

This club history is stored on the nyspwhc.org website. Maintained by the web coordinator.

NYS PWHC History

Our club was an offshoot of the Northeastern Walking Horse Association that had existed since the 50s. When NEWHA dissolved, Mrs (Muriel) Ceburn Lee (Leeswood Stables) who was the treasurer, turned their funds over to us to get the NYS PWHC started. That was in 1972. The club was actually started by a priest out of Utica area.

See the Officer History Table for personnel

NYS PWHC – started in 1972; Incorporated in 1991; tax exempt in 1981 – club split and the ENYS PWHC was formed

Meetings were held in Judy Gaylord's basement at first. Then held twice a year at the Marcellus grange hall from the mid 70s and into the 80s.. In the 90s, most of the spring meetings were held at the Sunrise Hill Inn in Canandaigua and fall meetings were either at the Grange hall in Marcellus or a nearby restaurant. Since 2000, meetings have been held exclusively in central New York.

Clinics:

- Billy Boyd- did yearly clinics at Leeswood Stables at no charge through 70s and early 80s
- Billy Boyd- Pennfield, NY 1987
- Donna Lechtanski's Place, Manlius, NY 1992
- Liane Meadows - Cazenovia College in April 1993 (first one to demonstrate use of round pen) Liz Graves assisted.
- Suzanne Most – TWH judge for Batavia and clinic '94
- Liz Graves– TWH judge for Batavia and clinic '95
- Diane Sept– TWH judge for Batavia and clinic '96 (filled in for Liane Meadows who was taken ill)
- Diane Sept – Performance Saddlery, Ithaca - 1998
- Marietta Gambrell - Edgecourt Farm, Cortland, NY, May 5 & 6, 2001
- Sue Fanelli – Edgecourt Farm, Cortland, 2003
- Marilynne MacLeod, Cazenovia College, June 11&12, 2005
- Bucky Sparks, Lonepine Stable, Homer, NY, May 10-12, 2008
- Bucky Sparks, Lonepine Stables, Homer, NY, May 21-23,2010
- Steve Bill, Moscow Hill ring, Brookfield, NY, July 2012
- Bucky Sparks, Lonepine Stables, Homer, NY, May 18-19,2013
- Bucky Sparks, Lonepine Stables, Homer, NY, May 17-19,2014
- Bucky Sparks, Lonepine Stables, Homer, NY, May 2-3, 2015
- Mary Rocco Maitland, Horse Habituation/Desensitizing Clinic, Logan's Place Farm, New Woodstock. July 16-17, 2016

Meetings:

- General member meetings held twice a year
- Board of Director or Executive committee meetings held as needed
- Starting in 2007 .. at the Fall Ride, a meeting of the Trail Committee and the DEC personnel responsible for the Brookfield Trail system meet for a luncheon.
- Meetings held with appropriate DEC areas as needed (Brookfield, Tuller Hill, Sugar Hill)

Shows:

- Swellabration several years in the 70s – Saratoga, NY
- Fun Show, Windmill, Palmyra, NY - 1991
- Fun Show, Batavia, NY – 5 years - last 3 years 1992-96 of show TWH judges who also did clinics – identified below
- 1992 - Club Show affiliated with IPWHA - Genesee County Fairgrounds, Batavia, NY or ~5 years - last 3 years 1992-96 of show TWH judges who also did clinics identified under clinics
- 1993 - Developed Club show rules which were used at all our shows until 2000
- 1996 - Pleasure Walking horse classes were featured in the NYS Fair for the first time. Performance Walking horses had been absent for 50 years and the pleasure walkers had never been there. The highlight of the show was the Retirement Ceremony of Melody Meadows Mack and Eleanor Hulbert after the Saturday evening Championship performances.
- 2000 – 2004; 2006-2009 - Funtastic Gaitin' Weekend – Brookfield, NY

Trail Rides:

- 1992 - Trail committee and yearly Fall Foliage Trail Ride started at Brookfield NY. First 3 years at the Fairgrounds, then moved to Moscow Hill. **yearly**
- 1995 - Spring Ride added at Otter Creek **yearly**

- 1996 - Auction started at fall ride
- 1999 - Tuller Hill Horse Trail System, Virgil, NY
- 2000 - Funtastic Gaited Weekend included a trail ride on Sunday. - Brookfield, NY – held 2000 – 04; 2006-07.
- Summer ride – combined with Fun Show or a members only ride held at different places:
- 2003 - Trout Valley Farm and Heighburg Forest Truxton, NY - August
- 2004 - Sugar Hill Six Nations Horse Trail System, Watkins Glen, NY - August
- 2005 - Trout Valley Farm and Heighburg Forest Truxton, NY – July
- 2008 – 2012 Tuller Hill Horse Trail System, Virgil, NY (Cancelled 2012 due to major rain)
- 2013 – 2015 Six Nations Trail System, Watkins Glen, NY – July or August
- 2015 - 25th Anniversary Fall Ride at Brookfield in September - with 20th Annual Auction to benefit the NYS trail systems \par \par
- Yearly – 3 rides... Spring – Otter Creek, Summer - Six Nations Trail System, Fall – Brookfield
- 2020 - Covid 19 Pandemic hit the world... our events were cancelled for the year

Web Page:

www.nyspwhc.org

started Nov 1998 by Bob Milback

Nancy Avery took it over in 2000; 202?, Web.com took over hosting; and in 2019 they required us to change input means or pay exorbitant fees.

Whiney Fest – Winter Social Gathering

Started in ... by Elissa Sawyer at their place -Yarrowhill, Sherburne, NY. Rotated on a yearly basis usually in January with a February 'snow date.

Significant Events

- Swellabration year-end show - in the late 70s- 1982. It was the largest flat shod show in the northeast at the time. First one was held at Pine Hill Stables in Burnt Hills. Then in Ballston Spa, NY. It moved to Saratoga for the remaining years.
- 1983 - Albany members broke away and formed the Eastern NYPWHC (ENYPWHC)
- Club shows were held at the Yates Count Fairgrounds PennYan for most of the 80s
- 1985 - AHSA withdrew recognition of the TWH. We continued to have classes at the existing AHSA shows as a guest breed.
- 1988- TWH Industry shut down their affiliated shows because of Federal Court ruling in DC. Our shows continued as usual. We were not affiliated with TN.
- 1990- NYSHBA.. we removed show & park pleasure (padded) classes from Breeders Show and the Syracuse International and went to all flatshod.
- 1990-91 - Club (held hostage) spring meeting held at McGuinness home in Penn Yan. (The meeting was extended because a man had held his family hostage at gunpoint in their home at the beginning of the dead end road and the State Troopers had blocked it off. The situation was resolved peacefully about 7pm.)
- 1990-91 - Club Show moved to the Windmill, Penn Yan, NY
- 1991 - Club incorporated in March 1991
- 1991 - In anticipation of becoming re-recognized by AHSA. our Club hosted an elaborate Exhibitors party jointly with IPWHA at the NYS Breeders Show. It was a rousing success and drew rave reviews from all the breeds.
- 1991-95 - We participated in the World of Horses that started at the NYS Fair in 1991 and ended in 1995
- 1992 - Club Show affiliated with IPWHA - Genessee County Fairgrounds, Batavia, NY for 5 years - last 3 years 1992-96 of show TWH judges who also did clinics – identified under clinics
- 1993 - Developed Club show rules which were used at all our shows until 2000

- 1996 - Pleasure Walking horse classes were featured in the NYS Fair for the first time. Performance Walking horses had been absent for 50 years and the pleasure walkers had never been there. The highlight of the show was the Retirement Ceremony of Melody Meadows Mack and Eleanor Hulbert after the Saturday evening Championship performances.
- 2007 – Adopt-a-Natural Resource forms completed for Tuller Hill - Section #10, Virgil, NY and Moscow Hill Area, Brookfield
 - For several years provided a monetary amount to a local store around Brookfield for the DEC to get supplies to maintain, improve the trails. and camping area
 - In '07 – adopted a few trails at Brookfield to ‘maintain’ actually can only clear small items, if any major work needed – inform the DEC

-

- In '07 – adopted the Tuller Hill Horse Trail system to bring it back to use. Several trail clearing days, meetings with DEC, etc. The club was given part of the NYSHC (New York State Horse Council) coordinated Trail Improvement Grant provided by Senator Nancy Lorraine Hoffmann. That money will be used in '08 to provide a small parking area / trailhead.
- 2008 -Otter Creek - In the Fall we allocated funds to provide some badly needed wheel barrels to the system.The wheel barrels were donated on June 6 at our Spring ride which was also National Trail day.Fred Monk, DEC, attended the dinner Saturday evening and accepted the donation of six wheelbarrels.
- 2010 - started collecting bottles and cans at Brookfield to help pay for porta-potties to avoid the closure of the trails for 2 extra months of the year

We have completed an Volunteer Stewardship Program (old:Adopt-A-Natural-Resource) form to be able to work on a couple trails in the system

Our recommendations and assistance (along with other clubs) has assisted in getting some very necessary fixes done over the last few year Several covered stalls were added to the camping area

Tie rails put around the system at the lean-tos and pond; Entrance widen for trailers

Assembly area - stall roofs and footing fixed

- 2011 - On Feb. 14th the Trail Preservation Committee Chair of the New York Plantation Walking Horse Club (NYSPWHC) received information from the DEC in Sherburne that due to lack of funding for portable toilets they were closing the Camping Area and Assembly Area, but leaving the trails open, by three months (May, Sept and Oct). We immediately started working on how to keep these area open for camping and day riding parking.

After many phone conversations, e-mails and meetings, it was decided that we would contact other clubs and horse groups to help us find the monies for this purpose and also for trail repair and maintenance. Everyone has been wonderfully supportive: Twin Tiers Trail Riders have agreed to pay for two units for the month of May, these units were installed on May 2nd. We have also received donations from a number of individuals who use and love this system, any excess monies will be used for the trails. Though our Adopt-A-Natural Resource Agreement, we will be checking all trails and bridges and making notes for the DEC on what needs to be done to keep these trails open and safe. They will choose which projects are feasible with labor and finances.
- 2013 - First official work day - April 27. 38 volunteers; over 200 hours of effort pictures
Our focus was on refurbishing the tie stalls, making the needed repairs to make them safe, adding item 4 gravel footing in stalls and in low spots in the assembly area.
- 2014
 - Brookfield Work Day - April 26 - 30 volunteers; over 200 hours of effort pictures
Our focus was on the camping area, adding item 4 gravel footing in stalls and in low spots in the area. Removing dead trees and general cleanup.
 - Sugar Hill - 2014 We are donating funds along with the Twin Tiers Trail Riders to have additional stalls built in the fire tower location. 10 additional stalls were added
 -
- 2015 – Our investigation into Charitable-Incorporation status and Tax Exempt status applied for.
- 2015 – Sugar Hill - Installed head dividers and metal covers for front bar protection in the 10 stalls built in 2014.
- 2014-18 - Funds allocated to the "Friends of Otter Creek" for trail improvements

- 2015-16 - Brookfield - Monies donated for gravel for trail repair. Work done by DEC.
Trail 54 and 55 - repairs are completed; they had to reroute around the large mud hole on 55.
Trail 25 - covered exposed ground fabric and re-graveled around the culvert.
Trail 32 - started repairing this trail but due to bad weather and deer season were unable to finish the repairs.

- 2018 Work Day - Brookfield - A small group got together to paint the six new picnic tables we contacted to be made and delivered to the assembly area pavillion.

- 2019 Work Day – April – Brookfield -Saturday the 27th was our major work day, with 22 members attending. We did have a few people that came and worked on the other days.
List are a few workday facts:
 - Total workers 22
 - Total hours worked 196
 - Total amount of item 4 gravel moved - 700 tons
 - Jobs completed: all downed tree branches and debris picked up; brush trimmed and removed when needed; all fire rings cleaned; all stalls in assembly and camping area cleaned and prepared for gravel fill and redone with a finer grade of Item 4 gravel (took a lot of raking and tamping!!); trash picked up in both places – DEC will remove the trash; parking pads and roads improved will Item 4 gravel.
 - 2020 – some stall work in assembly area
 - 2021 – purchased new pump for assembly area, installed by DEC and put new shelter over. .
 - 2022-23 – provided funds for six new picnic tables and cement pit surrounds, work done by DEC.