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|  | **February 2024 Newsletter** |

**CLUB NEWS**

The following committees were formed and accepted by membership vote at the January meeting: Christmas Party committee, Social Committee, By Laws Committee, Ride Committee,

and Social Media Committee – See details in the minutes. We have very enthusiastic committees formed – it’s going to be a great year for Valley Trail Riders!

Web Master Terry Busby will be giving a presentation on new features of our website again this month on our newly purchased projector and screen!!

At the February meeting we will decide on charitable donations for 2024. We will also be enjoying sweet treats!!

Club Dues were due by January 31st. There is a $5 assessment fee if paid after January 31st, except for new members.

**DUES - Single -$15.00 & Family**-**$20.00** Make checks payable to **Valley Trail Riders** and mail to: Rose Shedd, 6744 Freeport Road, Rockton, IL 61072-9426.

**Officers:**

President – Lorrie Conry (815-973-2192)

Vice President – Yvonne Comm

Secretary – Caron Paschke

Treasurer – Rose Shedd

**Club Board of Directors:** Diane Feuillerat, Susan Krug, and Donna Howland

Any questions or concerns can be directed to an officer or director at any time.

**Liaisons to our local parks:**

***Rock Cut State Park:*** Terry Herbig – To report any problems at the park call 815-885-3311

***Franklin Creek State Park:*** Lorrie Conry

***Winnebago Forest Preserves:*** Debbi Hamilton & Nora Clapsaddle

**Club Website Manager –** Terry Busby --To contact Terry, please go to the website and click on support or email **support@ valleytrailriders.club.**

The website address is: [**www.Valleytrailriders.club**](http://www.Valleytrailriders.club)

To access the members-only side of the website, Click on the join button--Fill out the form --Click the Submit button. This area includes: Area to submit Blog articles, club newsletter and meeting minutes, Member contacts and Club Bylaws. If you have not done so yet, please go on our website and create your member log in. Terry will approve your access to the “Members Only” section once he verifies your paid membership. When you are approved, you will be set up with your own club email address that links to your personal email address.

**Facebook Page Administrator**- Kurtis Longenecker -- Please forward anything you want posted, such as pictures or events on our page to Kurtis at k\_longenecker@valleytrailriders.club

**Valley Trail Riders** Apparel-You can purchase hats, t-shirts, sweatshirts, etc…by contacting Rose Shedd at 815-979-5998 - Rose also brings items for sale, to our club meetings😊

**Calendar**

* **February 13, 2024** Club meeting at the Cook House at Lockwood Park -6:30 p.m.

(Bring a sweet treat to share if you like) 

* **February 17, 2024** *– Game Day at the Busby/Conry Home-* Starts at noon – You may bring a snack to share or your favorite drink if you like. Lorrie will make chili -coffee, water and tea will also be available. We will have card games and board games. Bring $5 in quarters if you like to play left – right – center😊**Address:** *10538 N. Pecatonica Road, Leaf River*

*Please RSVP to Lorrie at 815-973-2192 by February 12th so we know how many tables to set up.*

* **March 12, 2024** Club meeting at the Cook House at Lockwood Park -6:30 p.m. New Ideas in Hoof Treatments – Discussion with Alchemy Hoof Care owner Judith Wolter

Pizza Night- we will order when the meeting starts- eat afterwards

* **April 9, 2024** Club meeting at the Cook House at Lockwood Park -6:30 p.m. Equi-Stroke owner and practitioner, Mary Hougan (Certified Equine Massage Therapist) to present ideas on equine bodywork.
* **May 14, 2024** Club meeting at the Cook House at Lockwood Park -6:30 p.m. Mental Health and Wellness – the role animals play; Mental Health Nurse Practitioner and accomplished horsewoman on the benefits of animals in our mental health,