

# ~Gaited Gatherings~



Official Newsletter ~~ Midwest TrailGaiters ~~ July 2007

[www.midwesttrailgaiters.com](http://www.midwesttrailgaiters.com)



Well Gaiters.....What do you think? Isn't the new website **awesome??**

Sharon Bailey and I have been working with Jessica Brogley of Rural Country Designs in designing the new look of our website. We've enjoyed putting this together & hope you enjoy the end result.

We have started out with a **MAIN PAGE** that can be altered from time to time with new pictures - so don't be surprised to see yourself on this page from time to time. We've added 4 additional buttons that take you quickly to the **NEWSLETTERS, EVENTS, CLASSIFIEDS and PHOTO** pages. Additional pages can be added if we desire. We've also put our membership form just a click away on this page. This will make it simply to print your own and send it in.

The newsletters will be sent to you in the same fashion as before - you will receive an email when the new newsletter is on the site and you simply click on the **NEWSLETTER** button and choose the newsletter you want to read.

The **EVENTS** page will list all club sponsored events for the current year and the previous year as well. We've added a feature next to each event that will take you directly to pictures club members have taken at those outings.....so, keep those pictures coming (to Sharon Bailey that is).

The **CLASSIFIEDS** page is a spot to offer your items for sale. Again, these requests need to go through Sharon Bailey - but please provide her with all necessary information. Description, price, picture if you have one.

The **PHOTOS** page will be a "catch all" for pictures other than club events. So here is where we can post pictures of other rides you may have gone on - or the new foal born on your farm this spring. Please indicate the individuals in the pictures and where they were taken, and anything else pertinent. There will also be links to the club sponsored events pictures from this page too.

And lastly (at least for now) we are adding a "**MEMBERS ONLY**" button - this will take you to a page that we can put anything club related, that we don't want the general public to see. The first thing posted here is our club membership list. Everyone in the club will be given a password to enter this page. That way our names, phone numbers and email address remain private to club members only.

Sharon and I would love to get your feedback on the new site - and be sure to let us know if there is anything else you think we should add.

Enjoy!!

*Sharon Darrow*

**UPCOMING RIDE at WILDCAT MT./KICKAPOO VALLEY RESERVE TRAILS**  
**CAMPING AT END OF THE TRAIL EQUESTRIAN CAMPGROUND**

**July 27-29, 2007**     *Coordinators: Dan & Linda Catherman*

The campground is between Wildcat Mountain State Park (20+ miles of trails) and Kickapoo Valley Reserve (40+ miles of trails). You can get to both trail systems from campground. The owners, Jan and Moose, will also trailer you and your horse for a small fee, to some of the farther out trails or pick you up if needed. Separate trail passes are required for each trail system, available at the campground. Shoes are recommended for your horses. Each site has high lines, picnic table and fire ring. Firewood is available for a small donation. There is water, showers and toilets. Stalls are available for \$10 per night.

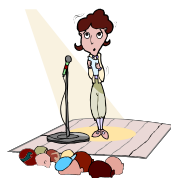
Sounds like the campground is filled, so hopefully everyone wanting to go called early to reserve. The phone at the campground is 608-337-4738 if you want to check for any cancellations.

Dan & Linda plan to lead a ride to the Rockton Bar on Sunday morning for their popular chicken barbeque. The bar, a 2-1/2 hour ride each way, has a place to tie horses.

Dan & Linda can be reached at [dcatherman\\_84@earthlink.net](mailto:dcatherman_84@earthlink.net).



*End of the Trail Equestrian Campground*



**MEMBER IN THE SPOTLIGHT**

**Meet long-time members, Mike & Lori Scott from Pittsville, WI**

Mike and I met when I was thirteen, he was sixteen. My mom is okay with it now that Mike takes her camping with us every weekend! Mike rode horse with me back then, my family had quarter horses. After dating for six years we got married and had two children, so at that time our interest in horses was put on hold. Once our children were in school we got back into horses. Of course, we didn't know any better and got trotting horses!



Eleven years ago we purchased a 1923 farm house with a barn on forty acres. After much work the renovation is now complete. At that time we also purchased a Tennessee Walking Horse, then another and another! Our daughter and I enjoyed showing our Tennessee Walking Horses. Six years ago we got our first Peruvian Paso. We have raised and trained several of them. We have enjoyed the Peruvian Pasos for their exceptionally smooth gaits. They are fun parade horses! We recently purchased two young Rocky Mountain Horses. Mike has been training Montea and riding him on trails. They are very sweet horses and we sure are enjoying them!



Now that our children are both in college we have been camping and trail riding almost every weekend. We do lots of camping and trail riding in Wisconsin and Minnesota. We enjoy camping with the Midwest Trail Gaiters. We also enjoy taking vacations with our horses. We have been to South Dakota, the Shawnee in Illinois and Brown County Indiana. Next we plan to ride the Land Between the Lakes in KY. I feel so fortunate that Mike and I both enjoy horses, camping and trail riding. And, he is a wonderful husband to bring his mother-in-law camping like he does!

*Mike and Lori Scott*

**RIDE at LAKE LE-AQUA-NA STATE PARK, LENA, IL**  
**May 18-20, 2007**     *Coordinators: Deb & Bill Dietz*

The Le Aqua Na trail ride brought good weather and a good turn out to our back door in Lena, IL. As the pictures will show the wild flowers were in full bloom - it was like a taste of heaven in the east creek crossing. We rode Friday, Saturday and Sunday. It could have been titled "Bill and

Ted's Not-so-Excellent Adventure." Ted's youngster displayed an independent streak on Saturday morning and Ted made a flying seat change. Bill started the weekend with a sore back and by Saturday night walked like the leaning Tower of Pizza due to some high speed log jumping! We had a good turn out including Sharon and Ted, Sharon D., Gina, Karla H., Laurel, Gail, John and Cheryl Douglas, newer members Lynn Holland, Mike and Diane Beatty, and Kris Blacklock, and last but not least - Bill and me. (Hope I didn't miss anyone.) We had a great supper on Saturday night and parted ways on Sunday afternoon. Ted ended up with a broken rib or two, and Bill is facing a possible surgery in September for his back (which has bothered him for years.) We did one big ride on the outer ring trail and lots of smaller group rides some fast and some slow. We had several gaited riders visit with talk of possibly joining. The raccoons were delighted to see us and made an attempt to commandeer the Bailey's new trailer - but Ted was too fast for them, even with his injuries! On Sunday I applied to join the Bad Girls under the authority of Sharon Bailey - she is a very demanding recruiter and everything I did to impress her - well, she asked for something more! I was glad I didn't have 2 horses there or she might have required riding Roman Style! I am hoping that I will be accepted as she took photos of my efforts. Also Karla Hurd was inducted into the Bad Girls on Saturday night - no one knows what Karla or her horse looks like except from the backside!!! In spite of a few bumps in the road, we had a good time. Deb Dietz



Deb auditioning for Bad Girls

**RIDE at YELLOW RIVER STATE FOREST, McGREGOR, IOWA**  
**June 8-10, 2007**     *Coordinator: Gina Barden*

The Gaiters had another wonderful well-attended weekend at Yellow River. The weather was terrific and the trails were in good shape. Some newer members showed up for the ride. Cheryl Terzen, showing spirit at her first Gaiter ride, visited the fire tower on one of her rides, and climbed all the way to the top!



The Gaiters found it a little challenging picking up after their horses when they noticed the campground wheelbarrow missing a vital part. Here Ted Bailey demonstrates cleaning up the hard way. Fortunately Mike Scott came to the rescue with his collapsible, portable, lightweight model with a wheel. By Sunday afternoon the DNR had brought in a brand new shiny wheelbarrow for the camp.



Ted with DNR version



Mike's model

Saturday night potluck was tasty as always, followed by fun around the campfire. On Sunday new member Lynn Holland arrived with several of her friends, who had been riding at the nearby Natural Gait, and joined in riding with some of the Gaiters.



Yellow River State Forest scenery

#### First Day of Psychiatry Class:

Young aspiring psychiatrists were attending their first class on emotional extremes. **"Just to establish some parameters, what is the opposite of joy?"** asked the professor.

**"Sadness,"** said one of the students.

**"And the opposite of depression?"** he asked.

**"Elation,"** said a young lady from the front row.

**"And you sir,"** he said to a young cowboy in the back row. **"How about the opposite of woe?"**

The young man replied, **"Sir, I believe that would be giddy-up."**

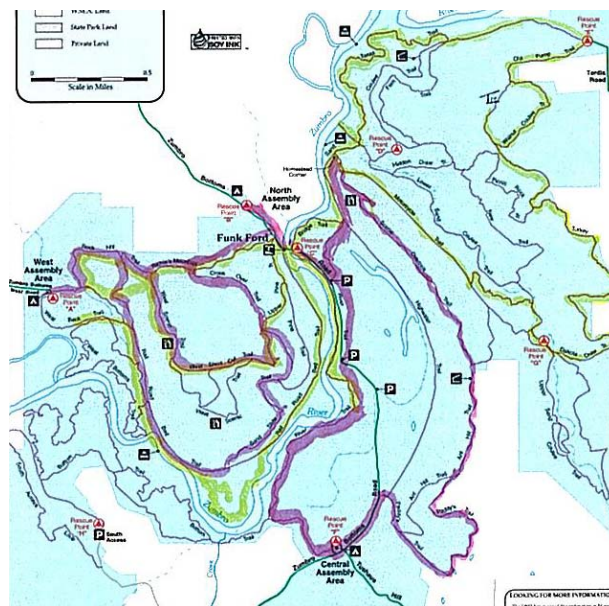


## RIDE at ZUMBRO BOTTOMS, MINNESOTA

June 29 - July 1, 2007

*Coordinators: Ruth Thompson and Roger Swansen*

This was our first time riding at Zumbro Bottoms and I think we are now hooked on the place. Wish it was closer for us, but with all the trails there are to ride at Zumbro, we'd plan to always make a l-o-n-g weekend of it anyway. The campground is huge and there are two other smaller campgrounds in the Unit. Having to pump water the old fashioned way, most of us were glad that we'd brought lots of water from home. Trails go out of the campground in a few different directions and there are plenty of options for long or shorter rides. Ted and I rode with a group including Roger and Jeanne and Mike Fox who know the trails pretty well and gave us a nice guided tour. There was lots of rock and some steep ups and downs, and the *great vistas* were worth the climb! Ted was riding our new young horse, Chance, who is now officially an awesome trail horse after his weekend at Zumbro Bottoms.



Map of Zumbro Bottoms Trails

As you can see by the colored markings on the ones we covered (37 miles worth), we only covered a handful of the possibilities!

We took the horses to the watering places on the river that were "safe" for us to go in a little ways. The river bottom is like quicksand and you need to water only at the approved spots to keep from sinking in. We didn't have any problems and the horses still got to cool off and get a drink. As usual, I had the GPS running to keep track of our mileage (and just in case Roger, Mike and Jeanne happened to get a little turned around. . .) and we did 37 miles and didn't cover all of the trails as you can from the map.

Thanks to Roger & Ruth for giving us the information on where to get firewood for the weekend. Minnesota now has a similar rule on bringing in firewood that Wisconsin has to prevent the spread of the ash borers. We stopped at the recommended place and were able to get quite a pile of nice firewood for \$20. Gina Barden sprung for the 20 bucks as long as she could get Ted to do all the heavy work!



At the river's safe watering hole



View of the campground from the overlook



Roger Swansen and Jeanne Fox



Around the campfire. . .

Also camped at Zumbro Bottoms that weekend was Cathy Tauer of Hill View Farm in Morgan, Minnesota. Cathy has been selling Ameriflex saddles for some time and is very knowledgeable about saddle fitting for gaited horses. She came down to our campsites and gave several of us a demonstration and explanation of the Ameriflex saddles. Cathy is now designing a new model of this type of saddle that she calls Evolutionary, a flexible panel saddle. I think we all learned a little more about how our horses move under saddle.



Mike Fox and Ted Bailey up at the overlook



There was a great Gaiter turn-out for this ride, and old & new members were able to get acquainted and ride the trails together. I know I'm missing reporting a lot of the fun had by the group, so

attendees can reminisce and share stories at the next campout. Many thanks to our great coordinators, Roger and Ruth, who kept us well-informed. I know we'll definitely be returning to Zumbro Bottoms!

*Keep on Gaitin'!*

*Sharon Bailey*

**And** - By popular request from the potluck at **Zumbro Bottoms**:

Courtesy of Jeanne Fox -

*Pretzel Salad*

1 C. coarsely crushed pretzels

1/2 C. sugar

1/2 C. butter

Melt butter; add sugar and pretzels. Spread mixture on cookie sheet. Bake at 380 degrees for 5-7 minutes; do not over bake. Empty onto tin foil and cool.

8 oz. cream cheese softened

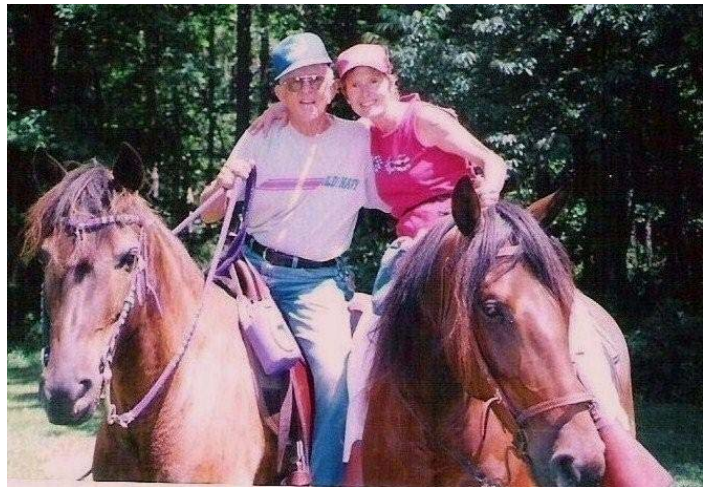
1/2 C. sugar

16 oz. Cool Whip

16 oz. crushed pineapple, drained.

Soften cream cheese. Add sugar, Cool Whip and pineapple; mix well. Just before serving, add pretzels. Save a few pretzels to garnish the top.

Julie Schneeberger gets to enjoy her lifelong dream of riding with her Dad. They had a 3 hour ride at Lake Le-Aqua-Na State Park this June 2007



Can you identify this Horsewoman?





**Lost Easy Sister spotted wandering along Lake Michigan!**

