



# Trail Tales

Mountain Valley Trail Riders  
P.O. Box 752  
Washington, PA 15301

Volume 32 Number 9

September 2017

## Upcoming Events

- Sept. 17**     **Members Only Fun Show ~ 9:00 a.m.**  
Washington County Fairgrounds  
Must be a member to participate in this show.
- Sept. 24**     **Judged Trail Challenge Run Through ~ 11:00**  
Ivan's Way Farm, 211 Walnut Rd., McDonald  
Please contact Barb Gregg (724)350-7055 if you are able to build an  
obstacle for the JTC.
- Oct. 6-8**     **Mingo Creek County Park Campout Weekend**  
[www.mvtriders.com](http://www.mvtriders.com)
- Oct. 28**     **Bentleyville Parade**  
Contact Jeanie Taylor if you would like to participate in this parade.

## Reminders

The next club meeting will be **September 20th at 7:30** on the first floor of the Courthouse Square Building. Remember, meetings count as 1 point towards Participation Points for next year's membership. There will be a **Director's Meeting** at 7:00 prior to the regularly scheduled meeting.

If you have a change of mailing or e-mail address or are not receiving your newsletter, please make sure to notify Meaghan Hettinger at (724) 514-7781 or

meaghan.hettinger@gmail.com. Keeping your current address updated with the club will ensure you continue to receive your newsletter and other club notifications.

Pictures are always needed for the club scrapbook. Please send a physical copy of the picture to Caitlin Woods Taylor at 2289 Beallsville Rd., Marianna, PA 15345. You can also e-mail them to [meaghan.hettinger@gmail.com](mailto:meaghan.hettinger@gmail.com).



Check out MVTR on Facebook! Just search Mountain Valley Trail Riders.

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### *Happy Birthday*

Happy Birthday wishes for the month of September go out to Karen Baker, Julia Carlisle, Hanna Long, Kris Ann Mills, Elaine Clemens Mowl, Claire Peteya, Dennis Prpich, and Sandy Sherman! We hope everyone has a wonderful day!

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Members in attendance at the August meeting were Kellie DiBattista, Roger Shumaker, Elaine Clemens Mowl, Marge McCormick, Chuck Dye, Bob Kane, Marci and Dave Kirchner, Vince Peteya, Barbara Gregg, Joe Shriner, Dennis Prpich, Jeanie Taylor, Diana Hughes, Tammy Schweitzer, and Patty Walker.

### **Members Only Fun Show**

The Members Only Fun Show is being held September 17, 2017 at the Washington County Fairgrounds. New memberships will be accepted on the day of the show. A class list is featured in the back of the newsletter. There will NOT be any concessions at this show. Like last time, we are asking that everyone bring a dish to share so that we do not need designated kitchen people. The club will provide drinks. There will be a kids age group and an adult age group. This show worked so well in the Spring because everyone pitched in to help the show run smoothly. A Members Only Show is about all the members getting to have fun, not just a few. Please be ready to help where you can the day of the show.

**Judged Trail Challenge:** The website is up and running for pre-registrations for the JTC. Many spots have already been filled. Don't wait to reserve your spot as day of registration is not guaranteed as it has in the past. We have limited the ride to 72 riders.

Camping will be available in Area 10 on Friday night for MVTR Members and to the general public on Saturday night. Camping is free for members and \$10 per registration for non-members. Please see the website [www.mvtriders.com](http://www.mvtriders.com) for more information and registration forms.

**Trail Rides:** The Barkcamp Weekend Ride had 9 riders. There were also 2 additional dinner guests on Saturday night. Everyone had a great time and no incidents were reported.

### **Hurricane Relief**

At our next regularly scheduled MVTR meeting, (September 20<sup>th</sup>) we will discuss how to best support our fellow horse owners affected by the hurricanes in Texas and Florida. While the initial onslaught of resources is fantastic, there will be significant need for follow-up support of rescue groups/aide organizations in the weeks and months ahead. Please plan to attend the meeting (7:30pm) if you wish to participate in the decision-making.

### **MVTR Changes**

As mentioned in previous newsletters we are in the process of making some changes within the club. Jeanie Taylor has graciously agreed to continue to be Parade Captain. However, if participation by club members continues to decline parades will be removed from the schedule. Please, if you have an interest as all in parades, contact Jeanie to find out ways you can help. We are paid as a club to do the Crafton and Canonsburg parades and every little bit of help is wonderful.

For a more thorough review of the proposed changes please see the archived newsletters on our webpage.

Please contact any of our Officers or Directors with your thoughts on these proposed changes. Names and contact information can be found on the last page of the Newsletter.

**Speaking of Parades** – The Bentleyville Parade will be held on October 28<sup>th</sup>. This is an excellent parade for trying out new parade horses. If you think your horse might have what it takes to parade but aren't quite sure please contact Jeanie about participating in this parade. MVTR has received recognition from the Bentleyville Parade organizers in years past, lets' try to continue our streak!



**Saddles!**



**Bits!**

## **TACK SWAP-Sunday Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Where:** Alpha Mare Training Facility at Ivan's Way Farm  
209 Walnut Rd. McDonald/Hickory, PA 15057  
HUGE indoor arena-rain or shine

**Time:** 10am-4pm (Set up for vendors at 9:00am)  
You can drive your vehicle into the arena if it is not  
muddy or up to the arena door if it is

**Details:** \$20 per 10X10ft spot-Bring your own table!!  
A small # of tables will be available for rent  
for an additional \$10/table

\*Vendor pre-registration & payment is due by Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>

\*Go to our website [alphamaretraining.com](http://alphamaretraining.com) under "Events"  
to register and pay by PayPal or mail a check to the address  
above by Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>



**Halters!**

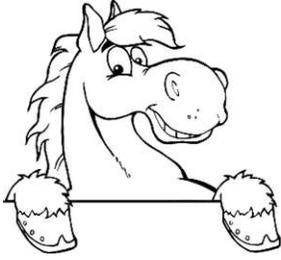


**Bridles!**

Questions: Tammy Schweitzer 412-303-3761



**Blankets!**



# *MVTR - Members Only Fall Horse Show*



*Sunday, September 17th 9:00  
Washington County Fairgrounds Arena  
(Arden), Washington, PA*

## *Class List*

### *Kids Classes Age 17 & Under:*

- |                                      |                         |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>1. Water/Hot chocolate race</i>   | <i>2. Carrot Race</i>   |
| <i>3. Rescue the Teddy Bear Race</i> | <i>4. Hot to Trot</i>   |
| <i>5. Egg and Spoon</i>              | <i>6. Poles</i>         |
| <i>7. Barrels</i>                    | <i>8. Dash for Cash</i> |

### *Adults Classes:*

- |                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>1. Spear the Ring</i> | <i>2. Crepe Paper Race</i> |
| <i>3. Egg and Spoon</i>  | <i>4. Hot to Trot</i>      |
| <i>5. Bat Race</i>       | <i>6. Barrels</i>          |
| <i>7. Poles</i>          | <i>8. Dash for Cash</i>    |

***\* Entry Fee \$30 Ride All Day \****

*All Youth Riders must wear a helmet.*

*Children may not be attached to horse/saddle in any way.*

*Ribbons 1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> places in each division.*

*Youth classes will begin at 9:00. Adult classes will immediately follow the  
Youth classes.*

*Show will run rain or shine.*

*Please bring a potluck dish to share with the group. No concessions!!*

*You may join MVTR the day of the show. Membership is required!!!*

## Class Descriptions

**Water/Hot Chocolate Race:** Depending on if the day is hot or cold, water or hot chocolate is put into a cup. The rider holds the cup while following directions from the announcer such as “walk, trot, canter, reverse, back up, etc.” Rider with the most liquid left in the cup at the end wins.

**Carrot Race:** The rider runs to a bucket with carrots at opposite end of the arena. Rider dismounts, gets a carrot and lures horse back to the starting point in the arena. Fastest time wins. Timer will not stop until horse crosses the finish line.

**Rescue the Teddy Bear Race:** The rider runs to a barrel with a teddy bear placed on it. They must “rescue” the bear and run back to the starting point. Fastest time wins.

**Hot to Trot:** Class begins with all riders on the rail. There will be approximately equal distances between each horse before class begins. All horses will begin trotting at the same time. Fastest horse at a trot wins. If you are passed by another horse or your horse breaks gait you are out. If horse fails to trot within 5 strides rider will be disqualified.

**Egg & Spoon:** The rider is given an egg and a spoon. The rider must balance the egg on the spoon in one hand while holding the reins in the other. Rider may not use an artificial means to hold the egg on the spoon. No fingers, thumbs, gum etc. Spoon must be held at the end farthest from the egg. Rider will follow instructions from the announcer. Last rider with the egg on the spoon wins.

**Poles:** Run down to opposite end of poles, weave down, weave back up, run back to starting point. Fastest time wins.

**Barrels:** Cloverleaf barrel pattern. Fastest time wins.

**Spear the Ring:** Timed event. Follow pattern and put spear through jar rubber ring removing it from holder. Time stops when rider re-crosses start/finish line after completing pattern.

**Crepe Paper Race:** A pair of riders holds a section of crepe paper between them while performing various maneuvers. May be done as a timed class or a group class where the last pair holding the crepe paper wins.

**Dash for Cash:** Timed Event. Fastest time wins. Go around barrel at opposite end of arena and come back.

**Bat Race:** Rider runs to helper holding horse. Dismounts and runs to baseball bat in the middle of the arena. One end of the bat stays on the ground while the rider puts their head on the other end. Rider circles bat three times and then runs back to horse, remounts and runs the rest of the pattern. Fastest time without falling off wins.

Failure to follow pattern in any event may result in time penalties or disqualification.

\*MVTR show management reserves the right to make decisions regarding safety at any time.\*

# MVTR JUDGED TRAIL CHALLENGE



**THEME:** Horse Movies

**WHERE:** Mingo Creek County Park,  
Area 10

**WHEN:** October 8, 2017  
First riders out at 9:00 a.m.

**FEES:** \$25/Pre-registration  
30/Day of Ride if open spots  
are available.

**Pre-register at [www.mvtriders.com](http://www.mvtriders.com)**

**Are you a cowboy, Velvet Brown or the Man from Snowy River?** Channel your cowboy or cowgirl and come ride and rope our new obstacle format! We have obstacles clustered together for a smoother event this year. Ride times will be assigned to each rider and there will be a limit of 75 riders accepted. Please be ready to head out at your assigned time!

Categories and awards will remain the same as in previous years. Registration papers are required for specific breed categories. Freeze brands and tattoos will be accepted. Unregistered horses and horses without proof of papers will go into the Grade Horse category.

Please see our website for a complete information packet and registration information. If you have additional questions please contact MVTR at [mvtr.email@gmail.com](mailto:mvtr.email@gmail.com) or Tammy Schweitzer at (412) 303-3761.

## Officers and Committee Chairpersons

**President** *until 2018*

Tammy Schweitzer  
(412) 303-3761  
Mvtr.email@gmail.com

**Treasurer** *until 2019*

Diana Hughes  
(412) 580-7658

**Directors**

*until* Barbara Gregg  
*2018* Roger Shumaker  
Suzanne Weimer  
Meaghan Hettinger  
Dennis Prpich

**Vice President** *until 2018*

Jeanie Taylor  
(724) 255-2764

**Quarter Master** *until 2019*

Suzanne Weimer &  
Barbara Gregg  
(724) 263-8054

*until* Kellie DiBattista  
*2019* Patricia Walker  
Jeanie Taylor  
Elaine Clemens Mowl

**Rec. Secretary** *until 2018*

Patricia Walker  
(724) 926-9380

**Parade Captain** *until 2019*

Jeanie Taylor  
(724) 255-2764

**Corres. Sec.** *until 2019*

Meaghan Hettinger  
(724) 514-7781

**Scrapbook** .... Caitlin Taylor (724)350-7059 **Adopt-A-Highway** Kellie DiBattista (412)337-2031  
**Banquet** Elaine Clemens Mowl (724)255-7932 **Trail Tails**.....Meaghan Hettinger (724)514-7781  
**Trail Scheduler** Tammy Schweitzer(412)303-3761

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