



Pinckney Trail Riders Association

Winter/Spring 2020

Board meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 7pm.
• All Members Welcome • For more information call, 734.878.2975

Upcoming Events (Tentative)

March 28th 6:00pm - Spring Fling Party with BTRA - Block Brewery, Howell (Postponed to July or August)

June 6th - 10:00am - Blessing of the Horse and Rider - Pinckney Staging Area

Join us for a unique and incredible bonding experience as you are blessed for the riding season with your horse at the Pinckney Trail Riders Blessing of the Horse. Pastor Jim Debner of Zion Church in Ann Arbor will lead a moving service that will bless all those in attendance.

After the Blessing, we'll hit the trails to Hunt for Horseshoes, which color will be the lucky winning color? We won't tell!

We'll have a potluck and prizes after the ride about 2pm

Registration begins at 9am

\$10 for members

Blessing is at 10am

\$15 for non-members

October 9th -11th - Ride to Hell and Back Camp Out Weekend

Please visit our website at www.pinckneytrailriders.com for full and updated details

(Due to COVID-19, please check the website often)

PTRA Memberships Needed



Why Join PTRA?

Horse Trails! PTRA uses membership dues as well as funds from flower sales and tax deductible donations to hire contract labor for the clearing of the trails on a yearly basis. If you enjoy the trails and/or our efforts, please support us with your membership.

Friends! PTRA also provides our members with the opportunity to connect with fellow equestrians for riding with our Buddy List and our member rides.

Volunteer! Volunteering is good for the soul and PTRA needs your help with work bees, committees, clinics, fund raising, ideas and to make our events a success.

Education! PTRA holds educational seminars, clinics and distributes email notifications of equestrian events from other trail groups and other information pertaining to the equestrian community.

Kids! PTRA encourages our youth to become involved by exposing them to horse and riding through community events such as Kids Day at the Ranch. PTRA, along with other sponsors, host a day at the ranch providing horse related games, education and a trail ride in the hopes of establishing an interest in the future of the horse and trails.

Multi-Use Trails! Equestrians are not the only users of our trails, hikers, runners, skiers also enjoy their beauty. Your membership can help us protect the land without you ever having "set a horse".

Individual, family and business memberships are available. Contact us for details on a membership discount if you join Brighton Trail Riders at the same time.

Please visit <http://pinckneytrailriders.com/membership.html>, to print a form and submit your 2020 membership.

Thank You Volunteers

Thank you so much to our members who volunteered to work the PTRA/BTRA booth at the 2020 Michigan Horse Expo. We appreciate your support and also the support of all those who joined PTRA and BTRA as members this year!

PTRA President Sue Armstrong Named MHC Volunteer of the Year!

"This year's Michigan Horse Council (MHC) Volunteer of the Year award goes to an individual that has played a unique role in the development of the MHC as well as Michigan Trails," said MHC vice president Tammy Tyler.

Sue's initial involvement with the equine industry started with the Michigan Trails and riding for the past 30 years. At the age of 35, Sue owned her first horse.

It's just like Sue to jump in head first into any endeavor that she faces. With goals in mind and hurdles ahead, Sue pursues her future with positivity and gusto.

Sue has become more involved with the MHC over the past several years. Most recently, she has served as a board of director as well as serving as the current treasurer. Sue has also implemented a modern and more efficient accounting program which has set the council up for future success.

Her passion for the horse council is driven by a fresh, cohesive voice which allows the council the ability to provide support within the equine industry to include trails, shows, breeding, therapeutic riding, rodeos, stables, mounted patrol, equine rescue and various other segments. Individual membership benefits include insurance and scholarships (visit the website of more details).

"My future dream is to camp and ride with my husband Ray and my horses throughout the Michigan Trails and beyond," said Sue. "So far, we've visited Brighton, Ionia, Waterloo, Luzerne, and Pouncey Ponderosa in Empire, MI. We have also been to South Fork, TN, Mammoth Cave, KY, Milton, FL and Withlachochee Forest in Brooksville, FL near Ocala." Sue is planning to visit Apache Junction, AZ riding in Superstition Mountains the winter of 2022. However, her biggest future endeavor maybe the willingness to host a German exchange student next school year (whenever that may be).

Most recently, Sue has served as the president of the PTRTA for the past ten years. Her passion for trails has been driven by seeing improvements and advances with the facilities of trails. "Its been satisfying, and sometimes frustrating, but very exciting and fun to bring horse people together, said Sue. The two most gratifying events that Sue has coordinated is, "The Blessing of the Horse and Rider" and the joining of both the PTRTA and the BTRA in events like the fall/spring park to park ride and holiday parties.

Under Sue's direction, the PTRTA has made the following recent improvements with a lot of volunteer and DNR help: Hitching posts in the field, hitching posts in Hell, the bridge over Portage River with mounting blocks added at either end, the addition of five more miles of trail and the overflow issues on trail 19. All of the PTRTA projects were funded through membership dues and the annual flower sales fundraiser which Sue also initiated.

Sue has also represented the equine trail riders as a DNR Friend Summit and Legislative Day Representative.

"I am thankful for all the individuals that have done so much for me. I would specifically like to thank Colonel Don Packard and Jean Ligon for their continued leadership and wealth of knowledge that has been provided to me," said Sue. "I would also like to thank my husband of 41 years for his continued partnership and support through all the various projects. He deserves the honor more than me."

Sue would like to also acknowledge everyone else who has contributed to the success of the PTRTA. "There's so many to mention," said Sue, "but you all know who you are. Thank you for the support and thank you for the ride!"

Featured Business Sponsors

Horse'N Around Stables Trail Rides



Horse' N Around Stables was started nearly 20 years ago with one thing in mind; our love of horses. "After all these years, our passion for these magnificent creatures has grown into something more and we want to share our love with you," said Sherry Richardson owner and operator.

"Nearly all of our horses were rescued from abuse or neglect," said Sherry. They have been rehabilitated by Sherri Richardson herself, a lifelong horse owner. Sherri does this not as an occupation, but as a passion in her life.

Visit Horse' N Around Stables at Waterloo or Pinckney for an experience you'll never forget.

"Horses are like people, they each have a personality of their own," said Sherry. "Come meet one that you'll call a friend after only an hour."

Come see why CBS Detroit ranked Horse' N Around Stables at Waterloo and Pinckney both TOP FIVE places in Michigan to ride horses.

Also for the first time in many years, Horse' N Around Stables is accepting new boarders. Please call Sherri at 734-637-4457 for more information.

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At Gentle Reins Farm, nature is celebrated and explored by horseback riding! Owner Michael Fouts has tended to the heart and soil of this little farm since 2003 and shares it with all who love the outdoors. Visit the stable for a riding lesson, special events, horse-drawn hay rides, and more.

Michael Fouts grew up riding horses, driving horses and getting kicked, bitten and run over by them. "I loved watching western movies with my brothers and I tried every stunt the cowboys did (with only a few minor injuries)," said Michael.

Starting at 12, Michael apprenticed with Lewis Craig who worked with standardbred race horses and his love of driving was born. Later he trained with renowned clinician Peter Campbell where he learned the skills of Natural Horsemanship the ability to get a "willing partner." With champion horse teamster Ransom "Soc" Squires he learned to drive teams of horses to pull carts, wagons and implements. Both of his grandfathers drove horse teams.

Combined with being a movement artist, teacher and therapist, Michael brings a unique approach. By not just riding horses but by striving for nuanced movement skills to communicate clearly creating a calm, attentive horse willing to do anything and go anywhere, down the road or through the woods, in the street or across the stream.

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Gentle Reins Farm.com

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12891 Trist Road Grass Lake, MI 49240 (Open May-October) (Recreation Passport Required)
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Join PTRA as a business member today at
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Other Trail Information

Southeast Michigan Equestrian Trail Group Events

Join us on Facebook

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

Michigan Horse Trails Directory

Highlighting horse trail riding, camping and volunteering opportunities throughout Michigan

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