



# FAIRFIELD BRIDLE TRAIL ASSOCIATION

www.fairfieldbridletrails.org

## NEWSLETTER – FALL 2009

**DON'T MISS OUR HOLIDAY PARTY!  
THIS YEAR ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>**

Member Deborah Webb has kindly offered to host our holiday party this year. Please mark your calendars; an "e-vite" invitation is coming soon!

### FBTA HUNTER TRIALS

Fun on the Field for the FCHC and FCH Pony Club young riders



The first time holding our event on a Sunday brought out parents and members to watch the show from the porch and sidelines. The Hunt Club opened their dining room to all to enjoy the Sunday brunch or a cup of coffee and a muffin in the early morning. Congratulations to Alexander Florian for winning the Foggy Dew Trophy and Low Junior Champion this year. Alexander won a \$50 gift certificate from Beval's Saddlery and a FBTA signature saddle pad. High Junior Champion was awarded to Sydney DeVoe on St. Lazare.

Sydney also received an FBTA saddlepad. Low Junior Reserve went to Kate Bundy on Manhattan Tails and High Junior Reserve to Michaela Murphy on Artie. Congratulations! Here are the final results: For more photos go to our website: [www.fairfieldbridletrails.org/hunter trials](http://www.fairfieldbridletrails.org/hunter%20trials).



#### Low Junior Hunter O/F

- 1 Florian, Alexander
- 2 Ashman, Ellie
- 3 Deutsch, Alida
- 4 Tiktinsky, Nadja
- 5 Bundy, Kate
- 6 Conley, Devon
- R Ashman, Kadie

#### Low Junior Hunter O/F

- 1 Trudeau, Hannah
- 2 Tiktinsky, Nadja
- 3 Bundy, Kate
- 4 Kole, Cassie
- 5 Florian, Alexander
- 6 Smith, Michelle
- R Lichtman, Isabel

#### Low Junior Hunter U/S

- 1 Holzhacker, Hayley
- 2 Bundy, Kate
- 3 Silverstein, May

#### 4 Florian, Alexander

- 5 Tiktinsky, Nadja
- 6 Ashman, Kadie
- R Alecia, Gabby

#### High Junior Hunter O/F

- 1 DeVoe, Sydney
- 2 Murphy, Micaela
- 3 Feroletto, Margot
- 4 Smith, Michelle
- 5 McIntosh, Elizabeth
- 6 Kole, Cassie
- R Klouda, Emily

#### High Junior Hunter O/F

- 1 Bundy, Kate
- 2 Murphy, Michaela
- 3 Fontana, Juliet
- 4 Schweir, Christina
- 5 Feroletto, Margot
- 6 DeVoe, Sydney
- R Conley, Devon

#### High Junior Hunter U/S

- 1 Fass, Maddie
- 2 DeVoe, Sydney
- 3 Silverstein, May
- 4 Fontana, Juliet
- 5 McIntosh, Elizabeth
- 6 Bundy, Kate
- R Kole, Cassie

#### High/Low Junior Hunter Pairs

- 1 Blazing Saddles: Elizabeth McIntosh, Margot Feroletto
- 2 Painted Pair: Conley, Devon, Michaela Murphy
- 3 Tea and Crumpets: Christina Schweir, Maddie Fass
- 4 Super Ponies: Hayley Holzhacker, Kate Bundy
- 5 Blue Eyes and Bandit: Carley Hohorst, Michelle Smith

- 6 Show Time: Alida Deutsch, Nadja Tiktinsky
- R Ice Cream Sundae: Hannah Trudeau, Kadie Ashman

#### High/Low Junior Hunter Teams

- 1 Ticket To Ride: Elizabeth McIntosh, Margot Feroletto, Michelle Smith
- 2 Super Duper Boys: Anya Porter, Kate Bundy, Michaela Murphy
- 3 Rainbow Team: Juliet Fontana, Sydney DeVoe, Juliet Fontana
- 4 Ice Cream Sundae: Ellie Ashman, Gabby Alecia, Kadie Ashman

- 5 Oreo: Sydney DeVoe, Christina Schweir, Maddie Fass

#### Barbara Taylor Handy Hunter O/F

- 1 McIntosh, Elizabeth
- 2 Fontana, Juliet
- 3 Feroletto, Margot
- 4 Schweir, Christina

#### Adult Hunter Hack

- 1 Goodwin, David
- 2 Hermenze, Rosanne

#### Adult Pleasure Hack

- 1 Hermenze, Rosanne
- 2 Goodwin, David

#### Adult Handy Hunter U/S

- 1 Hermenze, Rosanne
- 2 Goodwin, David

# FBTA HUNTER TRIALS

Photos from the day



## SEEN ON THE TRAILS

Members met at Paine, Trout Brook, Frost on the Pumpkin, 1<sup>st</sup> Governors Horse Guard Saddle Up Ride, and Lower Greenfield Hill this fall season - Where are you riding? Please send us your trail photos for our website and future newsletters!

Don't forget it's hunting season. Wear orange on the trails from September 15<sup>th</sup> – December 31<sup>st</sup>.



Featured clock-wise: Orchard at Trout Brook, Easton; Lower Greenfield Hill, Fairfield; 1<sup>st</sup> Governor's Horse Guard, Newtown; Frost on the Pumpkin, Newtown; Paine Preserve, Easton

## DID YOU KNOW? MEMBERS IN OUR COMMUNITY

Did you know that member Judy Wilson owns Wilson's BBQ, recently featured on the Food Network?

Did you know that member Erin Hornung designs a line of custom riding clothes called Stablecloth?

We want know what YOU are doing too! Please give us a clue for the next newsletter.

## COMING UP FOR 2010

Please join us in the bleak months of January and February to come up with a fun program of activities for 2010. Some ideas we are throwing around include another Derby Day Party (a great success this year) a Barn Dance, and a Tack Exchange. Also more group rides with locals leading us through Huntington, Paine, Trout Brook, Greenfield Hill, and maybe even an excursion to Rockefeller State Park. Tell us, what would YOU like to do?

## IN THE BARN: EQUINE WINTER NUTRITION, ACTIVITY & HORSE MAINTENANCE TIPS

For those of you taking care of your horses at home, some tips on winter care  
(reprinted from American Horse Rider & Horses and Horse Information)

During the winter, most horses will have changes in their nutritional needs. Cold weather, which doesn't permit riding, can dramatically alter the amount of calories a horse needs to consume. Some simple, general tips can help to keep your horse in great shape over the winter.

Spending more time in the stall and less riding usually means that a horse will need fewer calories. Then again, in colder weather, a horse burns more calories to generate body heat and maintain its normal core temperature. It's important to know, however, that in all but the most extreme weather, a horse's caloric needs generally rise only ten to twenty percent.

In the past, horse owners fed corn during the winter to help horses generate more body heat and reduce the stress of cold weather. However, a horse is able to generate more heat in the hindgut from the fermentation of forage, such as hay and grass. Replacing some of the horse's grain concentrate with hay can help it to more easily maintain its body temperature.

One way to do this is to substitute two pounds of hay for each reduced pound of grain fed daily. When less than half a percent of the horse's body weight is fed daily in grain, consider supplementing with a specialty feed. This ensures that the horse is still receiving the right amounts of vitamins and minerals at the reduced feeding rate. For instance, a good winter ration for a mostly idle horse might be seventeen pounds of quality grass hay and two pounds of specialized feed. This combination meets 110% of a mature horse's caloric needs, as well as ensuring it receives the right protein, mineral, and vitamins.

When the cold weather begins, horse owners can notice a greater frequency of impaction colic. One of the main causes of impaction colic can be dehydration from reduced water consumption, inadequate water availability, and eating hay (which only contains 10% water) rather than grass, which contains 80% water.

Making sure that horses have good access to unlimited warm water can help encourage them to drink more and prevent impaction colic. When a horse drinks cold water, they

must use extra energy to replace the heat lost to the chilling water, and they instinctively drink less. Adequate water intake ensures that the fiber in the digestive system stays hydrated, which allows it to be broken down by intestinal bacteria. This makes it much less likely to cause blockages. Adding a free-choice mineral supplement or mixing salt, mineral supplements and electrolytes into a horse's feed can also simulate a horse to drink more water. Providing adequate exercise also reduces colic by helping to aid gut motility.

Because an unclipped horse's winter coat can make it difficult to check the horse's body condition, the owner should use a weight tape or scale monthly to check the horse's weight. This allows the owner to adjust the feeding program as needed and to keep the horse in peak physical condition and ready for warmer weather.

Finally, pay attention to the barn's ventilation. Good air flow is even more vital than warmth to horses kept in a closed barn. Also, care should be taken when feeding hay to horses kept in enclosed barns. Horses that are fed hay from nets above their heads have more frequent respiratory problems than horses that eat hay from the ground or from hay nets hung low enough to allow the respiratory tract to drain down. However, be careful not to have the nets hung so low that a horse can get its legs tangled in them.

## ON OUR WEBSITE

Check out our FBTA website at [www.fairfieldbridletrails.org](http://www.fairfieldbridletrails.org). It includes an extensive calendar or local riding activities like hunter paces, trials, and clinics, as well as local riding news, like the opening of a new park that allows trail riding in Westport. There are links to maps for local preserves that permit horseback riding, and tide charts to ride on the beach. Our classified section features stalls for rent, instructors, horse care and more. We are currently working on our Photo Gallery page, and would love to include photos of you and your horse on the trails or in the barn! Send your jpgs to [ariane@fairfieldbridletrails.org](mailto:ariane@fairfieldbridletrails.org).

## FBTA CLASSIFIEDS

### Great Barefoot Trimmer

Sarah Block is now trimming full time and is looking for new clients. Barefoot is a great alternative for those dreary winter months! Contact Sarah at 203-209-4266 or [sarahcolli@aol.com](mailto:sarahcolli@aol.com). You can view her new website at [www.CTnaturalhoof.com](http://www.CTnaturalhoof.com). Sarah is expanding into equine nutrition and hoof boot fitting as well.

### Banks North Farm, Upper Fairfield - 2 spaces

Full turnout with run-ins on over 60 acres of lush fields. Herds divided according to temperament. Geared towards retired horses but riders will be considered. Feed included. Tack room. Contact Anne at 203-216-4947.

### Full board in Easton \$575

Relaxed and friendly environment. 24/7 turnouts with run-in/large matted stalls, blanketing, grain and hay included. Heated tack room, adjacent to 130 acres of Open Space w/ trails. Owner on premises, Quality care. Horses are turned out with at least one other horse and allowed "to be horses". Boarders treated like our own. References available upon request. Contact Charlotte Stichter, 203-522-6292 or [charlotte@charlottestichter.com](mailto:charlotte@charlottestichter.com)

### Rough Board in Greenfield Hill \$250

2 acres of grass turnout, stall, tack room + feed room shared with one other horse. No ring, but trails nearby. Rough board means you do the work and provide the food, but the price is right! Call Joanne at 203-246-6735 after 9PM.

### Stall available Upper Greenfield Hill \$550

Access to Brett Woods for trail riding. Mature rider preferred for trail riding. I have a 25 year-old gelding who is semi-retired and am seeking a companion for him and a trail riding partner for me. If you are interested in riding two to four days a week or want to retire your horse at a clean, private barn where he will be very well cared for, please contact Carol Lawrence at 203-255-0075 or [clawrencebz@hotmail.com](mailto:clawrencebz@hotmail.com). Geldings only.

Do you have something to put in the classifieds? Contact [exchange@fairfieldbridletrail.org](mailto:exchange@fairfieldbridletrail.org)