

PTRA Newsletter

PTRA BOARD MEMBERS

Sue Armstrong, President
Dianne Martin, Vice President
Amy Scharmen-Burgdolf
Elsa Elmore
Edna Money
Niki Money

A Message from PTRA Vice President

2020. What a year it has been. PTRA started off the year with a highly attended annual meeting in January and had several fantastic events planned for the year, including our Blessing of the Horse and Rider and our Ride to Hell. It was going to be a great year!

Then, came March and Covid19, and the world came to a screeching halt. For most of us, this meant canceling vacations, rarely venturing out of our homes, and only socializing with immediate family members. For me personally, every day seemed the same for months, as I tried to manage homeschooling my elementary aged son, running my business, and taking care of my farm. Is it Tuesday or July?....I remember thinking out loud one day.

Thankfully, despite the global pandemic, we Pinckney Trail Riders have our trails, which stayed open to us during this crazy time. Yes, they got a bit busier than usual and with some people who were not used to being courteous trail users. But, riding our horses on these trails and having the beautiful, peaceful Pinckney Recreation Area equestrian trails available kept many of us sane during this difficult time. We are fortunate to have this wonderful trail system, and as Thanksgiving approaches, the trails are towards the top of the list of the things for which I am most grateful.

We are far from being done with Covid19, and I fear it's going to be a long winter. But, nature is there for us, and our trails and our horses will help get us through. Take care of yourselves, your critters, the humans we share this planet with, and I hope to see you on the trails.

-Dianne Martin, PTRA Vice President

Improvements to Muddy Areas

This fall, Amy Scharmen-Burgdolf and Roger Burgdolf made some significant improvements to the muddy area just north of the bridge over Portage Creek (Hell Creek). Our local DNR donated the materials, and PTRA donated the time to perform the work.

The project was completed in two stages and is now finished, thanks to the final layer of limestone being applied last week.

Thank you Amy and Roger for your hard work and time on this project!! And, thank you DNR for all the materials!

If we like the outcome of this project, PTRA will be considering improving other muddy areas on the horse trails in the coming years.



Update on DNR Equine Trails Subcommittee

ETS members have been asked to join the DNR on a team to provide recommendations on equestrian camping policy and also improvements for equestrian campgrounds and trails which will make camping and riding in Michigan safe and more desirable. Our first meeting will be in November. It is the recommendation of ETS that equestrian campgrounds should be designated for equestrian only camping due to the

conflicts that arise when mixing equestrian and non-equestrian users in campgrounds. It is the recommendation of ETS that single track trails be separate for bikes and horses; mixing the two users on the same trails is dangerous and incompatible. A statewide equestrian trail and campground policy and improvement proposals report will be released by ETS soon. If you have not yet joined us at Michigan

Horse Trails Directory to learn about all the equestrian camping and riding throughout the state, please join us today:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/michiganhorsetraildirectory/>

<http://michiganhorsetrails.com/>

-Amy Scharmen-Burgdolf,

Equine Trails
Subcommittee

SE Michigan Rep and
Chair

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/michiganhorsetraildirectory/>

<http://michiganhorsetrails.com/>

Thank You Members for Trail Clearing!

This year, due to Covid19, we were unable to have our annual spring and fall work bees. However, our trails have stayed in good shape this year due to the efforts of some of our members. Much appreciated!!

- **Susan Hanawalt** and **Bob Ogilvy** frequently trim while they ride. And, they ride a lot!!! Bob will often come back with a chainsaw to get larger trees.
- **Amy Scharmen-Burgdolf** and **Sue Armstrong** mowed the

trails this summer, using PTRA's new pull behind mower.

- **Karen Pesonen** spent some time trimming back overgrown areas in August.
- **Fredd and Tanner Ziobron** spent a wintery day cutting up fallen trees last winter.

Attention Amazon Shoppers!

You can now choose Pinckney Trail Riders Association as the charitable organization your purchases will support when you shop at AmazonSmile <http://smile.amazon.com/>.

We will receive 0.5% of your purchase price quarterly. This is a great way to give back. Just remember to always shop from smile.amazon.com instead of the regular amazon site to

make your shopping count!



Membership Renewal for 2021 – Renew Now!

Membership year runs Jan. 1st – Dec. 31st

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Make checks payable to PTRTA and mail to:

PTRTA

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Pinckney, MI 48169

Donations are tax deductible

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Pinckney Trail Riders Association is a 501c3 non-profit corporation registered with the Internal Revenue Service and the Michigan Attorney General's office as a charitable organization.

Our purpose is to improve, protect, maintain and expand the horse trails in the Pinckney Rec Area and surrounding areas for use by horse men and women, their families and the general public for horseback riding, horse camping and horse related activities.

PTRA Annual Meeting – January 2021

We will likely be hosting our annual meeting virtually this year likely via Zoom. Stay tuned for a date and for more information. All will be invited. It you haven't used Zoom before, it is very easy. We will send

out a link, and you can join using your phone, computer, or tablet.

During our annual meeting, we will present on the work done during the past year and make plans for 2021 (as much

as we can for this coming year, anyway!).

If you have anything you would like to discuss at the annual meeting, please let one of the board members know, so that it can be added to the agenda.

Next Board Meeting – December 3, 2020 at 7pm

Board meetings are now being held virtually using Zoom. Everyone is invited to join in. If you would like to be included on the next meeting, please email us at pinckneytrailrider@yahoo.com to get a link invite to the meeting. You do not

need to install Zoom or have an account to join the meeting. You can join from your smartphone, computer or tablet.

Agenda items for the next meeting include:

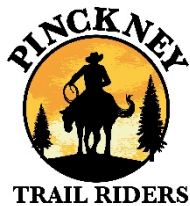
- PTRTA/BTRA Annual Banquet
- Trail Work
- 2021 Annual Meeting
- 2021 Events
- By Laws

PTRA

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We're on the Web!
www.pinckneytrailriders.com

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