

**NYS HORSE COUNCIL RIDE/DRIVE PROGRAM**  
**2009 RESULTS**

In 2009 the NYS Horse Council began a new state wide activity for all NYSHC members called the **Ride-Drive Program**. In order to join you must be a NYSHC member (dues paid for that current year), sign up and pay a start up fee of \$15. Each year then after that a \$5 fee will need to be paid in order to continue participating in the program. One must obtain an official NYSHC log sheet and start filling in the hours. Information and log forms are on the NYSHC Web site-[www.nyshc.org](http://www.nyshc.org). The program is listed on a tab on the left side of the web site. The Program will run the calendar year if you want to receive any of the sponsored year end awards and fees must be paid in order to receive awards. Year end awards may vary as these are determined by their sponsor. You will receive a participation removable poly window sticker when you start. After you accumulate 25 hours you will receive a handsome Ride/Drive Patch award and as you add up those hours you will receive awards (hour bars) after 100, 200, 300, 500, 750,1000 hours and so on and just maybe you will see your name in the NYSHC Newsletter. Hours will be counted on the Rider/Driver. There is no limit on how long it takes you to achieve each patch or hour bar as it is a personal goal. As the program grows we plan on having some other awards at the end of the year as we get sponsors. For year end awards –hours will be counted from January 1 to December 31 of the current year. For 2009 the program received two sponsored awards—one was for the oldest rider/oldest horse combination with the most hours and the other award was for the rider with the most overall hours. We are looking for sponsors so if you would like to sponsor an AWARD please contact Leah Leising at 716-532-3357 or [lleising@netsync.net](mailto:lleising@netsync.net).

Come join in the fun of tracking your hours in the saddle riding or the seat driving your wonderful equine partner. Whether you show at the Syracuse Invitational, drive at Walnut Hill, trail ride at Otter Creek, Brookfield or Pine Hill, join a wagon train, ride barrels, follow the hounds or just plow your fields---all are invited to join. If you ride or drive your horse please consider joining in and having some fun, as long as you are forward going and riding or driving your horse (grooming does not count) is all that matters. Have your friends join in and have a little competition or maybe just some time to share with friends relaxing on your horses or enjoying your equine therapy.

In 2009, our first year, there were 47 NYS Horse Council members who took advantage of this fun program. As of February 2010 twenty seven people have turned in hours with a combined total of 3325.5 hours for the program. There were twenty seven 25 hour patches, fifteen 100 hour bars, five 200 hour bars and one 300 hour bar awarded. These hours have been riding, driving, some at shows, some herding cows, some in Ireland and quite a few at NYSHC Rides (Spring & Fall) at Brookfield and at the 2009 Annual meeting at Pine Hill and

Cockaigne Ski Resort. The members who completed the most hours and sent them in are: **Susan Nickerson from Ulster Park with 320 hours, Loraine Snyder from Holland with 274.5 hours, Sandy Glair from Elma with 255 hours, Melinda Loeffke from Elma with 255 hours, Janet Putnam from Columbus, Pa with 214 hours, Carolyn Moore from Henrietta with 184.75 hours and Vera Toth from Wappingers Falls with 177.5 hours.** The oldest rider to turn in their hours was Loraine Snyder from Holland, NY and the youngest rider was Melinda Loeffke from Elma. The oldest horses ridden or driven with the most hours were: Redford age 19 with 184.75 hours ridden by Carolyn Moore; Satin Doll age 21 with 123 hours ridden by Loraine Snyder; Tahoe age 27 with 65 hours ridden by Jean Arledge from Mahopac, NY. Congratulations go out to all these people and their equine partners on their accomplishments and good luck and safe wishes for lots more hours in 2010.

For 2009 the year end awards went to: **Loraine Snyder with Satin Doll and Carolyn Moore with Redford**--- both won the sponsored award for oldest rider/oldest horse combination with a lot of hours—it was a tie of sorts and a difficult decision had to be made so it was decided that both would receive an award. The award is a beautiful Tempi horse head watch donated by Dru Malavse of the Finger Lakes Region in honor of Cee Segarra (2009 Horse Person of the Year) for all the selfless, unending, hard work that she does for the welfare and humane treatment of horses. **Susan Nickerson of Ulster Park** won the sponsored award for the rider with the most overall hours. She will receive a cooler donated by the Leising's of South Dayton. The cooler is embroidered with NYSHC RIDE-DRIVE Most Hours 2009. The embroidering was donated by Applegate Farm-Sandy Lockwood from Falconer, NY—716-665-2085 or ([applegatefarm@windstream.net](mailto:applegatefarm@windstream.net)).

In 2010 we have received donations for end of the year awards for: 1) the rider with the most overall hours in 2010 (Jan 1 to Dec 31, 2010); 2) a Family Award for the family with the most combined hours in 2010; 3) for the oldest rider/oldest horse combination with the most hours and 4) for the youngest rider (under 21 years) with the most hours. So start making plans to join in the **Ride-Drive Program**, rack up those hours, earn patches, have some fun and maybe win one of the 2010 end of the year awards. A great place to be racking up those hours is at one of the NYSHC Sponsored rides or events. For more information contact: Leah Leising at 716-532-3357 or [lleising@netsync.net](mailto:lleising@netsync.net) or check out the New York State Horse Council web site at [www.nyshc.org](http://www.nyshc.org).