



FAIRFIELD BRIDLE TRAIL ASSOCIATION

February 5, 2010

Re: 2010 FBTA Membership Appeal

Dear Members and Friends,

We cannot thank you enough for your continued support of the Bridle Trails throughout the years. It is because of your generosity that we have been able to continue riding across this beautiful countryside. We could not do this without your help.

Though it may seem hard to believe, there are still many, many miles of trails that wind through Southport, Fairfield, and Easton that are open to horseback riders. We strive not only to maintain these trails but also to work with local conservation groups to expand our trail system. This season we are offering more “group rides” to introduce riders to the different areas where trail riding is available. Riders are also encouraged to participate in our yearly Hunter Trials at the Fairfield County Hunt Club. This is our principle fundraiser and we rely on a good turnout to be able to cover our annual expenses.

We are striving to offer more “social” fundraising events to supplement our Hunter Trials revenue. Last year we introduced a Derby Day party, in association with a Pequot Library event, which was a big hit. We now are considering adding a “Races at Astor” British tea or perhaps even a Barn Dance.

For our members, we would like to create more opportunities to bring us together. With this in mind we are inviting all members and potential members to a “Kick Off” party this March, where we will review our schedule and exchange thoughts about group activities. Some suggestions have been “dogging” walks to clear the trails, a tack exchange, horse-themed movie nights, and of course we already have our popular and well attended holiday party.

Please join us again this year. Either as a rider or as an enthusiast, we welcome you and appreciate your contribution. The cost of insurance and trail maintenance does add up, so every little bit counts. Riders on our private trail network are required by the landowners to be FBTA members, and to have signed a liability waiver. A membership form and liability waiver are attached which you can mail to our tireless treasurer, Caroline Sicilian. Thank you so much again for your support.

We hope to see you on March 24th for our “Kick-Off” party. Feel free to bring a friend who might be interested in getting involved.

Sincerely,

Ariane Mermod and Dorothy Porter
Co-Presidents, Fairfield Bridle Trail Association