



## **BLUE RIDGE TRAIL RIDERS – newsletter #168, October 2009**

*PLEASE come! Special meeting on November 3<sup>rd</sup> – check it out below!*

### **The officers and directors are as follows (A-appointed; E-elected):**

Mary Sonner, President...865-573-1544...Knoxville. Judy Mitchell, Vice Pres...865- 475-6475, Jefferson City  
Linda Bettner, Treasurer....475-4300... New Market... [lostcreekautoworks@charter.net](mailto:lostcreekautoworks@charter.net)  
Lucy Scanlon, Secretary....494-7654...Norris...[merrymountlps@earthlink.net](mailto:merrymountlps@earthlink.net)  
Terri Marie Carnes, Director...865-579-9955..Seymour..(E-12/09)  
Sandy Maloy, Director...865-932-0229..Straw.Plains..(E-12/09) [msandramaloy@aol.com](mailto:msandramaloy@aol.com)  
Lezle Jenkins, Director...865-988-4928... Lenoir City. (A-12/10) [jenkinsl@k12tn.net](mailto:jenkinsl@k12tn.net)  
Kerry Dunaway, Director...865-964-5417..Seymour (E-12/09)

**Check out our website!** [www.blueridgetrailriders.com](http://www.blueridgetrailriders.com). Harriet Spiegel has done a fabulous job of updating the website! It looks crisp and new and includes the current slate of officers and the current ride schedule. If you missed a newsletter, they are on the web! Also you will find there our mission, charter, bylaws, and the duties of each officer. And soon we should be able to add pictures. Many, many thanks, Harriet!

**Last Meeting** was held at the Big South Fork Pavilion in the Group Camp on Saturday October 10. Once again the food for our weekend was delicious and plentiful. The Pavilion has been screened in to keep out the bats, but it makes it a cozier place to meet, especially with a roaring fire. With 24 members and 15 guests, we began with introductions all around. We mentioned our special called meeting on November 3 and some copies of the Insurance Master Policy and the Schedule of Fees were available for people to study. Don Britton from Lakeway Riding Club shared his action paintings with us, showing cowboys and horses in all kinds of scraps; then he read his humorous poems about the life of a rider. To thank Don and his friends for joining us, the Club gave out several humorous license plates.

If you would like to read the Master Policy or the Schedule of Fees before the meeting, give Lucy a call(865-494-7654) or send an email to: [merrymountLPS@earthlink.net](mailto:merrymountLPS@earthlink.net).

**Next Meeting** will be a special called meeting to discuss our insurance policy on Tuesday November 3 at St John's Cathedral. PLEASE come to our special meeting on this subject alone. Ask your friends in other clubs what they do for insurance, what it costs, and what coverage they have. Please talk to other BRTR members and encourage them to come (or bring them with you!). Bring your ideas and concerns to this meeting on Tuesday, November 3 at 7:30 pm at St John's Cathedral in downtown Knoxville. The address is on Cumberland Ave, but the parking lot is entered from Church St. Directions: Take US 441 (N or S – Henley St) into Knoxville. Turn at the light onto Church Street. Go through two traffic lights. (pass McGhee-Tyson Library). The Parking Lot for St John's is on your right in the middle of the next block; parking is free after 5 pm. Enter through the glass doors at the back of the church and go straight ahead into the Great Hall where we will meet. Check with Sandy Maloy (865-806-2550) if you get confused.

We will have six regular meetings this year: Tues Jan 6, Tues April 7, Tues Jun2, Tues Aug 4, Sat Oct 10, Fri Dec 11. Mary and Gary Sonner plan to host our Christmas Party in December at their house in South Knoxville; they would like to move the date to Friday Dec 11 to avoid several conflicting events. Mark your calendar NOW!

**Last Trail Ride** was our long weekend at Big South Fork. Many people rode on Thursday and Friday and then took Saturday off as the weather was damp and gray. Most of the rain came in late Friday and Saturday morning, so the real diehards were able to ride for 2-3 hours on Saturday as well.

**Next Trail Ride** will be on the second Saturday in November, November 14, at Meadow Creek (Burnette Gap) in the North Cherokee NF. Judy Mitchell (865-475-6475 OR 865-254-1579) will be the contact

person. We plan to meet about 9:30 ready to ride at 10:00am. Please consolidate trailers as much as possible; Lakeway Club may join us.

Directions: Take I-40 east from Knoxville and get off at Exit 432B (a left-hand exit). Check your odometer as you are approaching Newport: allow at least an hour to travel the 18.5 miles to the ride site. Follow 25W/70 East through downtown Newport and through Del Rio. After passing Del Rio there will be a truck lane and as soon as that ends you will see Hwy 107 East (Don't take 107 west from Del Rio!). Turn LEFT on Hwy 107 East and travel approximately 4 mi. Watch for a newly installed sign on the right for the Horse Trailer Parking Lot (it is the only horse trailer parking sign you will see). Turn right into the parking lot just past this sign. This entrance is just across the street from a Cherokee National Forest sign marked "Meadow Creek Lookout Tower" which is on your left.

The trail consists of both dirt/gravel roads and single-track trails. Some parts of the trail are strenuous. Due to the road riding, four shoes are recommended. Limited horse water is available. We will travel to the Fire Tower which has some awesome views but no hitching rails. Then we will go to the old hotel and loop back to our trailers.

## **REGIONAL NEWS**

**Norris Watershed Hunting Season:** No other activities are allowed in the Watershed when a Hunt is in progress. **Archery:** September 26-October 4. **Muzzle-loader/Shotgun:** November 21-29.

**Norris Dam State Park** offers scenic boat rides for the last two weeks of October. Bobby and Joanne Mitchell, along with Lucy Scanlon, decided to enjoy a peaceful sunny hour on the water. As we looked for "wildlife" on the shore, our ranger-guide said "That black spot looks like a cow's butt". Indeed it was: a Black Angus bull calf stuck in the rocks with a bad eye injury. Of course we couldn't leave him there and managed to get him into our pontoon boat and headed for the nearest marina which was quite close. The owner met us at the boat ramp but there was no way we could move the weak 300-lb animal into his pick-up. He said the coyotes had run through his herd before dawn that morning. We waited around while he got a friend with a three-horse trailer and a dually. The calf was unable to stand and was lifted with difficulty into the trailer. We'd saved the poor guy some suffering but won't know the final outcome. So much for peace and quiet! The other guests on the cruise had a trip to remember.

**Health Reminder!** If you were lucky enough to get your pasture mowed during September, you probably have plenty of new growth now. On the warm sunny days the grass is making lots of sugar and having to store the sugar during the cool evenings. This is the perfect scenario for horses to colic or founder due to the rich forage. The simplest prevention is to limit their time on pasture or use a grazing muzzle.

**Cumberland Mountains Elk Reserve** 5 people won the drawing to shoot an elk this year – including one man who paid \$17500 for the permit on eBay! The herd has grown considerably since the first release several years ago; in future years more permits may be issued as the herd becomes naturalized in the area.

## **Big South Fork**

Public Lands Day, on the last Saturday in September, was forecast to be 100% rain and it was definitely too wet to work. So those who showed up watched the preview of the PBS Special, The National Parks: America's Best Idea.

Nov 5-9, 2009: BSF Safe Trail Riding Clinic to be held at Loree Guest Ranch Bed and Breakfast. Larry MacMillan will provide instruction on safe riding and packing techniques throughout the weekend; there will be three full days of riding and horses are available for rent if you don't have your own. Lodging and meals are included in the price. For more information, go to [www.LoreeGuestRanch.com](http://www.LoreeGuestRanch.com).

**Wanted to buy:** Small aluminum horse trailer. Call Tykey Truett, 865-995-2468; 865-805-2431.

[Truettf@att.net](mailto:Truettf@att.net).

**Dates to remember:** Rides and Meetings of BRTR! *CUT OUT AND SAVE! Stick it on your frig!*

Nov 3: BRTR Special meeting to discuss Insurance for the Club. 7:30 pm at St John's Cathedral, Church St, Knoxville.

Nov 14: Meadow Creek near Greeneville, TN.. Judy Mitchell: 865-475-6475; 865-254-1579.

Dec 11: BRTR Meeting and Christmas Party at Gary&Mary Sonner, 2612 Kimberlin Heights Rd, Knoxville: 865-573-1544, 865-607-2998.

Dec 12: Wilderness Road, Harrogate, TN, Judy Mitchell 865-475-6475, 865-254-1579.

Jan 5, 2010: BRTR Meeting to plan rides for the year.

Jan 9: Norris Watershed, Norris, TN. Lucy Scanlon 865-494-7654, 865-254-1269.

**FMI on long-distance riding** go to: [www.aerc.org](http://www.aerc.org) or [www.natrc.org](http://www.natrc.org). **News?** Please send to Lucy Scanlon at address below - or call 865-494-7654 - or E-mail: [merrymountLPS@earthlink.net](mailto:merrymountLPS@earthlink.net)  
Try to get it to me by the 15th of the month. We accept free horse-related classifieds from members.

**Dues:** \$15 per year. Make checks payable to BRTR or Blue Ridge Trail Riders and send to the  
TREASURER: Linda Bettner, 1165 West Hwy 11E, New Market, TN 37820. If you need to check on your  
status, call Linda at the office, 865-475-4300.

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Blue Ridge Trail Riders Newsletter

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