

WNRDC Calendar of Events

March 2007



West Newbury
Riding and Driving Club
POST

Introduction To "WHOA-GA"

Date: Friday, March 30 at 7:00 PM

Location: Ellen Alden's home, 495 Main Street, West Newbury, 978-363-1170
Please park behind the Old Town Hall.

Cathy Reynolds will discuss her new book, "Introduction To WHOA-GA, Eight Limbed Yoga for Horse/Rider Harmony". Whoa-Ga (rhymes with yoga) uses yoga ball and dismounted exercises to achieve body awareness and balance for effective seat and leg positions on the horse. Cathy will also discuss horse and human biomechanics, basic horse psychology, and the role of yoga in learning life and riding skills.

Instructor Cathy Reynolds is a double certified NARHA (riding) and AFPIA (yoga) instructor, NHPC licensed rider, clinician and author. Website: www.WHOAGA.com

Contact: Kathryn West McLeod
kwest978@comcast.net

Spring shots

Details on page 3

Sponsored by Myopia Hunt Club: Myopia Hunt Clinic

Date: Saturday, May 12 Noon to 2pm

Location: Long Hill Orchard, Main St,
West Newbury

Courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. John Adams
The clinic will offer an introduction to the tradition of foxhunting at Myopia. Myopia is

a drag hunt, meaning that the riders follow a scent dragged on the ground, rather than a live fox. Attendees will learn about the protocol and etiquette of hunting, which are designed for the safety and enjoyment of the participants, whether they gallop in the Jumping Field or ride at the slower pace of the Hilltopping Field. The roles of the Master, Huntsman, Whippers-in and Field Masters will be explained. The attire worn in the formal season, and the less formal "ratcatcher" dress code appropriate during the Roding and Cubbing seasons will be discussed and demonstrated. Characteristics of an appropriate hunt horse and proper hunting tack will also be offered.

Participants will be invited to accompany the hounds on a short ride through Long Hill Orchard, with its stunning view of the Merrimac River. The apple trees are likely to be in full blossom.

The clinic is free to pre-registered participants, mounted or unmounted. Children are welcome.

To register: email Linda Donovan, Hunt Secretary at ldonovan@comcast.net or call at 617-888-4843.

You may also call Felicity Beech at 978-363-2021 if you have any questions.

Show Dates

WNRDC Pleasure Show : June 3

Pipestave Hill HorseTrials Series:

July 8—August 19— October 7

See www.wnrdc.com for details

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A lifetime with horses: Barbara Hurd

Nady Peters

Barbara Hurd has been a member of the WNRDC for many years and in the early days, she even took notes for the Club. Barbara's parents were members of the Club when it was active back in 1926. Barbara grew up in Wakefield and Stoneham, MA until her parents bought property on Ash Street in West Newbury in 1943. Her parents had a connection with West Newbury, being friends with the Orcutts. She pretty much started riding at birth and started driving as a child too. She started doing some serious driving in the 1950's.

When she was between horses, her mother found horses for her to ride and the Orcutts let her ride their show horses, even the stallions. At the 2007 Annual Meeting of the Granite State Carriage Association (GCSA, a pleasure driving club in NH), she was honored and awarded a lifetime membership for being a member for 28 years. She is quite the horsewoman and here are some of her thoughts about the horses she has shared her life with:

"Both my parents had horses. When I was 3 ½ years old, they bought a pinto pony for me. I rode between their horses with a line to each of their horses. When I was 5, I rode alone. Peggy Ann was a good pony with no bad habits. When I was about 9, I had outgrown her. We gave her to another little girl. For a number of years, I was without a horse and drove my goat Little Abner.

My first horse was a Morgan mare from Vermont. She was very dear to me. It was on this mare, Autumn Star, that I did my first 100 mile ride in Woodstock, VT. That was a wonderful adventure for me. We got lost on the trail with a group of riders. The marker for a turn was inside a bush so that caused us to lose time and therefore sacrifice third place which I would have had. My second 100 mile ride was in 1946 when I rode Anna Elms Selecta, a Morgan mare. We finished the 100 mile ok.

My second horse was a half Arabian mare. She was under a year old when we bought her. I showed her in hand and under saddle. As a 3 year old, Rubiyat was Reserve Champion Half Arab in an all Arabian Show in Northampton, MA. I trained her without any help—also made my jacket and jodhpurs.

Rubi's sire was the very beautiful Arab stallion, Sahdaf, in Deerfield, NH. We bred Rubi to her own sire and got a very handsome filly, Kismet. I showed her in hand and won blue ribbons in mixed classes of all breeds—won a slew of ribbons (blue ones) and Championships. Friends kidded me by saying "You're only here to pick up your blue ribbon and then go home". My daughter Nancy and I went on many competitive trail rides and placed very well where ever we went. NH Horse & Trail ran some wonderful rides in southern NH.

I got my next horse, the Morgan mare Tabitha, in 1986 as a 5 year old. She was trained to drive and green broken un-

der saddle. She was used by me in several fairs to demonstrate harnessing and driving – mostly at Topsfield Fair and one in Connecticut. Tabi was a good mare but spooked at too many things. She threw me 4 times so I drove her from then on. We went on many lovely drives held by the GSCA.



Barbara driving Tabi

There was an ad in the GSCA newsletter for a 12 year old Registered Arabian mare "Breeze" – trained for driving and riding-- right in Amesbury. I love Arabians so we went to see her. I fell in love with her. She is a bright bay with hind sox and a wide white strip on her classic Arab head. I lost sleep nights deciding about getting another horse. Come spring I couldn't stand it any longer. I took her on trial and no way would I give her back. She is a great driving horse who also did pleasant outings with the GSCA group. I took such pleasure in grooming her to see her coat shine – just to be there with her brought me such happiness. She was happy too.



Barbara and Breeze enjoying each other's company

Then in early summer 2006, cleaning stalls became difficult and tiring – something new to me. My legs began to hurt worse and worse. Walking was painful. Arthritis was back again in full force. Back in the hospital again, I was told my horses had to go. Talk about deep depression! What an 80th birthday surprise for me. My daughter Nan did something I was so unable to do: she called and wrote to everybody to see if they would like either of my beloved mares.

Breeze now lives in Newton, NH and is being used by Nancy Slombo. Her life is driving at little shows and on pleasure

drives. She and Breeze are just delighted to be doing things together. Nancy Slombo is a horsewoman of many facets – had horses all her life. So I am happy she and Breeze are enjoying each other and that Breeze is well cared for.

I still cannot get used to an empty barn. I wanted to drive off into the sunset.....”

Spring Shots 2007

Thanks to the efforts of member **Wendy Keyser**, the WNRDC is again offering a spring shot clinic. A vet from SRH Veterinary Services will be in West Newbury on the dates below to do shots, float teeth and clean sheaths, if desired. Due to the number of horses and time constraints, this service is ONLY available to current WNRDC members whose horses reside in West Newbury. Also, this clinic is for shots only and if you wish to have a lameness or other problem examined, please schedule a separate visit.

Thursday March 22
Rhino/Flu \$27 (or Nasal Flu \$25 and Rhino shot \$15)
Rabies \$15
Coggings forms will be handed out

Thursday April 12
Potomac Horse fever \$20
OR Strangles nasal \$27

Thursday May 3
E/W encephalitis/Tetanus \$15
West Nile \$20
Coggings \$30

Barn call \$5
Teeth floating \$60
Sheath cleaning \$42 (extra charge if tranq is needed)

Teeth floating and sheath cleaning will be spread over the 3 shot dates

Signup by contacting Wendy Keyser at 978-363-5896
wlk235@aol.com

The earlier you sign up the better but required before March 20.

Tack Sale and Worming Lecture

By Chris Phaneuf

Approximately 30 members gathered at the Town Hall Annex Monday February 12th for a tack sale/swap, and worming lecture by Dr. Robert Orcutt of SRH Veterinary in Ipswich. Nearly a dozen members brought tack to sell and swap, and the tables were busy. There were lots of good bargains on new and used tack. The bit your horse just didn't like, the boots that never really stretched enough, the blanket that is 5 sizes too small for your new horse...this was a great opportunity to clean out the tack room before spring. Hopefully this will become an annual event.

After the tack swap, Dr. Orcutt presented an informative, yet easy to understand lecture on worming. With all the choices on the market today, it can be difficult to understand which products provide the most effective protection.

The American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) states, "In terms of management priorities, establishing an effective parasite control program is probably second only to supplying a horse with clean, plentiful water and high quality feed. It's that important."

In addition to an effective deworming program set up in consultation with your veterinarian, Dr. Orcutt stressed the importance of good stable management in controlling parasites. This included removing manure from paddocks and pastures twice weekly, mowing, pasture rotation, and preventing overgrazing. It's also important to recognize that horses coming from different areas of the country, or from overseas, may have differing immunity levels to parasites from local horses.

While it's important to consult your veterinarian about your horse's individual worming needs, Dr. Orcutt provided several informative handouts, including one with an April-November worming schedule which is included as an insert in this newsletter.

We thank Dr. Orcutt to take time out of his busy schedule to provide this lecture for our Club members.

Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Eye in Horses

By Bernadette Hamilton

I would like to share with you an experience I recently had with my Clydesdale gelding, Dan, who we adopted 5 years ago from the MSPCA. I had read a very good article in the October 2006 issue of Stable Management, regarding cancer in horses. Horses, like cats, have a third eyelid that acts like a windshield wiper to sweep debris from the inner canthus of the eye (the side closest to the nose).

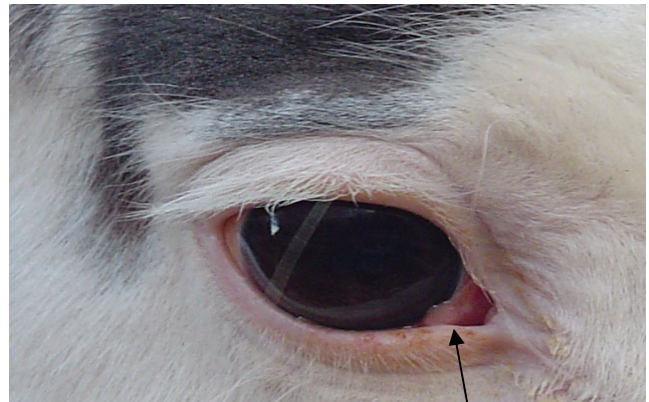
Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the 3rd eyelid is quite common in white faced horses such as Paints and Appaloosas. This disease can start as small, smooth lumps that may go unnoticed, then start to look like warts with crumbly tissue that bleeds. Detection is difficult as the tissue is often hidden from view due to location, but upon comparing both eyes, looking straight on while standing in front of your horse, one can sometimes notice asymmetry between the eyes; one lid may be slightly closed, or look a little swollen, possibly have drainage. It's great to have a second person who can help hold or distract the horse so you can get him to look in different directions without turning his head. I found carrots can be quite distracting for Dan.

In Dan's case, more than half of his face is white and while his right eye is brown, the surrounding tissue and fur have the light pigmentation. Upon grooming, I saw a very tiny piece of tissue in the corner of the right eye that I did not see in the left. The right lid, a little more droopy and puffy, gave him a sort of "sleepy" appearance. Not sure what I was looking at, I asked Dr. Noble to check; with a little sedation and local anesthesia, she did a biopsy which confirmed my suspicions for SCC.

Although this surgery can be done in the field, the day after Thanksgiving, 2006, Bill and I took Dan to New England Equine Medical & Surgical Center in Dover, NH where Dr. Kaneps was able to remove the third eyelid employing seda-

tion and an eye "block" which numbed the entire area around the eye. Draught horses don't do well with general anesthesia, so I was quite relieved that this could be done with him standing and in an exceptionally clean environment (unlike my dusty barn!). Because it was in the early stage, the cancer had not spread to surrounding tissue, including the eyeball, but I need to keep a close watch for recurrence.

I am so grateful to Drs. Noble and Kaneps for their excellent care and I wanted to reiterate how worthwhile it is to do your own routine exam on your animals, especially during grooming so we can catch these things in the early stages and simplify the treatment.



Squamous Cell Carcinoma in Dan

Did You Know?

- * **The 2007 Local Equine Activities Calendar** is now available ONLY online at our web site www.wnrhc.com for you to print and use all year.
- * Ideal air temperature for horses is between 15 and 65 degrees Fahrenheit—their temperature neutral range. A spring day of 75 will feel hot to your horse.
- * Perdigon, the double registered Lusitano and PRE stallion sire of 18 of the horses performing in Cavalia is now 36 and still at the Delgado barn getting lots of love and 7 to 8 meals a day. He still lets newcomers to the barn know that he is the dominant one.

2007 Pleasure Show, June 3, 2007

Kathryn West McLeod

The Other Competitions Committee is busy working on the Pleasure Show for 2007 at Pipestave Hill. Joining me on the Committee and returning from last year is Christine Phaneuf, and new this year is Dani Douphinette.

The show date has moved up to June 3, to avoid (hopefully) the summer heat. We are also revising the class list based on entries in 2006. The changes in the class list will allow us to run one main ring with one judge for all of the pleasure and equitation classes. Look for the 2007 class list and other information to be posted on the WNRDC website in mid to late March.

We will have a greater number of "Fun" classes, with more of an emphasis on gymkhana type classes such as cone weaving. So if Gymkhana is your game, come on down and enter!

In a few weeks we will kick off our Sponsorship drive. Last year was very successful with well over \$500 donated in cash (which paid for judges) and in merchandize or gift certificates (used as prizes for first place). Show supporters will be able to sponsor individual classes, pairs of classes,

or be a general show sponsor.

Two key volunteer positions need to be filled by the end of March. We need an announcer for the day of the show. We are also looking for a dedicated Show Secretary to compile the mail-in entries a few weeks before the show, and to be on site to check folks in and out on the day of the show. The Secretary will also reconcile and close out all entries the week following the show.

Please look for emails in May requesting volunteers for the day of the show. We will need parking directors, set-up and clean-up crews, a ring master, games assistants, and a trail course set up crew.

Even though we do need some volunteers to run the show, all of us hope that many of our MEMBERS will enter the show and have some fun with their horse or pony! Current WNRDC members receive a discount on entry fees, and the show grounds is our own Pipestave Hill. Save the date of **Sunday, June 3, 2007** for some quality time with your favorite equine.

Pipestave Hill Horse Trials Volunteering

While most of our members do not event & we are not an eventing organization, all of our income depends on the success of our three Horse Trials. Volunteers have been great in the past to make this possible and find it fun, too! We hope you will join us in some capacity at any or all of the events. You'll make new friends and get to watch lots of horses without any of the pressure of competing! *Volunteer opportunities are listed on the newsletter insert and on our web site at <http://www.wnrdc.com/PipestaveVolunteerJobs.cfm>. We provide on-the-job training for all positions. Some of the dates are pretty far in advance, so we will understand if your plans change and you can't attend as the time get closer. We will be calling to confirm all volunteer requests. Remember, any time you donate will go towards your requirement for active membership. Some jobs can be combined with others, depending on the amount of time you have to donate. Thank you in advance for your great support!*

Please contact *Melanie Jacobs, our new Volunteer Coordinator, at 978-372-7393 or mjacobs@yahoo.com to volunteer. Let her know the dates you would like to volunteer, your first, second and third choices of jobs, and any special requests you may have (example: fence judge with a particular person). We will do our best to accommodate you.*

Fun at the Potluck!

Close to 100 members joined for an evening of good food and fun at our Annual Potluck Dinner! The decorations with a theme of summer picnic were fabulous thanks to Jill Hazard, the little plastic ants were proof of her attention to detail. There were magnificent centerpieces that included topiary that she had been growing for months and over 100 balloons! The food was fabulous and plentiful—what a fun night!

We welcome all the new members who joined and congratulate all the prize winners!

Members News, Announcements, and More

Note From Mary Lee Mahoney: I'm so glad Barbara Hurd was chosen as a WNRDC member profile. She was one of the founding members of the re-grouping of the Club in the early 70s. Her father Don Shepard was a member of the first WNRDC in the early 20s and Barbara contributed a lot of history of that club through her father's memories.

She was a great help in the 70s revised version because of her familiarity of town trails and the people who owned them. She was also one of the very few "drivers." And it was because of her, we kept "Driving" as part of the Club name. For those of us who ride astride, it was a thrill and a little envy to see Barbara driving her mare all around the back roads of West Newbury. She also cut quite a figure riding astride, both in English and Western.

Hats off to you Barbara and thank you for your many years of dedicated support of the Club.

Congratulations to Claire Williams: Claire went down to Maryland in late October to compete at Wareadaca in a long format three day event including roads and tracks and steeplechase as part of endurance day. Claire and Top-Sider finished 3rd. There were a total of 70 competitors. They will be competing at Preliminary level this spring.

Request from West Newbury Animal Care and Control Officer:

As Animal Care and Control Officer, I really like to have the information if someone gets a new horse or has one visiting their property. When horses get loose or someone falls off, it REALLY helps me if I know where they belong. We talked about ID tags on halters or saddles, and even blankets could be marked with an ID. Many of the loose horses I get calls for are "naked" and they often look different with winter coats or summer clips, so I need to

know color, breed, gender, size. Please call or email my office with info changes and contact numbers. 978-363-1100 ext 134 or mcirinna.@town.westnewbury.ma.us
Thank you, Madelyn Cirinna

SRH Veterinary has revamped their web site and would like to get some pictures of our equines. Go to www.srhveterinary.com to enter the Equine of the Month contest! They would like to get some spring pictures.

WNRDC members Mary Martin and Melanie Jacobs are also members of New England Equine Rescues. New England Equine Rescues (NEER) is a group of rescuers formed to get New Englanders together in the best rescue network possible. The group finds good homes, foster homes, volunteers, transport, advice, referrals, and as much support as they can to help horses in need. NEER has a strong focus to stop the abuse, neglect, and slaughter of horses. Please visit the NEER booth at the ECTA equine expo in Topsfield April 21, for more information. If you would like to donate items to NEER for the sale please call Mary Martin at 508-284-4022.
www.newenglandequinerescues.com



'Sarah' - one of many horses saved; pulled from a slaughter bound trailer

CLASSIFIEDS

Free Lease— 10 year old chestnut gelding. Appaloosa (no spots) thoroughbred lines. 15.3h. Needs experienced horse person. He is a very sweet boy, though his ground manners are a bit "youthful" No vices. Ridden at fall Pipestave event by 15 yr old pony clubber. He needs someone who has the time to work him on a regular basis. He liked the trails, very willing jumper. We just do not have the time for him. Contact Carol at cseale2@msn.com

For Sale— 2004 Lance Model 845 truck camper. Will fit a

6.5ft bed. Stove, fridge, heater, CD player, TV antenna, bathroom with shower, outside shower, extended cabover, heated holding tanks, side awning & more. \$14,200. Call John 508-527-5632 or email Sue at poms2@msn.com

For Sale—Black western synthetic saddle 16" wide tree. No wear. Very comfortable. 150.00 or bo. Contact Robyn at 603-394-0151 or peter20jake@comcast.net

Pipestave Hill Adopt-A-Jump Program

Last year, in an effort to both keep our facility in tiptop condition and spread the burden of upkeep over more members, we launched the Adopt-A-Jump program for the cross-country fences at Pipestave. It was a great success and we are so appreciative of our adopters. You can work on your adopted jump when you have time. Thanks to the generosity of Chris Silva, jump builder extraordinaire, last year, we now have several new jumps as well.

Several people were kind enough to sign up to adopt jumps at the Pot Luck Supper but there are still a number of jumps available.

SELECTING A JUMP

Individuals, families or groups (of friends or an organization) can select a fence from those available. Some fences require more maintenance than others and there is the opportunity to build (or rebuild) fences as well. Amy Bresky, 978-363-2244, amybresky@yahoo.com, is currently maintaining the list of those jumps available and you can contact her to sign up. Requests for a specific jump will be honored on a first-come, first-served basis. Also, not every jump is used for each event, so we may ask that you "foster" as jump if yours is not being used.

WHEN JUMPS NEED MAINTENANCE

Adopters may work on their jump at their own pace, at a time which best suits their schedule. However, there are deadlines, as jumps must be ready for each event on July 8, August 19 and October 7. the Sunday prior to the Pipestave

event (last minute decorating can occur up to 3 PM the day before the event). If the grass is growing very fast in July and August, we may ask for one last weed whacking or other touch-up the week before the event. This is a season-long commitment for all three events.

WHAT TO DO TO YOUR JUMP

Adopters are responsible for basic upkeep: weed whacking, removing debris, painting (as in repainting a coop or other previously painted jump), mulching, footing at jump approaches, repair as needed and in general making the jump look nice for the competitions. Adoptees should also check to make sure that there are no overhanging branches, etc. that would block the approach to the jump in either direction. We can arrange for someone to assist you with chain saw work if that is needed. Planting of flowers or bushes is optional but encouraged. Decorating with natural materials before each event makes the jump look special. We do have a full sheet explaining the details of jump care and our cross country management team is available to assist and guide you. The club will reimburse you for any expenses if you so desire.

RECOGNITION

The hard work of the jump adopters will be recognized at each event with either a recognition board (a giant course map with adopters' names listed) and/or in the program. Please contact Amy if you would like to adopt or would like more info.

WNRDC Information

Barn Tour Manager: The WNRDC is looking for two Barn Tour Managers. Work as a team with barn owners and other club members to organize this fun activity for the club in the fall of 2007! Please contact Amy Bresky if you are interested.

Update on Trails **CLOSED**

- * Now that spring is almost here, we are seeing mud. Please be considerate and do not ride on trails during wet conditions.
- * The Robinson-Wild ECTA trail is closed until further notice due to wet conditions.
- * Cross Country Course at Pipestave Hill closed to preserve footing and will be reopened when weather permits

Professional Services Listing (members only) and Ad Policy: Included in this spring newsletter is the first listing (to be listed on the web site soon). If you are interested in this free service and you are a current member, please send your information to wnrdcnewsletter@yahoo.com. Include your name, your business name and business category (i.e. Farrier, Instructor, Insurance, etc.) and contact information. One ad per year is permitted at no cost, this ad can either be in the newsletter or through email.

Donation: When a Club member loses a loved one or a pet, WNRDC will make a donation to the MSCPA Nevins farm in their memory. Our treasurer Karen Shernan (K.shernan@comcast.net) will make the arrangements for this donation.

GET CONNECTED TO OTHER MEMBERS WITH THE WNRDC YAHOO GROUP

The WNRDC Yahoo group has been up and running for a few months now and has over 50 members. If you sign up, you can send and receive messages from members on a variety of things such as horses for sale or lease, items for sale, available stalls, trail rides, and share some pictures!

How to join: If you want to join only the mailing list for the group, send a blank email to wnrdc-subscribe@yahoogleroups.com. If you have a yahoo email address or don't mind creating one to log into the group, send an email to wnrdcnewsletter@yahoo.com and re-

quest an invitation to join the group.

How to post a message: Send your email to wnrdc@yahoogleroups.com and everyone who is subscribed to the group will receive it. Remember to add your name at the bottom of the message as we may not know from your email address who you are.

How to visit the group on the web: <http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/wnrdc/>

Get the newsletter in color and help us save trees and save on printing and postage costs by signing up to receive this newsletter as a pdf file in your email. To sign up, please send an email to wnrdcnewsletter@yahoo.com

Don't forget to renew your membership. Your address label shows which year your membership expires.

www.wnrdc.com

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