



## RIDE OHIO

### Newsletter name and content change

Welcome to “Ride Ohio”, a yearly review of Ohio Horseman’s Council accomplishments and timely information from around the state. As members wrap up another year of riding and maintaining trails, plan for next year using this newsletter, as a source for ideas.

### Information is everywhere

Since there is so much news to share, “Ride Ohio” can’t cover everything. Stay in touch with chapter activities every month in the Horseman’s Corral County Lines section. Further, other communication channels include chapter’s and region’s Facebook groups or pages where you can follow the news. Generally, the information is local to the chapter or region but may be of interest if you’re looking for educational seminars, trail conditions, group rides, trail maintenance, meetings, and other equine-related events in a particular part of the state.

To find a chapter, go to a search engine, such as “Google”, and type in the name of the county chapter followed by OHC or Ohio Horseman’s Council. The state OHC website provides a link to all county chapters, too. Look for “Find Chapter” at the top of the website’s home page.

## Foundation Built for Future Growth and Opportunity

The Ohio Horseman’s Council Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that can accept charitable donations. A charitable donation is defined as a gift of cash or materials/goods made to a non-profit organization to help the organization accomplish its mission, for which the donor receives nothing of monetary value in return.

The mission of the OHC Foundation is to operate exclusively for the promotion of social welfare, charitable, educational, and recreational purposes, to provide:

- resources to promote the building and maintenance of bridle trails throughout the State of Ohio;
- financial resources and volunteer services to fellow organizations that support and protect equine-related activities; and
- support to state and national horse-related issues.

In addition, chapters can file for sales tax exemption on purchases of materials or services supporting the OHC chapter and the Foundation’s mission.



## Around the State

### ***Regional accomplishments and future plans***

#### **NORTHEAST Region:**

**Cuyahoga, Medina, and Summit** chapters joined forces to host a state ride at Cleveland Metroparks South Chagrin Reservation Polo Field. This same location is available to small groups of 10 trailers for overnight camping, with a permit. Potable water, electric, and high lines are available and have direct access to the South Chagrin trail system.

Cleveland Metroparks Brecksville reservation has primitive camping in a large field with access to water and direct access to Brecksville Reservation trails that connect to Cuyahoga Valley National Park trails. A permit is required. Go to [Clevelandmetroparks.com](http://Clevelandmetroparks.com), guest services for permits.

**Stark County** chapter reports Stark Parks will be adding a 13-mile trail system next year in Pike Township, south of Canton. No camping, however a new primitive campground with several sites and high lines has been established at Camp Tuscazoar only a short distance away. There are more than 17 miles of challenging to moderate trails at Tuscazoar.

***Information about any of the trails and campgrounds listed in “Around the State” section can be found at [ohconline.com](http://ohconline.com) under “Ohio Trails”.***

#### **SOUTHWEST Region:**

**Clermont County** chapter has made significant renovations to the campground and trails at East Fork State Park. East Fork has 17 electric sites for horse camping, high lines, potable water, and a shelter house along with many other amenities.

Trails once considered muddy have been addressed and new loops added in the horse camp area. If riders are feeling challenged, the perimeter trail around East Fork Lake is 33 miles, but closer to the campground, there are 35 miles of loop trails.



Trails are not the only endeavor for the Clermont chapter. They supported their county fair’s 4H participants competing in western trail classes.

**Greene County** chapter has developed a 15 mile trail system at Caesar Ford Park in Xenia. Twelve sites are tentatively available in October, with electric, high lines, water and shower house in addition to many primitive



sites and a new parking area for day use riders. Look for this location to be the site of a new State Trail Ride in June 2024.

#### **SOUTHEAST Region:**

**Guernsey County** chapter opened a new side trail on the White A loop at Salt Fork State Park that gets riders to a new destination of 10 Horse Cave.

**Meigs County** chapter sponsored a ride event in partnership with the Make A Wish Foundation (MAWF). All of the donations went directly to the Foundation with the chapter picking up the expenses for the ride





from their own funds. This year MAWF exceeded the \$17,000 goal which brought the combined efforts with the chapter over the past years to over \$100,000.

**Harrison County** chapter worked with Division of Forestry to develop a major reroute of the blue trail out of the trail riders campground in addition to widening a section of the North Green trail.

**Morgan County** chapter is rehabilitating 30+ miles of trails and the campground at the former AEP land in McConnelsville. The land is now owned by ODNR and called "The Appalachian Wildlife".

**Perry County** chapter celebrates Burr Oak State Forest each year with a soup ride. However, soup riders and all riders can go further since there are plans at Burr Oak to add a 2 mile loop around the campground and more miles throughout the forest in the near future.

**CENTRAL Region:**

AEP Conesville, Fallon Park has become a popular location for a **Central Region** ride in July. Thirty-five rigs representing OHC counties and At-Large from around the state attend this annual get-together.

**Knox County** has continued the fun and camaraderie of riding by hosting a Mohican weekend in August including a potluck, kayaking, pizza and music. Do horses kayak?

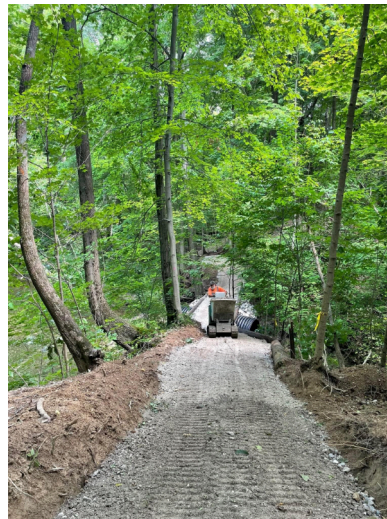
**Licking County** hosts a yearly Fun Show while Delaware County will be holding its annual Autumn At Alum in September each year.

**NORTHWEST Region:**

**Fulton County** chapter will establish a shorter connector trail allowing riders to enjoy the Maumee State Forest and Oak Openings Metro Park.

**Wood County** chapter repaired several ravines at Van Buren to make riding safer. On October 1, ODNR will close Van Buren campground to add electric to every campsite that doesn't already have electric.

**Sandusky County** chapter celebrates 15 years as an OHC chapter. All **Northwest Region** county chapters share the load and work together to support the trails in their region through scheduled maintenance projects. Chapters contribute labor and resources to provide safe and scenic trails to riders.



# Grant Money Awards

Ohio Horseman's Council annual monetary grant programs are designed to give assistance for equine-related projects that build relationships and enhance the community. There is a \$5000 Matching Grant distributed to one or more chapters and a \$750 Regional Monetary Grant awarded to a county chapter within each of the five regions in the State of Ohio.

Application must clearly show the need and cost. Proof of work completed is due by year end. The winners, locations of the work to be completed and the type of work are:

**2023 Grant Money Recipients**

**\$750 Grants:**

**Northwest – Wood County** – Trail Maintenance

**Northeast - Stark County** – Tie lines for Camp Tuscazoar Campground.

**Central Region – Delaware County** Building a wood platform on horse trails.

**Southwest – Greene County** – to enclose end of the shelter house.

**Southeast – Athens County** – Signs to trails.

**\$5000 Matching Grants:**

**Cuyahoga County** – \$1500 - Build mounting blocks.

**Stark County** – \$2500 - Stone to new campground and trailer parking pads at Camp Tuscazoar.

**Wood County** – \$1000 – Trail maintenance of creek crossings.

**Note: Grant money is available every year and requests must be sent by Nov. 1 to Don Wagner, Trails Committee.**



# Important Dates

Members are encouraged to attend any meetings listed.

**NOVEMBER 1, 2023** - 2024 Grant money applications due.

**NOVEMBER 5, 2023** - State general membership meeting at the Elks Lodge in Newark, OH. Election of state officers for President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

**DECEMBER 31, 2023** - Renew 2024 membership to keep liability insurance active into the start of the next year and to continue to receive your Horseman's Corral.

- Turn in your trail miles and saddle hours to your chapter officer.
- Turn in your trail work hours to your chapter officer.

**January 12, 2024** - Executive Cabinet meeting at the Double Tree by Hilton in Newark, OH.

**JANUARY 13, 2024** - Mid-Winter Training Seminars for Chapter Officers at the Double Tree by Hilton in Newark, OH.

**MARCH 9, 2024** - State general membership meeting at the Elks Lodge in Newark, OH.

**APRIL 11-14, 2024** - Equine Affaire at the Columbus Expo Center. Booth 800 in the Bricker Building.

**For details about events, meetings and to stay connected with OHC, follow the state OHC Facebook group and check in at the state OHC website.**

Ohio Horseman's Council is the largest Ohio non-profit equine organization representing all ages of riders, all riding disciplines, and all equine breeds. Organized by county



chapters, OHC is committed to serving the needs of its members and being the trusted advocate for equine participants at all levels of government. Please join OHC to support the work of our volunteers, keep trails fee free in Ohio and promote access to public land for recreational use.



## A Gibby Good Time

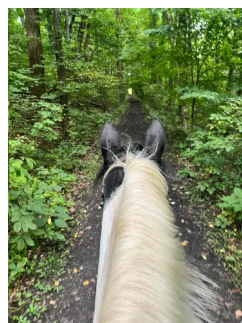
Dave Goodbar, a Greene County OHC Chapter member was the recipient of the prestigious Gibby Award for his work in the development of trails at Caesar Ford Park. Dave is an advocate of trails and is the "Trail Boss" for Greene County whether it be organizing trail rides, work parties, or engaging with Greene County Parks managers or local 4H clubs to maintain trails and improve areas to enhance rider safety and enjoyment.



*Past Gibby winners attend the yearly event held at Barkcamp State Park. The Gibby Award is named after Wilbur "Gibby" Gibson who worked diligently to develop and maintain trails at Barkcamp and because of his work, the horse camp was named in his honor.*



## Where ya ridin'?



Share your rides (in Ohio, outside Ohio, outside the USA) by posting pictures on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ohiohorsemanscouncil.com>. Trails, competitions, fun shows? Share your equine adventures.

