunch you can return the same way you came or some of us will do the loop up around route 201. It makes the ride about an hour longer.



Turner ride on June 5th sponsored by Melissa Bourgoin and Taylor Weeks:

Ride starts at 9:30 am.

Riders will need to bring a pack lunch, halters and lead lines as we will be having lunch on the trail. We will be out about 4 hours not including lunch time.

Footing at the Turner Game Preserve can be rocky so I would recommend shoes or boots for horses with tender feet. There are a few hills but nothing serious. This area is a multi use area, expect to encounter, 4 wheelers, dirt bikes, mountain bikes, and hikers. Dogs are welcome; there are no road crossings.

Directions from Augusta: take Route 202 South to Greene. At flashing yellow light take right onto Allen Pond Rd. (Landry's Quick Stop on corner). Follow Allen Pond Road for about 5 miles. After

crossing a large metal bridge over the Androscoggin River, (road name changes to Center Bridge Road) proceed approximately a quarter mile, parking lot is on the left. Look for yellow MTRA signs.

Directions from Lewiston: take Route 202 North to Greene. Take left on Allen Pond Road and then follow the directions above.

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June 13, 2010

### Spring Ride June 11 & 12 from the MTRA club house:

Rides on both days start at 9:30 am. Each will be about 4 to 4.5 hours of riding, with an hour lunch break on the trail. We will try to keep the ride on trails however there will be some road riding as well.

There will be a potluck supper on Saturday night, starting at 5:30. Later in the evening a small group will play some music for us.

For camping reservations, please email Cathy Small ([Cathy@MaineTrailRiders.com](mailto:Cathy@MaineTrailRiders.com)). If you do not have access to email, then she can be called (582-2093).

The club's physical address is 6 Tutt Lane, Litchfield, ME. Just in case you want to use a GPS to find us.

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Blanchard RR bed ride June 18 & 19 sponsored by Brenda and Dana Lary:

The Blanchard Ride will be on property located by an old Railroad Bed which is also a Snowmobile Trail. It will be mostly R/R Bed riding with some woods Trail to get around a Trestle that is not there. I have not been there in the summer but the owner says there is room to park 10 or 12 big rigs for camping.

You will be able to arrive Friday if you wish. One Ride will be To Shirley, which is 7 miles one way, 14 miles up & back. One ride will be to Whetstone Pond & Piper Pond and back, 11.5 miles for this Ride. I will solicit a donation from each Rig for the owner for camping.

Blanchard is West of Monson off Route 6 & 15. Before you get into Monson, the Blanchard Road takes off on the left at a corner at the foot of Tenny Hill. If you come into Monson, you have gone too far. There will be signs from Route 15.

What is a TRAIL TRIAL?

A "Trail Trial ride" is an organized trail ride that includes obstacles and situations horse and rider might encounter on a trail ride. The ride is planned using the natural obstacles that already exist on a particular trail such as walking over logs, opening a gate, or maneuvering through a creek. While out on the trail, riders may also encounter obstacles such as birthday parties, family picnics, mountain bikes, llamas, hikers, etc. These may be considered obstacles also. Riders are judged individually and strictly on how well they negotiate their horse through and over obstacles with an emphasis on safety and calmness.

Trail Trials are not timed events. Riders may be given a time limit to ride through a particular obstacle so that riders behind don't get held back. Riders may ride as individuals or groups, and family participation is encouraged. Helmet use is recommended. Riders are required to have a halter and lead rope, or halter bridle and hoof pick with them. Safety for horse and rider is always emphasized.

Trail Trials consist of a trail ride, averaging 2-3 hours with 8-12 obstacles that would naturally occur in the setting where the ride is held. More examples are opening gates, a water crossing, drag, walk over logs, back up, small jump, slicker on and off, dismount, etc. As riders move along the designated trail, they will encounter such marked obstacles and a judge for each obstacle. Each horse/rider team is scored at each obstacle. Trail trials are not timed competitions and riders can ride at their own pace. But riders are usually given a time limit to ride through a particular obstacle so that other riders won't have to wait. Judges usually give riders 3 attempts to do an obstacle. Riders may ride as an individual or in groups with family or friends. Trial trials are a great place to meet new friends. Any type of clothing that is appropriate for riding is acceptable. Long pants and shoes with heels are mandatory. Helmets are recommended for riders 18 and younger and suggested for all competitors. Some rides require helmets be worn by riders 18 and younger. A halter, lead rope, & hoof pick are mandatory. Any equine (horse, pony, or mule) over 3 years of age is eligible to compete. Any type of saddle and bridle or hackamore is acceptable. Safety and fun are always emphasized.

COME RIDE WITH US

Info from: The American Trail Trial Horseman's Association Web Site

Wanted!

Headboard

Nancy Weeks is looking for a queen size headboard reasonable. Call 207-557-3302

Propane Stove

Nancy Weeks is looking for a used apartment size propane stove for the cook shack. If anyone knows of one free or reasonable, call 207-557-3302.

2-Horse Bumper Pull Trailer

Looking for reasonable priced 2 horse bumper pull horse trailer. Call 207-724-3655.

3-Horse Slant Gooseneck Trailer

Rachel Jalbert-Palian is looking for a 3 horse slant aluminum gooseneck trailer, with a dressing room and full escape door for the first horse. Call 207-713-1008.

Classified Ads

Brookside Wash and Mend

Horse blanket washing and light mending.

Rates and Services:

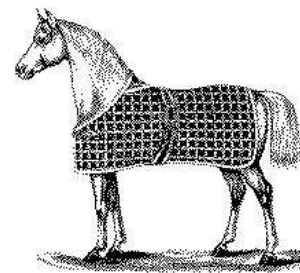
- Washing: Medium/Heavy weight - \$15.
 Sheets (nylon, cotton, fly) - \$10
 Saddle Pads (heavy) - \$10
 Saddle Pads (light) - \$8
 Fly Masks - \$3
- Repairs: Minor repairs (rips/tears) - \$10

*Please note that all items will require a wash before repairing.

*All MTRA Members – 10% off and 10% will be donated to the club

Contact: Donna LeBlond

32 David Drive, Auburn, ME 207-577-6063



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#### Barn in Dexter available!

Some friends have a gorgeous barn with about 4 acres of pasture and running water and electricity. They could provide some help with feeding etc. But neither is what I would call a horse person. The barn has six large box stalls if I remember correctly. It's got cement floors and a huge hayloft. They'd be open to any proposals! If interested email me and I will hook you up!

Patti Dowse

Erda ([www.ErdaLeather.com](http://www.ErdaLeather.com))

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Boarding & Lessons

Available at Greene-Horse Farm & Livery, Inc.

We are privately owned and operated and offer all our guests a 10 X 12 box stall in a newly built barn. Horses are turned out daily in individual paddocks or herd pasture depending on compatibility.

Board includes: stall, tack cubicle, feed and basic grooming. There is a round pen on site for your use, and miles of trails and dirt roads for your riding pleasure.

We are conveniently located 4 miles off Route 202 in Greene between Lewiston and Augusta.

Also offering beginner lessons and training.

Please call for more information and pricing, (207) 576-2721. References are available upon request.



Boarding available in new barn

10x12 stalls, 15 acres of pasture, trails available without going on the road first. Includes hay, grain, bedding, daily turnout. \$225/month.

Location is 1/16 mile from the Maine Trail Riders clubhouse in Litchfield.

Call Julie Anderson: (207) 446-1604



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June 12, 2010

Contact Info for Officers

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trudybickford@roadrunner.com

Phone: 207-720-0550

Audrey Colfer, Vice-President

fullhahn@fairpoint.net

Donna LeBlond, Secretary

dleblond59@yahoo.com

Cathy Small, Treasure

Cathy@MaineTrailRiders.com

Editor's Note

The deadline for submissions for the July issue is **June 26**. Send your email address if you would like to receive this newsletter via email. Photos and tips are welcome! Send to:

Trudy Bickford

36 Old Portland Road

Auburn, ME 04240

Email: trudybickford@roadrunner.com

Phone: 207-720-0550

